GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 730
ANSWERED ON 04.02.2026

TENDERING OF OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY

730. DR. T SUMATHY ALIAS THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch India's first offshore wind energy tender off the Tamil Nadu coast with an initial target of 1 gigawatt (GW) capacity and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE) has completed or is completing LiDAR assessments near Dhanushkodi for this purpose and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Tamil Nadu–specific viability gap funding or incentives have been earmarked under the national offshore wind framework and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether delays in finalizing offshore wind support mechanisms have affected Tamil Nadu's pipeline of renewable investments and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to priorities offshore wind deployment in States facing land constraints but strong renewable manufacturing and export capacity such as Tamil Nadu?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a) to (c) Government has launched the 'Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme for offshore wind energy projects' with total outlay of ₹ 7453 crore for installation and commissioning of 1 GW of offshore wind energy projects (500 MW each off the coast of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu) and upgradation of two ports to meet logistics requirements for offshore wind energy projects. The viability gap funding earmarked for each 500 MW offshore wind energy projects off the coast of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu are Rs. 4064 Cr and Rs. 2755 Cr, respectively. However, the projects capacity can be proportionately reduced in case of VGF found inadequate or VGF can be utilized for additional capacity in case of savings.

National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE) has installed floating LiDAR buoy for the wind resource assessment of Tamil Nadu site. NIWE also carried out Geophysical study for Tamil Nadu site. The tender for the development of Tamil Nadu offshore wind project is linked to the outcomes of wind resource assessment and other studies.

Further, NIWE has completed the met-mast based wind resource measurements near Dhanushkodi. The report has also been published in public domain through NIWE website. Based on the measurement campaign for one continuous year (October, 2013 to September, 2014), the annual average wind speed is 8.65 meter per second and Wind Power Density is 536 Watt per meter square at 102 meter above sea level for Dhanushkodi.

(d) The renewable energy capacity addition and investment in solar and wind sector in the State of Tamil Nadu during last three financial years are given in **Annexure**.

(e) Government has taken several steps to develop offshore wind power projects in the country including Tamil Nadu. These, inter alia, include:

- Notification of 'Offshore Wind Energy Policy' in October 2015 to provide framework for the development of offshore wind energy in the country.
- For initial phase of developments, potential offshore wind zones off the coast of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu have been identified through meso-scale study.
- Installation of a LiDAR by NIWE off the coast of Gujarat in Nov, 2017 and collection of 02 years wind data. NIWE has also conducted Geophysical, Geotechnical study, Rapid EIA study, Oceanographic study (Wave, Tide & Current) for a site equivalent to 1 GW capacity off the coast of Gujarat.
- Geotechnical study at three bore hole locations carried out off Tamil Nadu coast. Further, 4 LiDARs off Tamil Nadu coast installed for wind resource measurement. Geophysical study for 500 MW site off TN coast has also been completed.
- Issuance of a 'Strategy Paper for Establishment of Offshore Wind Energy Projects' in July, 2022 indicating various development models.
- The Offshore Wind Energy Lease Rules, 2023 have been notified to regulate the grant of lease of offshore areas for development of offshore wind energy projects.
- Central Transmission Utility (CTU) has completed the planning for initial 10 GW offshore transmission capacity (05 GW each off Gujarat and Tamil Nadu coast).
- The Union Cabinet has launched the 'Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme for offshore wind energy projects'. The scheme guidelines for implementation of "VGF Scheme for Offshore Wind Energy Projects" issued on 11th September 2024.
- Offshore Wind has been included in the list of activities to be considered for trading of Carbon Credits under bilateral/co-operative approaches as per Article 6.2 Mechanism of Paris Agreement.
- Waiver of Inter-State Transmission (ISTS) Charges has been extended for offshore wind power projects commissioned on or before 31.12.2032 with graded ISTS charges thereafter.
- Waiver of additional surcharge is granted for electricity produced from offshore wind projects commissioned up to December, 2032 and supplied to Open Access Consumers

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Annexure

Referred in reply of part (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 730 to be answered on 04.02.2026

Renewable energy capacity addition and investment in solar and wind sector in the State of Tamil Nadu					
Financial Year	**RE capacity addition (In MW)**	**Solar Capacity addition (In MW)**	**Investment for solar capacity addition* (Rs. In Crore)**	**Wind Capacity addition (In MW)**	**Investment for wind capacity addition* (Rs. In Crore)**
2022-23	1821.55	1669.25	6677.00	150.80	1055.6
2023-24	2063.07	1474.95	5899.80	586.37	4104.59
2024-25	3079.74	1942.20	7768.80	1136.37	7954.59
2025-26 (Upto Dec, 2025)	1871.66	1511.23	6044.92	335.43	2348.01
Total	**8836.02**	**6597.63**	**26390.52**	**2208.97**	**15462.79**

*Considering average cost (indicative) of Rs. 4 Crore per MW for solar and Rs. 7 Crore per MW for wind power capacity