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STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

(2022-23)

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

[Action-taken by the Government on observations/recommendations contained in Twenty-Fourth Report (17th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2022-23) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy]

THIRTY-THIRD REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

March, 2023/ Phalguna, 1944 (Saka)

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**[Action-taken by the Government on observations/recommendations
contained in Twenty-Fourth Report (17th Lok Sabha) on Demands for
Grants (2022-23) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy]**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 21st March, 2023

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 21st March, 2023



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

March, 2023/ Phalguna, 1944 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY (2022-23)

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18. Shri Rajveer Singh (Raju Bhaiya)
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20. Shri Balashowry Vallabbhaneni
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RAJYA SABHA

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29. Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar
30. Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi
31. Shri K.T.S. Tulsi

SECRETARIAT

1. Dr. Ram Raj Rai Joint Secretary
2. Shri R.K. Suryanarayanan Director
3. Shri Kulmohan Singh Arora Additional Director
4. Ms. Deepika Committee Officer

* *Nominated as Member of the Committee w.e.f. 4th November, 2022.*

Nominated as Member of the Committee w.e.f. 16th December, 2022.

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Energy, having been authorized by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this Thirty-Third Report on action-taken by the Government on observations/recommendations contained in the Twenty-Fourth Report (17th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2022-23) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

2. The Twenty-Fourth Report was presented to the Lok Sabha on 22nd March, 2022 and was laid on table of the Rajya Sabha on the same day. Replies of the Government to the observations/recommendations contained in this Report were received on 29th June, 2022.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 13th March, 2023.

4. An Analysis of action-taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Twenty-Fourth Report (17th Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given at Appendix-II.

5. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the body of the Report.

**New Delhi
March 13, 2023
Phalguna 22, 1944 (Saka)**

**Jagdambika Pal,
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Energy**

CHAPTER - I

This Report of the Standing Committee on Energy deals with action-taken by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy on observations/recommendations contained in the Twenty-Fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee (2021-22) on Demands for Grants (2022-23) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

2. The Twenty-Fourth Report was presented to the Lok Sabha on 22nd March, 2022 and was laid on table of the Rajya Sabha on the same day. The Report contained 13 Recommendations/Observations.

3. Action Taken Notes in respect of all the observations/recommendations contained in the Report have been received from the Government. These have been categorized as follows:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| (i) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:
Serial Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 | Total - 11
Chapter-II |
| (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies:
Nil | Total - 00
Chapter-III |
| (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration:
Serial Nos. 1 and 6 | Total- 02
Chapter-IV |
| (iv) Observation/Recommendation in respect of which the final replies of the Government are still awaited:
Nil | Total - 00
Chapter-V |

4. The Committee desire that Action-taken Statement on the Recommendations/Observations contained in Chapter-I of this Report may be furnished to the Committee within three months of the presentation of this Report.

5. The Committee will now deal with action-taken by the Government on some of their Recommendations that require reiteration or merit comments.

Recommendation No. 1

6. The Committee had recommended as under:

“The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is the nodal Ministry of the Government of India for all matters relating to renewable energy resources. The Committee note that an administrative entity for promotion of renewable energy came into existence in 1981 as a Commission which was converted into a Department in 1982 and this department became the Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources in 1992. It is astonishing to note that a Ministry, which has been in existence for thirty years, has no power to formulate and issue its guidelines because implementation of the Electricity Act is responsibility of the Ministry of Power. It is true that grid connected electricity should be under a single administrative entity in order to have a holistic picture. However, keeping the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy as responsible only for generation of renewable power without looking at transmission and distribution gives a fragmented picture. Moreover, India has been a flag-bearer for extensive adoption of renewable energy and it has committed itself to increase its non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030 and achieve the target of Net Zero by 2070. Keeping in view India’s long term commitments regarding renewable energy and also to create synergy in the electricity sector, the Committee recommend that there should be an overhauling of the central administrative entities dealing with electricity with creation of a set up which can bring generation from all sources along with transmission and distribution under a single administrative Ministry for administrative convenience and also to harmonize the policy making for all matters relating to this sector. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy should take initiatives in this direction and apprise the Committee about the outcome.”

7. In its action-taken reply, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has stated as under:

“Secretary, MNRE vide D.O. letter No.8/4/2020-EFM dated 16.3.2020 had written to Cabinet Secretary, requesting that the Sectorial areas assigned to MNRE under the Allocation of Business Rules 1961 may be amended. The modification requested interalia included following the:

- i) All matters relating to development and deployment including formulation and implementation of policies, programmers, schemes and regulations of various new and renewable energy sources [Solar; Wind; Biomass(except liquid Bio fuel); Waste to Energy; Ocean Energy including Tidal Energy and Wave Energy; Geothermal Energy; and Hydro Power projects of and below 25 MW capacity];
- ii) Research and development in new and renewable Energy sector;
- iii) Formulation and implementation of policy and programmers relating to manufacturing in new and renewable energy sector;
- iv) International cooperation in the area of new and renewable energy.

The proposal was examined by the Cabinet Secretariat and vide letter D.O. No.1/21/4/2020-Cab. dated 18.05.2020 it was advised to have further inter-ministerial consultation with the stakeholder Ministries /Departments including NITI Aayog, Departments of Atomic Energy etc. An internal committee chaired by Additional Secretary, MNRE has been formed to review the matter. A detailed proposal will once again be submitted to Cabinet Secretariat for consideration.”

8. The Committee had recommended that there should be an overhauling of the central administrative entities dealing with electricity in order to bring generation from all sources along with transmission and distribution under a single administrative Ministry for administrative convenience and also to harmonize the policy making for all matters relating to the power sector. The Ministry in its reply has stated that it requested the Cabinet Secretariat for amendment in sectoral areas assigned to the Ministry under the Allocation of Business Rules 1961 and the Cabinet Secretariat in turn, advised to have further inter-ministerial consultation with the stakeholder Ministries/Departments including NITI Aayog, Department of Atomic Energy etc. The Ministry has further submitted that an

internal committee chaired by Additional Secretary has been formed to review the matter. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy may apprise the Committee about the outcome of the initiatives taken in this direction.

