GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2711 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2017

Global Warming

2711. SHRI JANARDAN MISHRA:

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

- (a) the main reasons identified for problems like environmental pollution and global warming at present in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has taken measures to address these problems so far;and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) Main reason for environmental pollution is emission and effluent from various sources above the permissible limits and increase in concentration of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) due to human activities.

(b)&(c) Government has taken several steps to check environmental pollution which, inter alia, include notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards; setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; launching of National Air Quality Index; introduction of cleaner / alternate fuels; leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards by 1st April, 2020, promotion of afforestation, Greening of Highways, Railways and Banks of Ganga; installation of 24x7 real time continuous emission and effluent monitoring systems for specified categories of industries, NamamiGange scheme for cleaning of Ganga river, revamping of the waste management rules, revision of Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI), ratification of the Paris Climate Agreement, submission of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) with target to reduce the emission intensity of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 33 to 35 percent by 2030 from 2005 level. This includes creation of an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO₂ equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030 and 40 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by 2030.

The Government has also formulated the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) to deal with the climate change related issues. NAPCC comprises eight Missions in specific areas of solar energy, enhanced energy efficiency, habitat, water, sustaining Himalayan Ecosystems, forestry, agriculture and strategic knowledge for climate change. Further, 32 States/Union Territories have prepared State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC) consistent with the objectives of NAPCC.