

'Will achieve 175 GW renewable energy target well before 2022'

R.K. Singh

India will reach its target of 175 GW of renewable energy capacity well before the deadline of 2022, Power and Renewable Energy Minister R.K. Singh said on Tuesday. Bids for the entire amount will be completed by 2020 itself, he added.

The government would also achieve complete household electrification by the end of this calendar year, he said.

'Path-breaking'

"The last four years have been path-breaking if you compare it to the rate of progress in the previous 48 years," Mr. Singh said at a press conference on the achievements of his ministries.

"In the 48 years before 2014, the pace of capacity addition in generation was about 4,800 MW a year. In the 48 months of this government, the pace of capacity addition was 24,000 MW a year. That's 4.8 times. We added 1 lakh MW, from 2.44 lakh MW to 3.44 lakh MW." "We are focussing electrification on those households that belong to backward communities, including SC and ST households," the Minister said on the government's household electrification scheme.

"The target was March 31, 2019, but we have been told by the Prime Minister that we must complete it by December 31, 2018, and we will. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Odisha are to be congratulated for their progress in this area." On renewable energy target, Mr. Singh said the government hoped to touch 225 GW by 2022.

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