Recommendation No. 5

9. The Committee had recommended as under:

“The Committee note that against the overall target of 40 GW to be achieved by the end of this year, 5.87 GW of rooftop solar projects have been installed in the Country, that is an achievement of less than even 15% of the target. The Committee are concerned with the weak performance of the Ministry in solar roof-top programme and believe that given the performance of the Ministry in this Sector till date, the solar roof-top target for installation of 40 GW cannot be achieved by the end of 2022 with such tardy pace of progress. It has been observed that the roof-top systems are not proving to be attractive for the consumers due to non-availability of information at the grass root level, lack of awareness about this scheme amongst the masses, time consuming and complicated procedures for setting it up, delays in disbursement of subsidy, etc. The Committee thus recommend that:

- i) The Ministry should explore the possibility of introducing Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) for subsidy disbursement directly to the consumer so as to make the process transparent, simpler and faster.
- ii) The Ministry should widely advertise the incentives being provided by the Government for solar roof-top power system in all vernacular print and electronic media so as to spread awareness among the masses.
- iii) One-stop-Solution Centers should be put in place in all the Districts of the Country to provide assistance/services/information to the customers and facilitate them in getting solar roof top system installed in a hassle free manner.”

10. In its Action-taken reply, the Ministry has stated as under:

“In order to increase the awareness among the consumers willing to install rooftop solar, Ministry has engaged PSUs under Ministry of Power and MNRE to undertake extensive awareness campaign all over the country. These PSUs have been allocated different States/ UTs wherein they have to carry out awareness activities including

installation of hoardings, posters, distribution of leaflets, brochures, arranging street plays (Nukkadnatak), radio jingles, short videos in electronic media and also awareness through social media. These will be in addition to the awareness activities already being undertaken by States/UTs.

Further, to make the process transparent, simpler and faster for installation of rooftop solar by consumers under subsidy scheme of MNRE, Ministry has simplified its processes. A National Portal is being created where a residential consumer who is interested to install rooftop solar can apply online and after getting the technical feasibility approval from concerned DISCOM, the consumer can install rooftop solar plant, choosing the quality of components (solar modules/inverters/structure) as per his requirement provided that minimum specifications of MNRE are fulfilled. A residential consumer can also have the solar rooftop system installed by any registered vendor of choice. On installation of the plant the consumer will upload details on the Portal. The concerned DISCOM will then install the net-meter and submit an inspection report about the installation on the National Portal. On receiving successful installation and inspection report from DISCOM, the subsidy will be directly credited into the bank account of the consumer.

The National Portal will serve as one stop solution for the residential consumers who are willing to install rooftop solar and all related information will be provided to these consumers on the National Portal.”

11. The Committee had expressed their concern about the weak performance of the Ministry in solar roof-top programme and observed that the roof-top systems have not been proving to be attractive for the consumers due to non-availability of information at the grass root level, lack of awareness about this scheme amongst the masses, time consuming and complicated procedures for setting it up, delays in disbursement of subsidy, etc.

The Ministry in its reply has stated that in order to increase the awareness among the consumers, it has engaged PSUs to undertake extensive awareness campaign all over the Country and these PSUs have been allocated different States/UTs wherein they have to carry out awareness activities. The Ministry has further submitted that to make the process transparent, simpler and faster, a National Portal is being

created which will serve as one stop solution for the residential consumers who are willing to install rooftop solar.

The Committee appreciate the efforts made by the Ministry in order to alleviate the problems faced by consumers in the process of getting the solar roof-top installed. However, the Ministry should furnish the details regarding specific activities undertaken by each PSU for awareness campaign and the impact thereof in the direction of achieving the targets in this regard. Further, the Committee should also be apprised about the current status of National Portal.

Recommendation No. 6

12. The Committee had recommended as under:

“The Committee note that the off-grid and decentralized solar application programme has been discontinued by the Ministry w.e.f. 31st March, 2021. The programme was initiated with a focus on areas where grid power has not reached or is not reliable; backward and remote areas in North Eastern States; Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts, etc. While the objectives of the programme were laudable, the Committee are disappointed to observe that the programme has been discontinued without achievement of the envisaged targets. The Ministry has submitted that the guidelines of the scheme were issued in August 2018 and its implementation got delayed due to imposition of model code of conduct for General Elections, 2019 and lockdown on account of COVID-19. It is clear from the reasons given by the Ministry that the programme could not get its full run since its initiation. Similarly, AJAY Scheme was closed due to discontinuation of MPLAD Scheme by the Government in the year 2020 but the same has not been restarted despite restoration of MPLAD Scheme in November, 2021. Keeping in view the fact that off-grid and decentralized solar applications have the capability to enhance energy access of the people living in backward and remote areas, the Committee recommend that off-grid and decentralized solar application programme and AJAY Scheme should be restarted. The Ministry should also evaluate these programmes and incorporate the feedbacks received from the stakeholders for better implementation at the ground level.”

13. In its Action-taken reply, the Ministry has stated as under:

“Ministry had been implementing different schemes under off-grid solar sector. These include Atal Jyoti Yojna for providing solar street lights using part funding from MPLAD; off-grid and decentralized solar PV application programme phase-III for providing solar street lights, solar study lamps and solar power packs; and scheme on concentrated solar thermal technologies. All these schemes have been closed prior to 01.04.2021. With the restoration of MPLAD fund and also ease in the Covid-19 pandemic situation, Ministry has prepared a comprehensive scheme for promotion of off-grid solar PV/ thermal applications covering all the off-grid applications covered under previous schemes mentioned above and also DRE livelihood applications. A draft EFC note has been prepared and is in the process of approval. Ministry has conducted third party evaluation of its off-grid schemes and the recommendations of the evaluation have been suitably incorporated in the proposed scheme.”

14. In response to the recommendation of the Committee that off-grid and decentralized solar application programme and AJAY Scheme should be restarted, the Ministry has submitted that it has prepared a comprehensive scheme for promotion of off-grid solar PV/thermal applications and a draft Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) note has also been prepared which is in the process of approval. The Ministry has further stated that a third party evaluation of its off-grid schemes has been conducted and the recommendations of the evaluation have been suitably incorporated in the proposed scheme.

