

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 352
ANSWERED ON 08.12.2022

MANUFACTURING OF SOLAR CELLS

352. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH
SHRIMATI RATHVA GITABEN VAJESINGBHAI
SHRI SATYADEV PACHAURI

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

- (a) whether the steps have been taken by the Government to incentivise the manufacturing of solar cells domestically;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has established solar cells manufacturing centres in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including districts of Bihar, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POWER
(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) & (b) Yes sir, the Government has taken a number of steps to incentivise the manufacturing of solar cells domestically, namely:

(i) Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS) Scheme of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: The scheme mainly provides subsidy for capital expenditure i.e. 20% for investments in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and 25% in non-SEZs. The Scheme was open for applications till 31st December, 2018. The Scheme inter-alia covers solar PV cells, solar PV modules, EVA, backsheet and solar glass.

(ii) Domestic Content Requirement (DCR): Under some of the current schemes of the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE), namely CPSU Scheme Phase-II, PM-KUSUM component B and Grid-connected Rooftop Solar Programme Phase-II, wherein government subsidy is given, it has been mandated to source solar PV cells and modules from domestic sources.

(iii) Imposition of Basic Customs Duty on import of solar PV cells & modules: The Government has imposed Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on import of solar PV cells and modules with effect from 01.04.2022.

(iv) Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for High Efficiency Solar PV Modules: The Government of India is implementing the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for National Programme on High Efficiency Solar PV Modules, for achieving domestic manufacturing capacity of Giga Watt (GW) scale in High Efficiency Solar PV modules and solar PV cells with outlay of Rs. 24,000 crore. This Scheme has provision for Production Linked Incentive (PLI) to the selected solar PV module manufacturers for five years post commissioning, on manufacture and sale of High Efficiency Solar PV modules.

(c)&(d) The Government of India, itself has not established any solar cells manufacturing centres, however, Bharat Heavy Electrical Limited and Bharat Electronics Limited, the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), have established 85 MW per year and 10 MW per year of solar PV cell manufacturing capacity respectively in Bengaluru, in the State of Karnataka.