

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

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UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 1798
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 17.03.2022

Reducing Global Emissions

1798. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VERMIREDDY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) projected carbon emissions of United States of America, Europe, China and developing countries including India, country-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that to achieve net-zero by 2050, the country has to reduce emissions by 1.4 billion tons per year;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that emissions in India are 7 percent of global emissions; and
- (d) if so, the details of plan of action that government has to take to achieve net-zero by 2050?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) Reliable and verified sources of information are available for emissions that have occurred so far from various countries, the most prominent of these being the data compiled by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) post 1990. Cumulative emissions from various countries is the most important parameter as it shows how much of the global carbon budget has been used by each country and whether this is in accordance with their fair share. As per the compilation provided by the website, Climate Equity Monitor(<https://climateequitymonitor.in>), based on data compiled from primary sources, all developed countries have consumed more than their fair share of the global carbon budget, until 2019.

There are a number of databases on projected carbon emissions by different countries but such databases are largely based on assumptions and have limitations, including large uncertainties. As per the Seventh National Communications of USA and European Union submitted to the UNFCCC, their total emissions in 2015 are pegged at 6,671 million tonne CO₂e and 4,450 million tonne CO₂e respectively. The projected emissions for 2030 are 6,194 million tonne CO₂e for USA and 3,872 million tonne CO₂e for European Union. Being developing countries, the emissions of India and China, according to the UNFCCC, will grow to meet their social and development needs and there is no requirement for developing countries to provide projected emissions in their national communications and biennial update reports.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As a Party to the UNFCCC, India periodically submits its National Communications (NCs) and Biennial Update Reports (BURs) to the UNFCCC which includes national Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventory. As per India's third BUR submitted to the UNFCCC in February 2021, total net GHG emissions for 2016 are 2.5 billion tonne CO₂e. Our per capita emissions are 1.96 tCO₂ which is less than one third of the world's per capita GHG emissions and our annual emissions in 2016 are only about 5 percent of the global emissions. India has contributed only around 4 percent of global cumulative emissions from 1850 to 2019, despite being home to around 17 percent of humanity. Climate change is a global collective action problem to be addressed through multilateralism and nations of the World must adhere to using only their respective fair shares of the global carbon budget.

(d) The Government of India stands committed to combating climate change through its several programmes and schemes including the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) which comprises missions in specific areas of solar energy, energy efficiency, water, sustainable agriculture, Himalayan ecosystem, sustainable habitat, green India, and strategic knowledge for climate change. The NAPCC provides an overarching framework for all climate actions. Thirty-three States /Union Territories (UTs) have prepared their State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) in line with NAPCC taking into account the State-specific issues relating to climate change. These SAPCCs outline sector-specific and cross-sectoral priority actions, including adaptation. Apart from resolutely addressing climate change domestically, India has launched international coalitions such as International Solar Alliance (ISA) and Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI). Recently, at COP26 in Glasgow, new initiatives under CDRI and ISA, viz, Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) and Green Grids Initiative—One Sun One World One Grid (GGI-OSOWOG) were also launched. Along with Sweden, India co-leads the Leadership Group for Industry Transition. (LeadIT) for voluntary low carbon transition of hard to abate sectors.

As a result of the aforesaid measures, India has progressively continued decoupling of economic growth from greenhouse gas emissions. India's emission intensity of gross domestic product (GDP) has reduced by 24 per cent between 2005 and 2016. Further, India has also overachieved one of its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) announced at Paris Climate Summit (2015) by already meeting 40 percent of its cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil sources as of November 2021, which is almost nine years ahead of schedule. The share of solar and wind in India's energy mix is also growing to support its clean energy transition.
