

Regarding need to formulate a comprehensive Solar-Waste Management Policy and to establish an Advanced Solar-Panel Recycling Plant in Rajasthan-laid

SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY (PALI): I wish to draw the attention of the Government to India's impending solar-panel waste challenge. Guided by Hon'ble Prime Minister's ambitious renewable vision, India has emerged as a global leader in solar energy. Rajasthan alone has installed 31,967.69 MW, which represents 27.5 % of the national capacity. But this success brings a parallel burden of recycling end-of-life solar panels. India could accumulate 600,000 tonnes of solar waste by 2030, ballooning to 19 million tonnes by 2050. Rajasthan's share is projected at 70,000 tonnes by 2030. These discarded modules contain critical minerals such as silicon, copper, tellurium and cadmium, all classified as strategic under the National Critical Mineral Mission. I want to appreciate the government for the 2022 amendment to the E-Waste Management Rules, that has sensibly placed solar modules under Extended Producer Responsibility. The country still needs a dedicated framework that mandates collection, safe dismantling and high-value recycling. I therefore request the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy to formulate a comprehensive solar-waste management policy with enforceable recycling targets and to facilitate the establishment of state-of-the-art solar-panel recycling plants in Rajasthan, generating green jobs and advancing India's circular-economy goals.