



### **Rajya Sabha**

The Government has taken various measures to improve overall availability of power in the country. They are, addition of generation capacity, development of Ultra Mega Power Projects, harnessing surplus captive power into the grid, strengthening and improving of sub-transmission system in States, promoting demand side management, energy efficiency and energy conservation measures, and strengthening of inter-state and inter-regional transmission capacity.

An Energy Coordination Committee chaired by the Prime Minister has been constituted in 2005 to enable a systematic approach to policy formulation, promote coordination in inter-departmental action and function as a key mechanism for providing institutional support to decision making in the area of energy planning and security.

The Government is already providing support to renewable energy sector through a mix of fiscal and financial incentives. Central Financial Assistance ranging from about 30 % to 90% of costs of various types of renewable energy systems/devices for different applications is being provided depending on the technology employed, location and user category. Fiscal incentives being provided include accelerated depreciation, nil/ concessional excise and customs duties. Further benefit under Section 80-1A of Income Tax Act 1961 is available to undertakings set up for the generation or generation and distribution of Renewable power in India. This apart, preferential tariff for grid interactive renewable power is being given in most potential States.

Accordingly, the main proposals for energy sector, which are being acted upon are as contained in the Integrated Energy Policy formulated by the Government in December 2008 covering all sources of energy including renewable.

This information was given by Shri Farooq Abdullah, Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy, in a written reply in Rajya Sabha today.