

## Solar commission launch on Nov 14



SHIBA PRASAD SAHU

A woman receiving a solar lamp from Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy Farooq Abdullah at a function organised by Exnora International, Suzlon Foundation and Solkar, in the city on Monday

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A solar commission, to boost solar energy production as part of the Rs 91,684-crore national solar mission, will be launched on November 14, according to union minister for new and renewable energy Farooq Abdullah.

Speaking at a solar lamp distribution programme

organised by Exnora International, Suzlon Foundation and Solkar, he said, "We have distributed solar lights in 500 villages and are planning to distribute them in 10,000 more villages. I hope, one day, every home in the country has light from the energy that nature has given us."

"The Indian government will be launching a solar commission on November

14. Producing solar energy will improve to a great extent, if the country could spend at least a part of its oil and coal subsidy on solar power. Solar panel costs are high and we are planning to bring down their costs," he added.

The lamps distribution programme was part of the the K2K (Kashmir to Kanyakumari) initiative to enable the donation of 10

lakh lamps across the country.

"Villages around Delhi have such solar lamps. The people there have taken loans to buy three such lights for their houses. We are targeting 20 million households in the next decade," said Deepak Gupta, secretary, union ministry of new and renewable energy.

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