The Committee observe that off-grid Solar Schemes like Atal Jyoti Yojna; off-grid and decentralized solar PV application programme for providing solar street lights, solar study lamps and solar power packs and scheme on concentrated solar thermal technologies, which have the capability to enhance energy access of the people living in backward and remote areas were closed prior to 1st April, 2021. Although, the Ministry has prepared a comprehensive scheme for promotion of off-grid solar PV/thermal applications covering all the off-grid applications covered under previous schemes along with DRE livelihood applications, but the same is in the process of approval.

The Committee, therefore reiterate their recommendation and desire that the new comprehensive scheme comprises all the components of off-grid and decentralized solar application programme and AJAY Scheme and the approval of the new scheme is done on priority. The Committee should also be apprised about the details related to recommendations of third party evaluation of the concerned previous programmes.

Recommendation No. 7

15. The Committee had recommended as under:

“The Committee note that PM-KUSUM Scheme aims to add a solar capacity of 30.80 GW by end of the year 2022 with central financial support of Rs. 34,000 crore. The Committee observe that against the target of 10,000 MW of grid connected solar power plants under Component A, only 27.75 MW could be installed. Under component B, against the target of 20 lakh stand alone solar pumps, only 78,940 pumps have been installed. Under component C, against the target of 15 lakh grid-connected solar agriculture pumps, only 1026 pumps have been solarized. The Committee are extremely disappointed with the dismal performance of the Ministry under this scheme. It is observed that farmers have been facing issues in getting finance from the Banks for small solar plants and most of the states are not able to provide their share of the subsidy under the Scheme. The Ministry furnished that it has introduced feeder level solarization and been pursuing to arrange fund through Agriculture Infrastructure Fund. The Committee note that the Ministry has made efforts to redress the issues which have been adversely impacting the implementation of the scheme. In order to address the problem of non-availability of funds and further ease the financial burden of the farmers, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should allow payment of farmers’ share of funds through MPLAD Scheme. The Ministry should also coordinate and hold consultations with the State Governments and actively encourage them to participate in the Scheme.”

16. In its Action-taken reply, the Ministry has stated as under:

“To facilitate financing the farmers for installation of small solar power plants under Component-A of PM-KUSUM Scheme, the Ministry

is pursuing with the banks/ financial institutions as also with the Department of Financial Services under the Ministry of Finance. As a result a number of banks have issued guidelines/ products for financing PM-KUSUM and Rooftop Solar. These guidelines/ products have been uploaded on the Ministry's website for information of the general public. To facilitate speedy process of loan application of farmers under Component-A of PM-KUSUM Scheme, a web page has been created in the PM-KUSUM Portal wherein a farmer can file his application for loan and this application is then forwarded to the respective bank for further action.

Under Component B and C, for individual pumps Ministry is providing 30% as the CFA, at least, 30% from State/ UTs and balance is the farmer's share. On the issue of providing farmers share under Component-B and C, as the scheme guidelines are silent, MNRE has requested Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI), being the nodal Ministry for MPLAD Fund, to clarify whether the farmer's contribution under PM-KUSUM Scheme Component-B and C can be provided from MPLAD Fund based on the recommendations of the concern MP. On receipt of clarification from MoSPI, the PM-KUSUM Guidelines will be modified accordingly.

Ministry is regularly reviewing the progress of PM-KUSUM Scheme with the respective Implementing Agencies of different components in the States/ UTs where scheme is under implementation as also with vendors and based on the feedback received the implementation guidelines have been amended as and when required.”

17. Regarding PM-KUSUM Scheme, the Committee had raised the issue of farmers not been able to get finance from Banks for small solar plants. In its action-taken reply, the Ministry has stated about the initiatives taken by it to facilitate financing for the farmers as a result of which a number of banks have issued guidelines/products for financing PM-KUSUM and Rooftop Solar which have been uploaded on the Ministry's website for information of the general public. The Ministry has further stated that in order to facilitate speedy process of loan applications of farmers under Component-A of PM-KUSUM Scheme, a web page has been created in the PM-KUSUM Portal wherein a farmer can file his application for loan and this application is then forwarded to the respective bank for further action. The Committee appreciate the efforts made by the Ministry in this regard and hope that the Committee

would be apprised about the impact of these initiatives in improving the status of implementation of the scheme.

In response to the recommendation of the Committee that the Ministry should allow payment of farmers' share of funds through MPLAD Scheme, the Ministry has furnished that it has requested Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) to clarify whether the farmer's contribution under PM-KUSUM Scheme Component-B and C can be provided from MPLAD Fund. The Ministry has further stated that on receipt of clarification from MoSPI, the PM-KUSUM Guidelines will be modified accordingly. The Committee should be apprised about the clarification from MoPSI and any subsequent modifications in the guidelines of the Scheme.

CHAPTER – II

Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government

Recommendation No. 2

The Committee note that the Ministry projected a budgetary requirement of Rs. 11449 crore for the financial year 2022-23 but only Rs. 6900.68 crore have actually been allocated which is an increase of about 20% over the Budget Estimates of the previous year. The Committee observe that about 73% budget of the Ministry is allocated for only two components i.e. Solar Power (Grid) and KUSUM Scheme. Further, about 20% of the budget has been allocated for clearing past liabilities and interest payment. Therefore, it is clear that the Ministry has been actively dealing with only two programmes i.e. grid connected solar including roof-tops and KUSUM Scheme. However, it has been furnished by the Ministry that most of the grid connected renewable energy projects in the Country are being implemented by the private sector developers without any central financial assistance. The past trends also reflect that the Ministry could not fully utilize its budgetary allocations during the previous years. It implies that the allocated funds are more than sufficient and the Ministry could not justify its demand during the process of allocation by the Ministry of Finance. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should focus on exhaustive utilization of the budgetary allocation during the coming financial year and then justify the need for allocation of more funds for its central sector schemes.

Reply of the Government

The suggestions of the Committee have been noted. The Ministry will focus on exhaustive utilization of Budgetary Allocation during 2022-23. It is true that most of the Grid Connected RE projects are being implemented by private sector through Tariff based Competitive Bidding. However, details of Central Financial Assistance currently being provided under the major programmes/schemes of the Ministry are given in **Annexure-I**.

As informed earlier Central Sector Schemes such as Bio-mass, SHP, Biogas etc. are under process of approval hence funds are allocated for catering pending liabilities.

[Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
O.M. No. 151/1/2022-P and C, Dated: 28/06/2022]

Recommendation No. 3

The Committee note that Gross Budgetary Support to the Ministry has been substantially decreased at the time of Revised Estimates during the previous years. The allocation was reduced by about 26% for the financial year 2019-20 and about 38% for 2020-21. For the financial year 2021-22, although the data furnished by the Ministry shows an increase of Rs. 1928.80 crore at RE, but, it includes Rs. 1500 crore and Rs. 1000 crore provided by the Government of India as equity infusion in Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency and Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited respectively. Therefore, there is an actual reduction in the budgetary support for schemes/programmes of the Ministry at the time of Revised Estimates for 2021-22 as well. The Committee observe that the Ministry has not been able to fully utilize even the decreased allocations during the previous years. It could utilize only 91.53%, 86.24% and 61.75% of revised budgetary allocations during the financial years 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 (upto January, 2022) respectively. The Committee find it very strange that funds are un-spent in such an important and dynamic sector. Moreover, such a mismatch in the demand, allocation and actual utilization of funds clearly points towards poor financial planning by the Ministry. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should streamline its budget formulation process so as to present a realistic and need- based estimation of funds required for various schemes and programmes and augment its administrative capacity for better utilization of allocated funds.

Reply of the Government

The suggestions of the Committee have been noted for compliance. The Ministry will attempt to bring in more rigorous in the budget making process. During the year 2021-22 the expenditure was over 88% of RE. During the last three years i.e. 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 there was a short fall in expenditure due to COVID, delay in projects due to renegotiation of PPAs & subsequent litigation and non-receipt of projects from North East Region States.

[Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
O.M. No. 151/1/2022-P and C, Dated: 28/06/2022]

Recommendation No. 4

The Committee note that a total renewable energy capacity of 105.85 GW has been installed in the Country as on 31st January, 2022 which is about 60% of the overall target of 175 GW. The Committee are constrained to note that the

Ministry has continuously failed to achieve its yearly physical targets. For the years 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 against the renewable energy targets of 15,555 MW, 12,252 MW and 12,880 MW, the Ministry could achieve only 8,760.57 MW, 8,843.29 MW and 7,549.64 MW with shortfall of about 44%, 28% and 42% respectively. Similarly, during the year 2021-22, against the target of 19,635.90 MW, 10,050.74 MW of renewable power could be installed upto January, 2022 which is only 51% of the given target. The Committee feel that because of continuous non-achievement of the assigned yearly physical targets, it is highly unlikely that the target of 175 GW can be achieved by the end of the year 2022. The performance of the Ministry does not seem to be in sync with our ambitious commitments and announcements made at various international for a regarding adoption of renewable energy. Against such gross under-achievement, the Ministry needs to significantly improve its target fulfillment in the financial year 2022-23. Keeping in view India's commitment to increase its non-fossil based energy capacity to 500 GW by the year 2030, the Committee expect the Ministry to ramp up its pace and recommend the Ministry to closely assess and examine the factors responsible for non-achievement of targets and take corrective measures without any delay so that the physical targets set for the financial year 2022-23 are successfully achieved. The Ministry should also monitor the implementation of the projects and ensure adherence to the prescribed timeline for their commissioning.

Reply of the Government

A record high capacity addition of 14.08 GW of total Renewable Energy and 12.76 GW of solar energy has been achieved during the year 2021-22. A total of 159.95 GW of renewable energy capacity (including large hydro) has been cumulatively installed in the country as on 31.05.2022. In addition, RE projects of 61.19 GW capacity are under various stages of implementation and 18.07 GW are under various stages of bidding. In order to ensure the timely execution of projects, MNRE is regularly monitoring the implementation of awarded RE power projects. Further, necessary amendments and changes in policy/ guidelines are being carried out from time to time in consultation with stakeholders.

There was delay in project completion in 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 due to COVID. Further, in April 2021, Hon'ble Supreme Court passed an order for undergrounding of transmission lines, for protecting the Great Indian Bustard in certain areas of Rajasthan and Gujarat. This has also adversely impacted RE projects in the two states in a major way, and has caused delays.

[Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
O.M. No. 151/1/2022-P and C, Dated: 28/06/2022]

Recommendation No. 5

The Committee note that against the overall target of 40 GW to be achieved by the end of this year, 5.87 GW of rooftop solar projects have been installed in the Country, that is an achievement of less than even 15% of the target. The Committee are concerned with the weak performance of the Ministry in solar roof-top programme and believe that given the performance of the Ministry in this Sector till date, the solar roof-top target for installation of 40 GW cannot be achieved by the end of 2022 with such tardy pace of progress. It has been observed that the roof-top systems are not proving to be attractive for the consumers due to non-availability of information at the grass root level, lack of awareness about this scheme amongst the masses, time consuming and complicated procedures for setting it up, delays in disbursement of subsidy, etc. The Committee thus recommend that:

- i) The Ministry should explore the possibility of introducing Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) for subsidy disbursement directly to the consumer so as to make the process transparent, simpler and faster.
- ii) The Ministry should widely advertise the incentives being provided by the Government for solar roof-top power system in all vernacular print and electronic media so as to spread awareness among the masses.
- iii) One-stop-Solution Centers should be put in place in all the Districts of the Country to provide assistance/services/information to the customers and facilitate them in getting solar roof top system installed in a hassle free manner.

Reply of the Government

In order to increase the awareness among the consumers willing to install rooftop solar, Ministry has engaged PSUs under Ministry of Power and MNRE to undertake extensive awareness campaign all over the country. These PSUs have been allocated different States/ UTs wherein they have to carry out awareness activities including installation of hoardings, posters, distribution of leaflets, brochures, arranging street plays (Nukkadnatak), radio jingles, short videos in electronic media and also awareness through social media. These will be in addition to the awareness activities already being undertaken by States/ UTs.

Further, to make the process transparent, simpler and faster for installation of rooftop solar by consumers under subsidy scheme of MNRE, Ministry has simplified its processes. A National Portal is being created where a residential consumer who is interested to install rooftop solar can apply online and after getting the technical feasibility approval from concerned DISCOM, the

consumer can install rooftop solar plant, choosing the quality of components (solar modules/inverters/structure) as per his requirement provided that minimum specifications of MNRE are fulfilled. A residential consumer can also have the solar rooftop system installed by any registered vendor of choice. On installation of the plant the consumer will upload details on the Portal. The concerned DISCOM will then install the net-meter and submit an inspection report about the installation on the National Portal. On receiving successful installation and inspection report from DISCOM, the subsidy will be directly credited into the bank account of the consumer.

