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Title: Need to take initiatives for installation of Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) technology for generation of electricity.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (DINDIGUL): Indian Power sector is witnessing major changes. Growth of Power Sector in India since its Independence has been noteworthy. However, the demand for power has outstripped the availability. Substantial peak and shortages prevail in the country.

India, according to the International Energy Agency, is home to 35% of the world's population living without access to electricity.

Recognizing that electricity is one of the key drivers for rapid economic growth and poverty alleviation, the Nation has set itself the target of providing access to all households in next five years. As per Census 2001, about 44% of the households do not have access to electricity. Hence meeting the target of providing universal access is a daunting task requiring significant addition to generation capacity and expansion of the transmission and distribution network. Besides, alternative sources of energy is also called for to meet the alarming situation.

Two German scientists, Dr Gerhard Knies and Dr. Franz Tribe, calculate that covering just 0.5 per cent of the world's hot deserts with a technology called concentrated solar power (CSP) would provide the world's entire electricity needs, and desalinated water to desert regions as a valuable byproduct, as well as air conditioning for nearby cities.

This would allow a 70 percent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions from electricity producing sources over the period.

There are different forms of CSP but all share in common the use of mirrors to concentrate the sun's rays on a pipe or vessel containing some sort of gas or liquid that heats up to around 400C (752 F) and is used to power conventional steam turbines.

I request the Union Government to take concerted effort to use this technology with a view to make availability of electricity to the common man in the country.