

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-978
TO BE ANSWERED ON-08.02.2018

REDUCTION IN SOLAR POWER COST

978. SHRI P. KUMAR

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

- a) whether the present cost of solar power is comparatively less than that in 2010;
- b) if so, the current cost on solar power generation and its distribution;
- c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce the generation and distribution cost further;
- d) whether the Government has tied up with other countries to borrow latest technology in solar power sector; and
- e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POWER (I/C)
(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

- (a) Yes, Madam.
- (b) In recent bids, the lowest solar PV tariff was discovered Rs. 2.44/kWh in May, 2017 for Bhadla solar project in Rajasthan. There is no distinct cost of distribution of solar power. However, the inter-state transmission cost for transmission of Solar Power have been waived off till March, 2019.
- (c) The Government have launched several schemes for promotion of solar energy in the country providing various fiscal and promotional incentives such as capital subsidy, accelerated depreciation, waiver of Inter State Transmission System (ISTS) charges and losses, viability gap funding (VGF), financing solar rooftop systems as part of home loan, preferential tariff for power generation through renewables, and permitting Foreign Direct Investment up to 100 per cent under the automatic route.
- (d) and (e): The Ministry promotes the growth of indigenous technology for solar energy through research and development with various institutions/manufacturers like IIT, Bombay; IIT, Kanpur; IISc., Bangalore; WRST, Mumbai; National Institute of Solar Energy, Gurugram; CEPT University, Ahmedabad; Rajiv Gandhi Prodyogiki Vishwavidyalaya, Bhopal and also has international collaborations like Indo-German, Indo-Spain, Indo-Japan and Indo-US for development of renewable energy sector. Further, the solar power developers have freedom to adopt any international technology.
