GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1742
ANSWERED ON 06/08/2024

IMPORT OF SOLAR CELLS, MODULES AND RELATED COMPONENTS

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Will the Minister of New and Renewable Energy be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise and country-wise details of import of solar production units and their components along with solar cells and solar modules since 2019;
(b) the measures Government is taking to enhance domestic manufacturing capabilities of solar cells, solar module and other related components to reduce dependence on imports;
(c) the schemes implemented by Government to boost manufacturing of domestic solar cells and solar module and the details thereof; and
(d) the manner in which Government is addressing the challenges related to land acquisition and contract enforcement to meet the ambitious solar capacity targets set for 2030?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a) The details of solar cells and modules imported in the country since 2019, year-wise and country-wise, as per the website pertaining to Export-Import Data Bank of Department of Commerce, are at **Annexure-I.**
(b): The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) has been consistently bringing out policies to enhance domestic manufacturing capabilities of solar cells, solar module and other related components to reduce dependence on imports. Various initiatives taken, inter-alia, include those mentioned at **Annexure-II.**
(c): The Government of India is implementing the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for High Efficiency Solar PV Modules, for achieving domestic manufacturing capacity of Giga Watt (GW) scale in High Efficiency Solar PV modules, with an outlay of Rs. 24,000 crore. The Scheme is being implemented in two tranches. Tranche-I has an outlay of Rs. 4,500 crore, under which Letters of Award have been issued for setting up of 8,737 MW of fully integrated solar PV module manufacturing units. For Tranche-II with an outlay of Rs. 19,500 crore, Letters of Award have been issued for setting up of 39,600 MW of fully/ partially integrated solar PV module manufacturing units.

(d) In order to address the challenges related to land acquisition to meet the ambitious solar capacity targets set for 2030, MNRE has taken several steps, which inter-alia, include:

(i) MNRE is implementing Scheme for Development of Solar Parks and Ultra-Mega Solar Power Projects, under which, the infrastructure such as land, roads, transmission system (internal and external), pooling stations, etc. is developed with all statutory clearances / approvals. Thus, the solar project developers have plug and play benefit.
(ii) Under the Mode 8 of the Solar Park Scheme, a facilitation charge of Rs. 0.05/unit of power being generated from the projects in the parks is provided to the States in order to encourage the State Governments to provide necessary assistance to the Solar Power Park Developers (SPPDs) in identification & acquisition of land, to facilitate in obtaining all required statutory clearances, etc.
(iii) Further, MNRE has written to State Government for easing out and facilitating the renewable power projects with respect to land related issues.

The Government has issued standard bidding guidelines under section 63 of Electricity Act, 2003 for long term procurement of solar PV power, wind power, solar PV- wind hybrid power, and Firm & Dispatchable RE Power. These guidelines have provisions for contract enforcement for timely setting up of RE power projects.

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Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply of part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1742 for 06.08.2024 regarding 'Import of solar cells, modules and related components'

Details of solar cells and modules imported in the country since 2019, year-wise and country-wise

	Value of Import in USD Millions									
Country	**2019-20***	**2020-21***	**2021-22***		**2022-23***		**2023-24***		**2024-25* (till May 2024)**	
	HS Code 85414011	**HS Code 85414011**	**HS Code 85414011**	**HS Code 85414012**	**HS Code 85414200**	**HS Code 85414300**	**HS Code 85414200**	**HS Code 85414300**	**HS Code 85414200**	**HS Code 85414300**
	Solar PV Cells & Modules	**Solar PV Cells & Modules**	**Solar PV Cells**	**Solar PV Modules**	**Solar PV Cells**	**Solar PV Modules**	**Solar PV Cells**	**Solar PV Modules**	**Solar PV Cells**	**Solar PV Modules**
Australia			0.01	0.22						
Cambodia	5.97	6.69	1.72		52.72		119.52	20.7	5.82	
Canada	7.92	0.8	1.32		0.01		29.61			
Chad		0.24								
Chile			0.63					0.20		
Taiwan	20.97	11.28	5.48	0.13	1.92		2.66			
China PRP	1307.03	494.87	1069.88	3075.32	581.45	874.89	1035.98	2850.74	155.61	188.65
France		0.06								
Germany	3.73	0.03	0.19	0.21	0.05	0.13	0.01	0.07		0.04
Hong Kong	31.3	3.22	0.55	229.12	1.17	3.04	9.66	210.28	0.18	0.95
Indonesia	0.11	0.01	0.78		1.56		1.38			
Israel								0.09		
Italy	0.27	0.16			0.01		0.01			
Japan	3.41	0.15			0.61		0.45	0.01		0.01
Kenya					0.01					
Korea RP	1.72	0.16	0.13		0.03		0.04			
LAO PD RP							2.19		1.94	
Luxembourg				0.01						
Malaysia	3.91	7.46	26.83	31.43	176.05	1.24	311.81	237.99	0.02	2.34
Myanmar	0.98	5.78	2.17							
Netherland								0.12		
Philippines	0.04		0.34		1.21	0.01	0.07			
Russia	0.02	0.04								
Saudi Arab		0.01								
Singapore	31.32	6.69	4.64	22.76	2.18	24.09	1.09	97.19	0.01	6.28
Spain	0.18	0.1	0.01	0.13		0.33				0.57
Sri Lanka DSR	1.28									
Swaziland				0.08						
Switzerland		0.01	0.75	3.78				0.15		
Thailand	120.47	18.76	16.26	0.01	261.31	0.01	248.75	0.02	38.13	
Tunisia	0.01									

