

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2402
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.03.2018

Emission of Greenhouse Gases

2402. SHRI R. PARTHIPAN:

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

- (a) whether India emits higher levels of greenhouse gases than any other developing country with the exception of China and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the greenhouse gas emissions in the country are increasing, mainly due to increase in fossil fuel based industries and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the World Bank has put much of the blame on inefficient investments in energy, in power generation and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to improve the situation; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to implement the “Polluters pay theory” in the country and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (d) India’s per capita GHG emission in 2010 was 1.56 tonnes CO₂ eq which is less than one- third of the world’s per capita emissions and far below that of most of the developing countries including China (8.22 tonnes CO₂ eq), Brazil (14.87 tonnes CO₂ eq), South Africa (8.87 tonnes CO₂ eq), Mexico (5.46 tonnes CO₂ eq). India’s gross greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions at 2.136 billion tonnes Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂ eq) (excluding Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry) in 2010 are lower than GHG emissions of developing countries namely China (11.183 billion tonnes CO₂eq) and Brazil (2.902 billion tonnes CO₂eq).

India’s total greenhouse gas emission has increased from 1.5 billion tonnes of CO₂ eq in 2000 to 2.1 billion tonnes of CO₂ eq in 2010. The energy and industrial process & product use sectors accounted for 73% of the total GHG emissions in 2000 and about 79% in 2010. The World Bank Report titled, “More Power to India: The Challenge of Electricity Distribution”, (2014) *inter alia* refers to the inefficient and loss-making status of power sector. However, a number of initiatives have been taken to address the issue.

Government of India has launched several initiatives to transform the energy sector, both on generation and demand side, to make it efficient, clean and affordable. On generation side,

Government of India is implementing the renewable energy expansion programme with a target of achieving 175 GW by 2022; use of supercritical technology in all new power plants; phasing out of old and inefficient thermal power plants etc. On demand side, a number of policies and programmes aim at introducing energy efficiency measures like UJALA (Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All); Standards and Labeling Programme for appliances like Air Conditioners, fridge etc. To reduce the emissions from industries, Government of India is implementing the Perform Achieve and Trade Scheme (PAT), which is a regulatory instrument to reduce specific energy consumption in energy intensive industries based on the “Polluter Pays” concept. In the first cycle of PAT, 478 industrial units in 8 sectors (Aluminum, Cement, Chlor-Alkali, Fertilizer, Iron & Steel, Paper & Pulp, Thermal Power, Textile) were mandated to reduce their specific energy consumption (SEC). It has resulted in saving of 8.67 million tonne of oil equivalent (Mtoe) and emission reduction of 31 million tonnes of CO₂. The scheme has been further deepened and widened to include 3 more sectors viz. Railways, Refineries and Electricity Distribution Companies (DISCOMs). One of the guiding principles of National Environment Policy 2006 is “Polluter Pays”.
