ENERGY FROM TIDAL WATERS

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

(a) the details of potential capacity of tidal energy that can be produced in the country;
(b) the extent to which this potential has been realized so far;
(c) whether the Government has failed to produce energy from tidal waves in the country despite having huge potential, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
(d) whether the Government through a study has assessed the tidal wave energy potential and its potential tidal locations, if so, the details thereof;
(e) whether the Government has a national policy for developing energy from tidal wave, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
(f) whether the Government proposes to formulate such a policy, if so, the details thereof and the other steps taken by the Government to boost production of tidal energy?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f) As per a study conducted by the Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai in association with CRISIL Risk and Infrastructure Solutions Limited in December 2014, the tidal power potential of the country is estimated at around 12,455 MW. The potential areas with low/medium tidal wave strength are in the Gulf of Khambat, Gulf of Kutch & southern regions in Gujarat, Palk Bay-Mannar Channel in Tamil Nadu, and Hoogly river, South Haldia & Sunderbans in West Bengal.

The earlier efforts for harnessing tidal power were not successful due to high capital cost ranging from Rs. 30 crore to Rs. 60 crore per MW.

At present, due to very high capital cost, the Government of India has not formulated any policy for production of electricity from tidal energy.

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