

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 786
ANSWERED ON 13.12.2022

STAGNATION OF WIND POWER SECTOR

786. SHRI BINOY VISWAM

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps Government is taking to expand wind projects beyond Gujarat and Tamil Nadu which cumulatively have 90 per cent of the projects;
- (b) the reason for delays in the Bhuj II, Jam Khambhaliya and Tirunelveli extension projects which were due in 2021;
- (c) the reasons due to which Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have not seen any major developments for stand-alone wind power projects in the last three years; and
- (d) whether Government intends to map wind resource potential and declare the Plant Load Factor (PLF) and wind zone at each State site?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POWER

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) Central Electricity Authority has published a report on 'Transmission system for integration of over 500 GW RE capacity by 2030', which indicates the identification of additional zones for wind power projects in various states / UT including Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Ladakh, Maharashtra, Telangana and Madhya Pradesh.

Government have taken several steps to promote renewable energy, including wind energy, in the country. These, *inter alia*, include;

- permitting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) up to 100 percent under the automatic route,
- waiver of Inter State Transmission System (ISTS) charges for inter-State sale of solar and wind power for projects to be commissioned by 30th June 2025,
- declaration of trajectory for Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) up to the year 2030,
- setting up of Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Parks to provide land and transmission to RE developers on a plug and play basis,
- laying of new transmission lines and creating new sub-station capacity for evacuation of renewable power,
- setting up of Project Development Cell for attracting and facilitating investments,
- Standard Bidding Guidelines for tariff based competitive bidding process for procurement of Power from Grid Connected Solar PV and Wind Projects,
- Government has issued orders that power shall be dispatched against Letter of Credit (LC) or advance payment to ensure timely payment by distribution licensees to RE generators,
- Notification of Promoting Renewable Energy through Green Energy Open Access Rules 2022,
- Notification of Late Payment Surcharge and related matters Rules 2022.

In addition to the above, the following steps have, *inter alia*, been taken specifically for promoting wind energy:

- declaration of trajectory for Wind Renewable Purchase Obligation (Wind RPO) up to the year 2030,
- Concessional custom duty exemption on certain components required for manufacturing of wind electric generators,
- Generation Based Incentive (GBI) is being provided to the wind projects commissioned on or before 31 March 2017,
- Technical support including wind resource assessment and identification of potential sites through the National Institute of Wind Energy, Chennai.

(b) The reasons for delays in both transmission and generation projects at Bhuj II, Jam Khambhaliya and Tirunelveli, *inter alia*, include COVID-19, ROW issues, labour migration and supply chain disruption on account of COVID-19. However, the generation and transmission system at these locations were commissioned in almost matching timeframe.

(c) Wind power projects in the country are set up by developers based on techno economic viability of the project at wind potential sites. Under the competitive bidding regime, the developers prefer sites with high wind potential which are mostly in Gujarat and Tamil Nadu. However, in recent bids, wind projects are also awarded in Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

(d) National Institute of Wind Energy has published India's Wind Potential Atlas at 120 meter above ground level. It indicates an estimated wind power potential of 695.5 GW at 120 meter above ground level in the country. It also provides wind potential map of the country based on capacity utilization factor (%CUF) with classifications of less than 20%, 20-25%, 25-28%, 28-30%, 30-32%, 32-35% and greater than 35% ranges.
