

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2930
ANSWERED ON-05/08/2021
SOLAR PROJECTS

2930. SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY
SHRI RANJEETSINGH HINDURAO NAIK NIMBALKAR
SHRI ARJUN LAL MEENA
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH
SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA

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

- (a) the number of solar projects currently functional in the country;
- (b) whether India's solar capacity has increased during the last five years;
- (c) if so, the percentage increase thereof over the last five years and the reasons for the same;
- (d) whether the Government has set any target to increase the solar capacity across the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the time by which it is likely to be completed;
- (f) the measures taken by the Government to achieve the said target; and
- (g) the details of benefits these projects would have for the State of Rajasthan?

ANSWER

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

(a) As on 30.6.2021, solar power projects of 42,335.45 MW capacity have been installed in the country.

(b)&(c) India's installed solar power Capacity has increased from 6,762.85 MW as on 31.03.2016 to 42,335.45 MW as on 30.06.2021. As such, there is an increase of 526 %.

(d)&(e) The Government has set a target of achieving 100 GW of installed solar power capacity by December, 2022. The status, as on 30.06.2021 is as follows:

Capacity installed: 42.335 GW

Capacity under implementation: 36.884 GW

Capacity under tendering: 19.761 GW

Extension of 5.5 months has been given on account of COVID-19 for completion of these projects.

(f) The Government has taken several measures to achieve its Renewable Energy targets, including the said target of 100 GW of solar energy in the country. These include the following:

- declaration of trajectory for Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) up to the year 2022
- permitting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) up to 100 percent under the automatic route,
- waiver of Inter State Transmission System (ISTS) charges for inter-state sale of solar and wind power for projects to be commissioned by 30th June 2025,
- setting up of solar parks to provide land and transmission to RE developers on a plug and play basis,
- schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM), Solar Rooftop Phase II, 12000 MW CPSU Scheme Phase II, etc,
- laying new transmission lines and creating new sub-station capacity for evacuation of renewable power,

- notification of standards for deployment of solar photovoltaic system/devices,
- setting up of Project Development Cell for attracting and facilitating investments,
- Standard Bidding Guidelines for tariff based competitive bidding for procurement of power from Grid Connected Solar PV and Wind Projects.
- Government has issued orders that power shall be dispatched against Letter of Credit (LC) or advance payment to ensure timely payment by distribution licensees to RE generators.
- Conducting skill development programmes to create a pool of skilled manpower for setting up, operation and maintenance of RE projects.

(g) A solar capacity of 6.58 GW has been installed in Rajasthan so far. Apart from the environmental benefits, this has benefitted the State in the following ways:

- (i) financial benefit to people whose barren land has been acquired/leased/purchased for these projects;
- (ii) local employment creation; and
- (iii) economic development of areas around the projects.
