

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1150
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2006
AKSHAY URJA SHOPS
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to open Akshay Urja Shops in different parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the criteria for selection of sites for opening such shops; and
- (d) the number of shops proposed to be opened, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR)

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Non- Conventional Energy Sources, under a new Scheme, is supporting the creation of a network of retail outlets in the form of Akshay Urja Shops for sale and service of solar energy and other renewable energy products. Support is available in the form of soft loans for setting up the shops alongwith a recurring grant linked to performance of the shops over a specified period.

(c): The shops can be set up by state nodal agencies, manufacturers` associations, reputed NGOs and private entrepreneurs. The shops should have a minimum covered area of 200 sq. ft. and should preferably be located in a prime location in an easily accessible part of the city. In the selection, priority will be given to owned shops.

(d): Under the earlier Scheme, 104 Aditya Solar Shops have been set up in 28 States/UTs. It is proposed to establish Akshay Urja Shops in all districts of the country. Initially, it is planned to support the setting up of 200 shops next year in those districts where Aditya Solar Shops have not been set up under the earlier Scheme.