The National Portal will serve as one stop solution for the residential consumers who are willing to install rooftop solar and all related information will be provided to these consumers on the National Portal.

[Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
O.M. No. 151/1/2022-P and C, Dated: 28/06/2022]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 11 of Chapter – I of the Report)

Recommendation No. 7

The Committee note that PM-KUSUM Scheme aims to add a solar capacity of 30.80 GW by end of the year 2022 with central financial support of Rs. 34,000 crore. The Committee observe that against the target of 10,000 MW of grid connected solar power plants under Component A, only 27.75 MW could be installed. Under component B, against the target of 20 lakh stand alone solar pumps, only 78,940 pumps have been installed. Under component C, against the target of 15 lakh grid-connected solar agriculture pumps, only 1026 pumps have been solarized. The Committee are extremely disappointed with the dismal performance of the Ministry under this scheme. It is observed that farmers have been facing issues in getting finance from the Banks for small solar plants and most of the states are not able to provide their share of the subsidy under the Scheme. The Ministry furnished that it has introduced feeder level solarization and been pursuing to arrange fund through Agriculture Infrastructure Fund. The Committee note that the Ministry has made efforts to redress the issues which have been adversely impacting the implementation of the scheme. In order to address the problem of non-availability of funds and further ease the financial burden of the farmers, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should allow payment of farmers' share of funds through MPLAD Scheme. The Ministry should also coordinate and hold consultations with the State Governments and actively encourage them to participate in the Scheme.

Reply of the Government

To facilitate financing the farmers for installation of small solar power plants under Component-A of PM-KUSUM Scheme, the Ministry is pursuing with the banks/financial institutions as also with the Department of Financial Services under the Ministry of Finance. As a result a number of banks have issued guidelines/products for financing PM-KUSUM and Rooftop Solar. These guidelines/products have been uploaded on the Ministry's website for information of the general public. To facilitate speedy process of loan application of farmers under Component-A of PM-KUSUM Scheme, a web page has been created in the PM-KUSUM Portal wherein a farmer can file his application for loan and this application is then forwarded to the respective bank for further action.

Under Component B and C, for individual pumps Ministry is providing 30% as the CFA, at least, 30% from State/UTs and balance is the farmer's share. On the issue of providing farmers share under Component-B and C, as the scheme guidelines are silent, MNRE has requested Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI), being the nodal Ministry for MPLAD Fund, to clarify whether the farmer's contribution under PM-KUSUM Scheme Component-B and C can be provided from MPLAD Fund based on the recommendations of the concern MP. On receipt of clarification from MoSPI, the PM-KUSUM Guidelines will be modified accordingly.

Ministry is regularly reviewing the progress of PM-KUSUM Scheme with the respective Implementing Agencies of different components in the States/ UTs where scheme is under implementation as also with vendors and based on the feedback received the implementation guidelines have been amended as and when required.

[Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
O.M. No. 151/1/2022-P and C, Dated: 28/06/2022]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 17 of Chapter – I of the Report)

Recommendation No. 8

The Committee note that the Bio Power Programme including Waste to Energy Programme and New National Bio-Gas and Organic Manure Programme (NNBOMP) have been discontinued by the Ministry. It is observed that the Ministry has not been able to achieve the targets for biomass power since 2019-20, however under waste to energy programme, physical targets have been achieved but the fund utilization was poor.

Moreover, the physical and financial targets under NNBOMP also remain unachieved. The Ministry has furnished that a proposal under umbrella scheme of National Bioenergy Programme was submitted but the Ministry of Finance did not agree with the proposal. The Committee have been apprised that the Municipal Waste to Energy Sector seems to be picking up and the Ministry has received 27 proposals for converting municipal waste to energy. The Committee desire that the waste to energy programme should be continued as use of agricultural waste/ residue to produce energy has the added benefit of reducing stubble burning and thereby addressing the problem of air pollution. Similarly, Bio-Gas Plants not only meet the cooking fuel requirements of rural folks but also provide them organic bio-manure. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should pursue the matter with the Ministry of Finance and impress upon them the need for continuation of these programmes.

Reply of the Government

In the EFC meeting held on 22.09.2021, it had been recommended that the National Bioenergy Programme may be continued only to meet the already created liabilities and no new projects may be sanctioned under sub schemes of this programme. Subsequent to that, this Ministry has been continuously following up with Ministry of Finance for reconsideration of proposal for continuation of the National Bioenergy Programme beyond 31.03.2021 and upto FY 2025-26. In this connection, MNRE submitted a revised EFC proposal to Department of Expenditure (DoE) for continuation of the National Bioenergy Programme. The proposal was discussed in EFC meeting held under the chairmanship of Expenditure Secretary on 27.06.2022. The minutes of the meeting are awaited.

[Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
O.M. No. 151/1/2022-P and C, Dated: 28/06/2022]

Recommendation No. 9

The Committee note that the small hydro power programme was discontinued w.e.f. 31st March, 2017 and since then, the budget allocations have been used to clear old liabilities only. The Ministry has apprised the Committee that the process for formulation of a new scheme for small hydro power has started and the scheme is likely to be in place soon. It is worth pointing out that the Ministry does not have a scheme for small hydro power for last five years and the same is still under process. In this regard, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should critically review its

performance under the previous small hydro power programme and formulate the new scheme in a time bound manner after ensuring that the factors which hindered the implementation of the earlier programme are properly addressed in the new scheme.

Reply of the Government

EFC in its meeting held on 04.05.2022 has appraised and recommended the 'Small Hydro Power Development Scheme for the period 2022-23 to 2025-26' with an outlay of Rs.3100 crores and overall capacity of 1000 MW through installation of new Small Hydro Power Projects. The Cabinet Note in this regard is under preparation.

[Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
O.M. No. 151/1/2022-P and C, Dated: 28/06/2022]

Recommendation No. 10

The Committee note that the Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS) component of Green Energy Corridor (GEC) consisting of total length of 3200 ckm transmission lines and 17000 MVA substations has been completed, whereas the Intra-State component of GEC project which is being implemented by the State Transmission Utilities of the respective State has been delayed and given multiple extensions. The Committee observe that a total of 8468 ckm of transmission lines have been constructed out of the total target of 9700 ckm and a total of 15268 MVA substations have been charged out of total target of 22600 MVA as on 31st December, 2021. It implies that 1232 ckm of transmission lines have to be constructed and 7332 MVA of substation have to be charged in order to meet even the extended deadline of 30th June, 2022. The Committee are concerned about the much delayed implementation of the intra state component of GEC. Keeping in view the importance of the project for evacuation of power from renewable energy rich States, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should pursue the matter with the States concerned and get the Green Energy Corridor ready within the given time frame in order to avoid grid congestion and to facilitate evacuation of large scale renewable power capacity.

Reply of the Government

The Intra-State portion of GEC project has been delayed due to various reasons such as Right of Way (RoW) issues, court cases, forest clearances, delay in issuing tenders because of delay in substation land acquisition, delay

in award of works due to low bid turnout in various projects which resulted in retendering several times, etc. Ministry and CEA monitor the progress of the projects. A review meeting on Intra-State Green Corridor Phase-I under the chairmanship of Secretary, MNRE was held on 22nd March 2022 with the implementing agencies (State Transmission Utilities) of the implementing states and concerned Principal Secretaries. The Ministry will make all efforts to persuade states to complete implementation of this scheme expeditiously.

[Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
O.M. No. 151/1/2022-P and C, Dated: 28/06/2022]

Recommendation No. 11

The Committee note that the Ministry has not been able to fulfill its obligation regarding utilization of 10% of its annual budget for development of renewable energy in the North-Eastern Region. During the financial years 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21, against the Revised Estimates of Rs. 504.53 crore, Rs. 375 crore and Rs. 335 crore for North-East Region, expenditure of Rs. 122.41 crore, Rs. 128.09 crore and Rs. 107.41 crore have been incurred with huge unspent balance of 76%, 66% and 68% respectively. For 2021-22, against an RE of Rs. 499 crore, only Rs. 38.62 crore could be utilized upto 31st January 2022. It has been submitted that substantial shortfall in fund utilization was due to non-receipt of adequate proposals from the North-East States. It is observed that the north-eastern region has substantial potential for small hydro power; however, the small-hydro programme of the Ministry has been under consideration since April, 2017. Further, the north-eastern states are interested in off-grid and decentralized schemes of the Ministry, but, the schemes like Atal Jyoti Yojana (AJAY), off-grid and decentralized solar PV application programme, etc have been closed/discontinued by the Ministry. It is perplexing to note that on the one hand, the Ministry has been complaining about lack of proposals from North-Eastern States and on the other hand, the relevant schemes have either been under consideration for about five years or discontinued or closed down. The Committee, thus recommend that the Ministry should give proper consideration and due priority to the requirements of North-Eastern States while formulating the new schemes/programmes for off-grid/decentralized solar applications and small hydro power and fully utilize the funds allocated for development of renewable energy in this region.

Reply of the Government

The suggestions of the Committee have been duly noted. The Ministry will make all out efforts for maximum utilization of earmarked North East Fund. An EFC Memorandum for continuation of 'Small Hydro Power Development Scheme for the period 2022-23 to 2025-26' was appraised and recommended by the EFC in its meeting held on 04.05.2022 with an outlay of Rs. 3100 crores and overall capacity of 1000 MW. The Cabinet Note in this regard is under preparation.

The Atal Jyoti Yojana phase 2 was closed on 31st March 2020 as Government of India has suspended the MPLAD funds due to covid-19 pandemic. However, with the start of MPLAD funds, Ministry is formulating a comprehensive scheme including installation of solar street light with partial funding from MPLAD funds. Similarly, the off grid and decentralized Solar PV program Phase 3 was initially targeted up to 31st March 2020, however, considering the covid-19 pandemic, the program was extended till 31st March 2021 for the NE region. The applications covered under Phase 3 included street lights, solar study lamps for school going children and solar power packs for public institutions. As stated above the Ministry is formulating a comprehensive off-grid renewable scheme covering solar street lights through partial funding from MPLAD funds, solar street lights with partial funding from state/beneficiary, distribution of solar study lamps, solar power packs for border areas, Solar water heating systems for hilly and snowbound areas, solar thermal applications for community cooking, etc.

[Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
O.M. No. 151/1/2022-P and C, Dated: 28/06/2022]

Recommendation No. 12

The Committee note that the budgetary allocation for research and development in renewable energy for the years 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2021-22 were drastically reduced at the time of Revised Estimates, while the financial year 2020-21 being the exception. In 2018-19, BE of Rs. 94 crore was reduced by about 54% to Rs. 43 crore; in 2019-20, BE of Rs. 60 crore was reduced by 75% to Rs. 15 crore and in 2021-22, BE of Rs 75 crore was reduced by about 63% to Rs. 27.50 crore at RE stage. It is found that even the severely reduced allocation could not be fully utilized by the Ministry. In 2020-21, BE of Rs. 20 crore was increased to Rs. 49 crore at RE stage, but again, the Ministry could not fully utilize the allocation. The Committee feel that sufficient investment in research and development is a pre-requisite for sustained growth and the persisting inability of the Ministry to utilize the

allocated funds shows its casual approach towards R&D in this sector. The Committee, therefore recommend that the Ministry should focus on maximum utilization of allocated funds so that research, design, demonstration and development in renewable energy sector do not suffer due to low utilization of sanctioned amount. The Committee also desire that the Ministry should collaborate with and provide funds to universities and specialized research institutions in order to support them for research in renewable energy.

Reply of the Government

Keeping in view the importance of Research, Design and Development in RE, the MNRE has revised the Renewable Energy-Research and Technology Development Programme (RE-RTD) on 09th December 2021 as per recommendations of a panel of experts under the Chairmanship of Dr. Anil Kakodkar (Former Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission). This will ensure good projects for technology development and demonstration for large scale promotion of New and Renewable Energy in the country. RE-RTD Programme has been continued for a period 2021-22 to 2025-26 at a total outlay of Rs. 228.00 crore.

The Programme aims at scaling up R&D effort for Renewable Energy Research and Technology Development for promoting indigenous technology development and manufacturing for wide spread applications of new and renewable energy in efficient and cost effective manner across the country. The Programme will strengthen research and innovation capacity of the country leading to increase the share of renewables in the energy mix in the country. RE-RTD Programme has provisions for 100% financial support to Government/non-profit research organisations/academic institutions and 50-70% to industry/start-ups/entrepreneurs/private institutes.