	Value of Import in USD Millions									
Country	**2019-20***	**2020-21***	**2021-22***		**2022-23***		**2023-24***		**2024-25* (till May 2024)**	
	HS Code 85414011	**HS Code 85414011**	**HS Code 85414011**	**HS Code 85414012**	**HS Code 85414200**	**HS Code 85414300**	**HS Code 85414200**	**HS Code 85414300**	**HS Code 85414200**	**HS Code 85414300**
	Solar PV Cells & Modules	**Solar PV Cells & Modules**	**Solar PV Cells**	**Solar PV Modules**	**Solar PV Cells**	**Solar PV Modules**	**Solar PV Cells**	**Solar PV Modules**	**Solar PV Cells**	**Solar PV Modules**
Turkey					0.07		0.08			
U.A.E.	0.43					0.13		0.09		
U.K.	0.02	0.06								0.02
U.S.A.	2.57	0.03	0.08		0.03	0.03	0.01	0.81		0.03
Vietnam Soc Rep	140.63	14.97	6.09		229.91	39.63	89.73	935.05	28.38	121.71
Unspecified		0.07								
TOTAL (USD million)	**1684.29**	**571.65**	**1137.86**	**3363.20**	**1310.30**	**943.53**	**1853.05**	**4353.51**	**230.09**	**320.60**

**Till FY 2020-21, Solar Cells, whether or not assembled in modules were classified under HS Code 85414011.*
In FY 2021-22, the HS Code 85414011 was retained for Solar PV Cells and new HS Code 85414012 was brought in for Solar PV Modules.
Subsequently, from FY 2022-23, the Solar PV Cells and Solar PV Modules (other than those exclusively used with ITA-1 items) are put under HS Codes 85414200 and 85414300 respectively.

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to in reply of part (b) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1742 for 06.08.2024 regarding 'Import of solar cells, modules and related components'

Initiatives taken to enhance domestic manufacturing capabilities of solar cells, solar module and other related components to reduce dependence on imports, inter-alia, include:

(i) Production Linked Incentive Scheme: The Government of India is implementing the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for High Efficiency Solar PV Modules, for achieving domestic manufacturing capacity of Giga Watt (GW) scale in High Efficiency Solar PV modules, with an outlay of Rs. 24,000 crore. The Scheme is being implemented in two tranches. Tranche-I has an outlay of Rs. 4,500 crore, under which Letters of Award have been issued for setting up of 8,737 MW of fully integrated solar PV module manufacturing units. For Tranche-II with an outlay of Rs. 19,500 crore, Letters of Award have been issued for setting up of 39,600 MW of fully/ partially integrated solar PV module manufacturing units.

(ii) Domestic Content Requirement (DCR): Under some of the current schemes of the MNRE, namely CPSU Scheme Phase-II, PM-KUSUM Components B & C, and PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, wherein government subsidy is given, it has been mandated to source solar PV cells and modules from domestic sources.

(iii) Preference to 'Make in India' in Public Procurement: In accordance with Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) 'Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India), Order', MNRE had notified Purchase Preference (linked with local content) for RE sector which, inter-alia, identified list of all goods and services or works in respect of which there is sufficient local capacity and local competition is available and mandated that only "Class-I local supplier" shall be eligible to bid for the above goods/services/works with the mandate that minimum local content should be at least 50%.

(iv) Imposition of Basic Customs Duty on import of solar PV cells & modules: The Government has imposed Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on import of solar PV cells and modules, with effect from 01.04.2022.

(v) Discontinuation of Customs Duty Concessions: MNRE has discontinued issuance of Customs Duty Concession Certificates for import of material /equipment for initial setting up of solar PV power projects with effect from 02.02.2021.

(vi) Renewable Energy Research and Technology Development Programme (RE-RTD): Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is implementing a "Renewable Energy Research and Technology Development Programme (RE-RTD)" through various research institutions and industry to develop indigenous technologies and manufacturing for widespread applications of new and renewable energy in efficient and cost-effective manner. The objective of the scheme is to support the R&D projects for technology development and demonstration in various areas of new and renewable energy such as solar photovoltaic systems, biogas systems, waste to energy systems, wind energy systems, hybrid systems, storage systems, hydrogen and fuels cells, geothermal, etc. with the ultimate aim of increasing share of renewables in the energy mix in the country. It provides up to 100% financial support to government/non-profit research organizations and up to 70% to industry, startups, private institutes, entrepreneurs, and manufacturing units.