

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1795**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2018

**Reduction in Use of Hydrochlorofluorocarbons**

1795. SHRI JANAK RAM:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to bring a legislation to ensure that air conditioners in buildings, commercial places and airports are maintained at predetermined temperatures;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether such legislation has been successfully implemented in Japan and European countries and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether such a measure is likely to reduce the use of Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HFCs) and if so, the details thereof along with the other steps taken/being taken by the Government for reducing use of HFCs in the country?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (d): No Madam. However, the Government is mindful of international developments on the subject. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency, under the guidance of Ministry of Power has issued voluntary guidelines recommending that Air-conditioners in Buildings, commercial places and Airports may be maintained between 24 to 25 degree Celsius with appropriate humidity and airflow with an aim to conserve energy without compromising comfort conditions.

As per reports, Japan had launched a campaign in 2005 encouraging business and public in general to preset air conditioners at 28 °C during summers, in order to reduce energy consumption. More recently, an action plan has been developed in 2016 that requires presetting of air conditioners in Government buildings in Japan. Surveys have been conducted in Japan on the impact of the campaign, it emerged that majority of the respondents were aware about the campaign. In addition, China has also prescribed air-conditioning temperature control standard for public buildings. It is gathered that South Korea and United Kingdom also initiated similar campaigns. There are no available reports for regulation on presetting of temperature for air conditioners in Europe.

Reduction in cooling requirement has a relationship with the quantity of refrigerant used such as Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) in air-conditioning equipment. However, pre-setting of higher indoor/room temperature in air conditioners is directly related with reduction in energy consumption.

India is phasing out production and consumption of Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) as per the Montreal Protocol schedule with complete phase out in 2030 and a service tail of 2.5 % till 2040. In HCFC Phase out Management Plan (HPMP) India has not only met the compliance obligations of the Montreal Protocol but exceeded the phase out targets through a series of policy measure regulations, systematic technology conversions in the Industry, technical assistance and awareness generation. The ongoing HPMP Stage II would result in phasing out of 60 % of the HCFCs by 1.1.2023, against the target of 35 % phase out in 2020 and 65 % phase out in 2025.

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