Minister for Power & NRE directs Haryana Govt. to Honour & keep sacrosanct all the agreements/contracts once signed.

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy under the approval and directions of the Honourable Minister for Power & NRE has categorically directed the government of Haryana, Power and NRE to honour all the allocation made to the solar power projects / Parks and the same are sacrosanct.

The direction from the central government to the state government of Haryana has come as a major relief and has given a ray of hope to the developers of solar park / projects in the state of Haryana who were facing resistance on account of DISCOMs leveraging their dominant position denying signing of the connection agreement and grant of LTOAs to the solar power parks and projects allocated by HVPNL as per the guidelines issued after approval of the council of ministers of Haryana.

Under these guidelines around 1050 MW of solar power projects were allocated and the developers have invested in the land and infrastructure and around 380 MW of projects were already awarded with final connectivity as well by the HVPNL in which are at various stages of construction and completion with more than 2000 crores of investment. Rest all from these 1050 MW of applicants have already received in-principle feasibility have invested crores of rupees in land and infrastructure and are waiting for the final connectivity. Immediately after that the DISCOMs started opposing these allocations and their anti-renewable attitude lead to these allocation in extreme crisis.

The central government through their respective ministries which is committed to provide all necessary support and justice to the industry and consumers even at this point of global pandemic has taken cognisance of the matter and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy - MNRE has issued this direction in which it has stated that:

"to convey that, all agreements/ contracts once signed, should be sacrosanct and honoured unless a case of malafide or corruption has been proved"

The developers in Haryana are now hopeful that this direction from the central government will help them to get the matter resolved and state government will take the directions in positive manner and will honour these allocations.

The industry experts on this directions says that even as per the article 256 of the constitution of India, the states have been directed that: The executive power of every State shall be so exercised as to ensure compliance with the laws made by Parliament and any existing laws which apply in that State, and the executive power of the Union shall extend to the giving of such directions to a State as may appear to the Government of India to be necessary for that purpose. Further, The Electricity Act, 2003 is an Act of the Parliament of India enacted to transform the power sector in India. Thus the plants executed under the state regulations and guidelines issued under approval from the council of ministers are sacrosanct and must be honoured.

To be noted that during this lockdown period ministry has also intervened and given some major directions to other states also to support the matters of renewable energy developers like in Punjab, Maharashtra and for other south Indian states which must be apricated.

F. No. 283/126/2018-GRID SOLAR

भारत सरकार / Government of India

नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्रालय/ Ministry of New & Renewable Energy

ग्रिड सौर ऊर्जा प्रभाग / Grid Solar Power Division

Block No. 14, C.G.O. Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110003

Dated: 15th April, 2020

To:

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Haryana, New and Renewable Energy Department,

Akshay Urja Bhawan, Institutional Plot No.1, Sector-17, Panchkula, Haryana.

Email: acs.power@hry.gov.in, hareda-chd@nic.in

Sub: Solar Power Projects in Haryana-reg.

Sir.

This is in reference to Connect Solar's letter dated 14.02.2020 address to Hon'ble Minister (Power & NRE) regarding crisis situation in State of Haryana for the renewable energy generators.

- 2. Vide aforesaid letter, Connect Solar has represented that, continuously from last two years RE developers are being asked to invest and develop solar projects in Haryana, and then their investments and projects are imposed with newer conditions and are cancelled, making huge loss to them.
- 3. The undersigned is directed to forward herewith the aforesaid letter of Connect Solar and to convey that, all agreements/ contracts once signed, should be sacrosanct and honoured unless a case of malafide or corruption has been proved.
- 4. This issues in line with approval from Hon'ble Minister (NRE & Power).

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

(Mohd Azmal Mansoori)

Scientist-B

Email: azmal.mnre@gov.in

Encl: As above

Copy to:

The Managing Director, Haryana Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Limited, Shakti Bhawan, Sector-6, Panchkula, Email: md@hvpn.org.in.

Copy for Internal Circulation to:

PS to Hon'ble Minister (NRE & Power)/ Sr. PPS to Secretary/ Sr. PPS to JS (AKS)/ Dir (RG)/ Sci-D (SK)