

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 473
ANSWERED ON 03.02.2026

**PROMOTION OF DOMESTIC SOLAR MANUFACTURING AND IDENTIFICATION
OF HIGH SOLAR POTENTIAL REGIONS**

473. DR. BHAGWAT KARAD

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

- (a) whether the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for High Efficiency Solar PV Modules has strengthened domestic solar PV manufacturing through capacity creation, technological upgradation and local value addition, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has conducted or commissioned any studies to identify high solar irradiance regions with maximum sunny days across the country;
- (c) if so, whether regions such as Vidarbha and Marathwada in Maharashtra have been identified as high solar potential areas and the findings of such studies; and
- (d) the steps taken or proposed, including new schemes or region-specific initiatives, to promote solar-manufacturing and solar power-projects in these high-sunlight regions?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POWER
(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a) Yes, the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for High Efficiency Solar PV Modules has strengthened domestic solar PV manufacturing in the country through capacity creation, technological upgradation, and local value addition. On 28.04.2021, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) issued the Scheme Guidelines for the Production Linked Incentive Scheme for High Efficiency Solar PV Modules (Tranche-I). At that time, solar PV module manufacturing capacity in India enlisted under Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM) was around 8.2 GW. As on 31.12.2025, this capacity has surged to around 144 GW under ALMM, which is sufficient to cater to the domestic demand for solar modules.

The Scheme supports induction of the latest, state-of-art solar PV manufacturing technologies into the country, as the solar PV manufacturers are motivated to invest more in Research & Development in order to produce more efficient and resilient solar PV modules. Further, the scheme also incentivizes higher local value addition by way of higher PLI.

Under the PLI Scheme, Ingot-Wafer manufacturing capacity has been installed for the first time in India. Further, fully integrated thin film solar PV module manufacturing capacity has also been installed, which is not dependent on imported Solar Cells, Wafers, and Polysilicon, as the manufacturing process is fully integrated and all the major steps involved in the manufacturing process, take place in India.

The selected manufacturers under PLI Scheme for High Efficiency Solar PV Modules are also engaged in the production of solar modules with advanced solar PV technologies such as Heterojunction (HJT) and Tunnel Oxide Passivated Contact (TOPCon).

(b) & (c) The National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE) has conducted an assessment of India's ground-mounted solar photovoltaic potential and released its report in September 2025. As per the assessment, the total feasible ground-mounted solar potential in the country is estimated at around 3,343 GW, including around 486.68 GW in Maharashtra. District wise solar potential of Maharashtra is given at **Annexure-I**.

(d) The Government has been implementing various measures to promote solar manufacturing and solar power projects across the country, including in high-sunlight regions. These include the PLI Scheme for High Efficiency Solar PV Modules, PM-KUSUM, PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, and Development of Solar Parks & Ultra-Mega Solar Power Projects Scheme, Standard Bidding Guidelines for solar power projects, facilitation of transmission infrastructure, and measures to promote ease of doing business. These initiatives are designed to support both manufacturing and deployment of solar power projects in India.

Annexure-I

Annexure-I referred to in reply of parts (b) & (c) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 473 for 03.02.2026 regarding 'Promotion of domestic solar manufacturing and identification of high solar potential regions'

District wise solar potential of Maharashtra

Sr. No	District	Solar Potential (MW _p)
1	Ahamadnagar	28196.41
2	Akola	4752.39
3	Amaravati	7974.94
4	Aurangabad	10058.32
5	Bid	10317.00
6	Bhandara	5807.76
7	Buldhana	5617.23
8	Chandrapur	14788.50
9	Dhule	10996.58
10	Gadchiroli	211.32
11	Gondia	2463.18
12	Hingoli	4989.72
13	Jalna	7767.68
14	Jalgaon	15690.88
15	Kolhapur	11820.66
16	Latur	3568.91
17	Mumbai City	7.60
18	Nagpur	15930.04
19	Nanded	7958.36
20	Nashik	28089.57
21	Nandurbar	3048.29
22	Palghar	13054.04
23	Parbhani	3271.09
24	Pune	54514.15
25	Raygad	30307.45
26	Ratnagiri	21173.11
27	Sangli	36783.57
28	Satara	29520.84
29	Sindhudurg	13095.84
30	Solapur	19740.05
31	Sub Urban Mumbai	1404.63
32	Thane	28036.65
33	Usmanabad	13012.10
34	Washim	3982.00
35	Wardha	8104.58
36	Yavatmal	10623.24
Total Solar Potential (MW_p)		486678.68