

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 946
ANSWERED ON 30/07/2024

GREEN ENERGY

946. Dr. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL

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

- (a) whether steps have been taken to promote green energy, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether renewable energy schemes have been implemented to make panchayats or municipalities self-sufficient in electricity, if so, the details thereof, the progress made;
- (c) whether measures have been taken to promote solar-powered engines for tapping groundwater for agriculture, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether modern scientific methods for exploration and extraction of natural resources have been implemented to protect and preserve the local environment and communities, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a) Government has undertaken several measures to promote development of renewable energy in the country as given in **Annexure**.

(b) The Government has launched the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana in February 2024 to empower one crore residential households to generate their own electricity by installation of rooftop solar systems. The scheme is targeting to add 30 GW rooftop solar capacity with Central Government financial support of over Rs 75,000 crore by FY 2026-27. This scheme also includes components such as model solar villages, incentives to local bodies (like panchayats or municipalities) and the saturation of Government buildings with rooftop solar.

As on 30.06.2024, a total of 1.27 crore people have registered under this scheme, 12.4 lakh consumer applications have been received and total of 1.53 lakh rooftop solar systems have been installed.

(c) MNRE has been implementing Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) which aims for de-dieselisation of the farm sector, providing water and energy security to farmers, increasing the income of farmers and curbing environmental pollution. The scheme has the following three components:

- Component-A: Installation of small solar power plants on the land of the farmers
- Component-B: Installation of standalone off-grid solar water pumps
- Component-C: Solarization of existing grid-connected agriculture pumps

(d) As per the information received from Ministry of Mines, the Government has specified under para 6.11 of the National Mineral Policy that sustainable development in the mining sector should envision mining as financially viable, socially responsible, environmentally, technically and scientifically sound with a long-term view of development, uses mineral resources optimally and, ensure sustainable post-closure land uses. Sustainable Mining, inter-alia, include utilizing advanced technologies for exploration, extraction, and processing to enhance efficiency and reduce environmental impact. Suitable provisions have been incorporated under Chapter-V (Sustainable Mining) of MCDR, 2017, wherein Rule 35 to 44 cover major aspects of Sustainable Mining. A Star Rating system has been introduced to evaluate performance of the lease holder on technological, socio-economic and environmental parameters based on objective reporting of their activities.

Annexure referred to in reply of part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question

No. 946 to be answered on 30.07.2024

The Government of India has taken several steps and initiatives to promote and accelerate renewable energy capacity in the country with the target to achieve 500 GW of installed electric capacity from non-fossil sources by 2030. These are including, inter-alia, the following:

- Notification of trajectory for RE power bids of 50 GW/annum to be issued by Renewable Energy Implementation Agencies (REIAs: SECI, NTPC, NHPC, SJVN) from FY 2023-24 to FY 2027-28.
- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) permitted 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, for Green Hydrogen Projects till December 2030 and for offshore wind projects till December 2032.
- To boost RE consumption, Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) trajectory has been announced till 2029-30 including separate RPO for Decentralized Renewable Energy.
- Project Development Cell for attracting and facilitating investments has been set up.
- Standard Bidding Guidelines for tariff based competitive bidding process for procurement of Power from Grid Connected Solar, Wind and Wind-Solar Projects have been issued.
- Schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) targeted for solar power capacity addition of 34.8 GW, PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana targeted for 30 GW capacity addition, National Programme on High Efficiency Solar PV Modules, National Green Hydrogen Mission, Development of 1 GW Offshore Wind Energy Projects, etc.
- Setting up of Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Parks targeted to add 40 GW capacity to provide land and transmission to RE developers for installation of RE projects at large scale.
- Laying of new transmission lines and creating new sub-station capacity under the Green Energy Corridor Scheme for evacuation of renewable power.
- Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020 has been issued for net-metering up to five hundred Kilowatt or up to the electrical sanctioned load, whichever is lower.
- Cabinet approved the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme for offshore wind energy projects for installation and commissioning of 1 GW of offshore wind energy projects (500 MW each off the coast of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu)
- “National Repowering and Life Extension Policy for Wind Power Projects, 2023” has been issued.

- “Strategy for Establishments of Offshore Wind Energy Projects” has been issued indicating a bidding trajectory of 37 GW by 2030 and various business models for project development.
- The Offshore Wind Energy Lease Rules, 2023 have been notified vide Ministry of External Affairs notification dated 19th December 2023, to regulate the grant of lease of offshore areas for development of offshore wind energy projects.
- Procedure for Uniform Renewable Energy Tariff (URET) has been issued.
- Standard & Labelling (S&L) programs for Solar Photovoltaic modules and Grid-connected Solar Inverters have been launched.
- To augment transmission infrastructure needed for steep RE trajectory, transmission plan has been prepared till 2030.
- Notification of “The Electricity (Late Payment Surcharge and related matters) Rules (LPS rules) issued.
- Notification of Promoting Renewable Energy through Green Energy Open Access Rules 2022 issued.
- Launched Green Term Ahead Market (GTAM) to facilitate sale of Renewable Energy Power through exchanges.
- 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.