

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 26
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.11.2016
INTERNATIONAL SOLAR ALLIANCE

*26. DR. GOKARAJU GANGA RAJU

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

- (a) the extent to which solar energy is tapped and put to use in the country;
- (b) the status of setting up of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and the progress made so far in achieving goals set under the alliance?
- (c) whether ISA faces challenge from US as the latter desire the alliance to function as an informal arrangement and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the reaction of the Govt. thereto?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL & NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c) & (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 26 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.11.2016

(a), (b), (c) &(d): As on 31st October, 2016, Solar Energy Projects with an aggregate capacity of over 8727.62 MW has been installed in the country.

The International Solar Alliance (ISA) was launched on 30th November, 2015 at Paris, France on the side-lines of 21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Paris Declaration on ISA is given at Annexure.

On 25th January, 2016, the Foundation Stone for the proposed Headquarters of the ISA was laid at Gurgaon, Haryana (India) and its interim Secretariat was inaugurated. The International Steering Committee (ISC) of the ISA has held four meetings so far. The Framework Agreement of ISA has been finalized after discussions with various stakeholders. It was presented in the fourth meeting of the ISC of ISA. The Framework Agreement of ISA has been signed by 20 member countries including India, France, Brazil and others on 15th November, 2016 at Marrakech, Morocco on the side-lines of COP-22.

Annexure

Declaration on the occasion to launch the International Solar Alliance of countries dedicated to the promotion of solar energy

Recognizing that sustainable development, universal energy access, and energy security are critical to the shared prosperity and future of our planet, and acknowledging that clean and renewable energy needs to be made affordable for all, we do hereby declare our intention to support India's proposal to launch an international solar alliance as a common platform for cooperation among solar resource rich countries lying fully or partially between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.

United by a shared vision to bring clean, affordable and renewable energy within the reach of all, we affirm our intention to join the international solar alliance as founding members to ensure the promotion of green, clean and sustainable energy, and to draw on the beneficence of the Sun in this endeavour.

We share the collective ambition to undertake innovative and concerted efforts with a view to reducing the cost of finance and cost of technology for immediate deployment of competitive solar generation assets in all our countries and to pave the way for future solar generation, storage and good technologies adapted to our countries' individual needs.

United by our objective to significantly augment solar power generation in our countries, we intend making joint efforts through innovative policies, projects, programmes, capacity building measures and financial instruments to mobilize more than 1000 Billion US Dollars of investments that are needed by 2030 for the massive deployment of affordable solar energy. We recognize that the reduced cost of finance would enable us to undertake more ambitious solar energy programmes to bring development and prosperity for our people.

We intend working together towards the development of appropriate benchmarks, facilitating resource assessments, supporting research and development and demonstration facilities, with a view to encouraging innovative and affordable applications of solar technologies.

Desirous of establishing an international alliance of countries dedicated to the promotion of solar energy as an effective mechanism of cooperation, we agree to create an International Steering Committee, open to interested countries, to provide the necessary guidance, direction and advice to establish the international solar alliance.

Monday, 30th November, 2015.