During FY 2020-21, BE of Rs. 20 crore was increased to Rs. 49 crore at RE stage. The actual expenditure was Rs. 36.57 crore. An amount of Rs. 12.43 crore could not be released due to some technical issues in operation in EAT module by the implementing organization. During 2021-22, the scheme was continued only on 9th December, 2021, hence BE was revised to Rs. 27.50 crore which has been fully utilized.

The Ministry is taking all necessary steps, i.e., inviting proposals through country wide "Call for Proposals", regular monitoring the progress and to ensure full utilization of the allocated funds. All efforts will be made to spend the budgetary allocations. The Ministry will also ensure a coordinated approach for successful collaboration among scientific & technical Institutes

like IITs, NISE, NIWE, NIBE, & other R&D institutions and industry to achieve the goal of renewable energy technology development.

[Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
O.M. No. 151/1/2022-P and C, Dated: 28/06/2022]

Recommendation No. 13

The Committee note that the National Institute of Bio Energy is an autonomous institution under the Ministry which focuses on research & development in bio energy. The Ministry has submitted that the institution has not been able to achieve its physical targets due to acute shortage of manpower. This Committee had raised the issue of acute shortage of technical and scientific manpower at National Institute of Bio Energy in their Report. In September 2020, the Ministry, in its action taken replies, submitted that the recruitment was under process and it was expected to be completed soon. However, the Committee find that the shortage still persists which has obviously impacted the efficiency of the Institution. It has also come to the notice that the Institute does not have a regular Director General since atleast last 2 years. In view of the above, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should complete the recruitment process of Director General as well as other technical and scientific positions at the earliest so that the Institution functions properly and is able to achieve its objectives.

Reply of the Government

The Ministry carried out interviews for various scientific posts at NIBE during February and March 2022 and selected 8 scientists under different positions. The joining letters are dispatched to the selected candidates, and it is expected that the new scientist would join in Q1 of FY 22-23.

Further, after the approval of ACC, the regular Director General joined at the institute on 25th May 2022.

[Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
O.M. No. 151/1/2022-P and C, Dated: 28/06/2022]

CHAPTER – III

Observations/ Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's Replies

Nil

CHAPTER – IV

Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the Replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require Reiteration

Recommendation No. 1

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is the nodal Ministry of the Government of India for all matters relating to renewable energy resources. The Committee note that an administrative entity for promotion of renewable energy came into existence in 1981 as a Commission which was converted into a Department in 1982 and this department became the Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources in 1992. It is astonishing to note that a Ministry, which has been in existence for thirty years, has no power to formulate and issue its guidelines because implementation of the Electricity Act is responsibility of the Ministry of Power. It is true that grid connected electricity should be under a single administrative entity in order to have a holistic picture. However, keeping the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy as responsible only for generation of renewable power without looking at transmission and distribution gives a fragmented picture. Moreover, India has been a flag-bearer for extensive adoption of renewable energy and it has committed itself to increase its non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030 and achieve the target of Net Zero by 2070. Keeping in view India's long term commitments regarding renewable energy and also to create synergy in the electricity sector, the Committee recommend that there should be an overhauling of the central administrative entities dealing with electricity with creation of a set up which can bring generation from all sources along with transmission and distribution under a single administrative Ministry for administrative convenience and also to harmonize the policy making for all matters relating to this sector. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy should take initiatives in this direction and apprise the Committee about the outcome.

Reply of the Government

Secretary, MNRE vide D.O. letter No.8/4/2020-EFM dated 16.3.2020 had written to Cabinet Secretary, requesting that the Sectorial areas assigned to MNRE under the Allocation of Business Rules 1961 may be amended. The modification requested *inter-alia* included the following:

- i) All matters relating to development and deployment including formulation and implementation of policies, programmes, schemes and regulations of various new and renewable energy sources [Solar; Wind; Biomass(except liquid Bio fuel); Waste to Energy; Ocean Energy including Tidal Energy and Wave Energy; Geothermal Energy; and Hydro Power projects of and below 25 MW capacity];
- ii) Research and development in new and renewable Energy sector;
- iii) Formulation and implementation of policy and programmes relating to manufacturing in new and renewable energy sector;
- iv) International cooperation in the area of new and renewable energy.

The proposal was examined by the Cabinet Secretariat and vide letter D.O. No.1/21/4/2020-Cab. dated 18.05.2020 it was advised to have further inter-ministerial consultation with the stakeholder Ministries /Departments including NITI Aayog, Departments of Atomic Energy etc. An internal committee chaired by Additional Secretary, MNRE has been formed to review the matter. A detailed proposal will once again be submitted to Cabinet Secretariat for consideration.

[Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
O.M. No. 151/1/2022-P and C, Dated: 28/06/2022]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 8 of Chapter – I of the Report)

Recommendation No. 6

The Committee note that the off-grid and decentralized solar application programme has been discontinued by the Ministry w.e.f. 31st March, 2021. The programme was initiated with a focus on areas where grid power has not reached or is not reliable; backward and remote areas in North Eastern States; Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts, etc. While the objectives of the programme were laudable, the Committee are disappointed to observe that the programme has been discontinued without achievement of the envisaged targets. The Ministry has submitted that the guidelines of the scheme were issued in August 2018 and its implementation got delayed due to imposition of model code of conduct for General Elections, 2019 and lockdown on account of COVID-19. It is clear from the reasons given by the Ministry that the programme could not get its full run since its initiation. Similarly, AJAY Scheme was closed due to discontinuation of MPLAD Scheme by the Government in the year 2020 but the same has not been restarted despite restoration of MPLAD Scheme in November, 2021. Keeping in view the fact that off-grid and decentralized solar applications have the capability to enhance energy access of the people living in backward and remote areas, the

Committee recommend that off-grid and decentralized solar application programme and AJAY Scheme should be restarted. The Ministry should also evaluate these programmes and incorporate the feedbacks received from the stakeholders for better implementation at the ground level.

