

Lok Sabha

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is implementing a programme on 'Development of Solar Cities'. The programme aims to reduce a minimum of 10% of the projected demand of conventional energy of the city through energy efficiency measures and renewable energy installations. A total of sixty cities are proposed to be developed as solar cities during the Eleventh Plan period including two model solar cities. So far, sanctions have been issued for 11 cities in the States of Uttar Pradesh (2 nos.), Gujarat (2 nos.), Maharashtra (3 nos.), Uttarakhand (1 no.), Haryana (2 nos.) and Nagaland (1 no.). Further, 'in-principle' approval has been given for eight cities in the States of Tamil Nadu (1 no.), Madhya Pradesh (1 no.), Manipur (1 no.), Andhra Pradesh (1 no.), Chattisgarh (2 no.), Tripura (1 no.) and Union Territory of Chandigarh, for developing them as Solar Cities.

The Ministry is providing financial support up to Rs. 50 lakh for each solar city to the respective State Governments for preparation of a master plan, setting-up institutional arrangements for the implementation of the master plan, awareness generation and capacity building activities. Further, for two model solar cities, financial support of 50% upto a maximum of Rs. 9.50 crore will be available towards the cost of installation of renewable energy systems. An amount of Rs. 47.58 lakh has been released for 11 cities sanctioned so far.

This information was given by Minister for New & Renewable Energy, Dr. Farooq Abdullah in a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha today.