

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-326

TO BE ANSWERED ON-19.07.2018

HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT WITH ISA

326. SHRI GANESH SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has given its approval for entering into Headquarters (Host country) Agreement between India and the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and authorizing the Ministry of External Affairs for signing the Headquarters Agreement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the achievements made as on date; and
- (c) the details of transition of ISA as international inter-governmental organization as on date along with the details of solar technology development and deployment in Madhya Pradesh including District Satna?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b) Yes Madam. The Union Cabinet, in its meeting held on 11 April 2018, approved the proposal for entering into Headquarters (Host Country) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and authorizing the Ministry of External Affairs for signing the same. In terms of Article X of the Framework Agreement (FA) of ISA, under the Host Country Agreement, ISA Secretariat's judicial personality is recognized. Subsequently vide Gazette Notification dated 6 June 2018, the Ministry of External Affairs notified ISA under the United Nations Privileges & Immunities Act, 1947.

(c) The ISA initiative was launched on 30 November 2015 in Paris, France on the sidelines of COP-21. The Framework Agreement of ISA was opened for signatures on 15 November 2016. On 6 December, 2017, the thirtieth day after the date of deposit of the fifteenth instrument of ratification of ISA Framework Agreement, ISA became a de jure treaty-based International Intergovernmental Organization. As on date, 65 countries have signed the Framework Agreement of ISA, and 37 of these countries have already ratified the same.

ISA is a common platform for cooperation among solar resource rich countries lying either fully or partially between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, and intending to work 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. ISA has not sanctioned any technology development project in the state of Madhya Pradesh as of date.