Reply of the Government

Ministry had been implementing different schemes under off-grid solar sector. These include Atal Jyoti Yojna for providing solar street lights using part funding from MPLAD; off-grid and decentralised solar PV application programme phase-III for providing solar street lights, solar study lamps and solar power packs; and scheme on concentrated solar thermal technologies. All these schemes have been closed prior to 01.04.2021. With the restoration of MPLAD fund and also ease in the Covid-19 pandemic situation, Ministry has prepared a comprehensive scheme for promotion of off-grid solar PV/thermal applications covering all the off-grid applications covered under previous schemes mentioned above and also DRE livelihood applications. A draft EFC note has been prepared and is in the process of approval. Ministry has conducted third party evaluation of its off-grid schemes and the recommendations of the evaluation have been suitably incorporated in the proposed scheme.

[Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
O.M. No. 151/1/2022-P and C, Dated: 28/06/2022]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para No. 14 of Chapter – I of the Report)

CHAPTER – V

**Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the final Replies of
the Government are still awaited**

Nil

**New Delhi;
March 13, 2023
Phalguna 22, 1944 (Saka)**

**Jagdambika Pal,
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Energy**

ANNEXURE-I

Subsidies and Incentives being provided as Central Financial Assistance (CFA) for installation of major renewable energy programmes

GRID-INTERACTIVE RENEWABLE POWER PROGRAMMES	
Solar Power Projects	
a) Grid Connected Rooftop Solar PV Power Projects	<p>1) For Residential Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Financial Assistance (CFA) up to 40% for capacity up to 3 kWp • CFA up to 20% for capacity beyond 3 kWp and up to 10 kWp • CFA up to 20% for GHS/RWA capacity up to 500 kWp (limited to 10 kWp per house and total upto 500 kWp) <p>2) For Discoms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incentives up to 10% of project cost depending upon achievements in capacity addition above baseline.
b) Grid connected Solar PV Power Projects by Government producers under CPSU scheme Phase II (Government Producers Scheme)	VGF support up to Rs 55 lakhs per MW to the CPSUs/Govt. Organizations entities selected through competitive bidding process.
c) Solar Park Scheme	Upto 25 lakh per Solar park for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPRs). 20 Lakh per MW or 30% of the project cost whichever is lower.
d) PM-KUSUM scheme	Procurement Based Incentive (PBI) to the DISCOMs @ 40 paise/kWh or Rs.6.60 lakhs/MW/year, whichever is lower, for buying solar power under this scheme. The PBI will be given to the DISCOMs for a period of five years from the Commercial Operation Date of the plant. Therefore, the total PBI that shall be payable to DISCOMs will be Rs. 33 Lakh per MW. CFA of 30% of the benchmark cost or the tender cost, whichever is lower, of the stand-alone solar Agriculture pump will be provided. However, in North Eastern States including Sikkim, hilly states of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand and UTs of J&K, Ladakh, Lakshadweep and

	<p>A&N Islands, CFA of 50% of the benchmark cost or the tender cost, whichever is lower, of the stand-alone solar pump will be provided.</p> <p>CFA of 30% of the benchmark cost or the tender cost, whichever is lower, of the solar PV component will be provided. However, in North Eastern States including Sikkim, hilly states of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand and UTs of J&K, Ladakh, Lakshadweep and A&N Islands, CFA of 50% of the benchmark cost or the tender cost, whichever is lower, of the solar PV component will be provided.</p>
e) Green Energy Corridor Scheme	<p>GEC Phase-I: CFA of 40 % of DPR cost or awarded cost whichever is lower.</p> <p>Total CFA approved by CCEA is Rs. 4056.67 crore.</p> <p>GEC Phase-II: CFA of 33 % of DPR cost or awarded cost whichever is lower.</p> <p>Total CFA approved by CCEA is Rs. 3970.34 crore.</p>

APPENDIX - I

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

MINUTES OF EIGHTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY (2022-23) HELD ON 13th MARCH, 2023 IN COMMITTEE ROOM 'D', PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI

The Committee sat from 1015 hours to 1100 hours

LOK SABHA

- 1 Shri Gurjeet Singh Aujla
- 2 Shri Pradeep Kumar Chaudhary
- 3 Dr. A. Chellakumar
- 4 Shri S. Gnanathiraviam
- 5 Shri Kishan Kapoor
- 6 Shri Sunil Kumar Mondal
- 7 Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete
- 8 Shri Shivkumar Chanabasappa Udasi (*in the Chair*)
- 9 Shri Balashowry Vallabbhaneni

RAJYA SABHA

- 10 Shri Gulam Ali
- 11 Shri Rajendra Gehlot
- 12 Shri Narain Dass Gupta
- 13 Shri Muzibulla Khan
- 14 Shri Maharaja Sanajaoba Leishemba
- 15 Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar
- 16 Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi

SECRETARIAT

1. Dr. Ram Raj Rai Joint Secretary
2. Shri R.K. Suryanarayanan Director
3. Shri Kulmohan Singh Arora Additional Director

2. Since the Hon'ble Chairperson could not attend the Sitting, Shri Shivkumar Chanabasappa Udasi, a Member of the Committee chaired the sitting in accordance with Rule 258(3) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

3. At the outset, the acting Chairperson welcomed the Members and apprised them about the agenda of the sitting. The Committee then took up for consideration and adoption the following draft Reports:

- (i) Report on 'Action-taken by the Government on recommendations contained in the 24th Report (17th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2022-23) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy'.
- (ii) Report on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy'.
- (iii) Report on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Ministry of Power'.

4. After discussing the contents of the Reports in detail, the Committee adopted the draft Report on 'Action-taken by the Government on recommendations contained in 24th Report (17th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2022-23) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy' and draft Report on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Ministry of Power' without any amendment/modification. The draft Report on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy' was adopted with minor modifications/amendments. The Committee also authorized the Chairperson to finalize the above-mentioned Reports and present the same to both Houses of the Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX - II

(Vide Introduction of the Report)

Analysis of action-taken by the Government on Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Twenty-Fourth Report (17th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Energy

(i)	Total number of Recommendations	13
(ii)	Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government: Sl. Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 Total:	11
	Percentage:	84.62 %
(iii)	Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies: Sl. No. Nil Total:	Nil
	Percentage:	00
(iv)	Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration: Sl. Nos. 1 and 6 Total:	02
	Percentage:	15.38 %
(v)	Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited: Sl. No. Nil Total:	Nil
	Percentage:	00