GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF POWER

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3776 TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2018

AC TEMPERATURE

3776. SHRIMATI VASANTHI M.:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make 24 degree Celsius as the mandatory lowest default temperature setting for air conditioners within a few months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has held discussions with the air conditioner manufacturers in this regard, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether this initiative is being taken to save energy, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps proposed to be taken up by the Government to save electricity?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R. K. SINGH)

(a) to (d): At present, there is no proposal to make 24 °C (degree Celsius) as the mandatory lowest default temperature setting for air conditioners. However, with an objective to promote energy conservation in space cooling, Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), under the guidance of Ministry of Power, have developed voluntary guidelines recommending air conditioning temperature setting at optimal level of 24-26 °C. These guidelines have been recommended for implementation in large commercial establishments, such as, Hotels, Airports, public office complexes and large institutions. To take forward this initiative, a meeting was held with the manufacturers of Air Conditioner (AC) on 22nd June 2018, wherein it was suggested to explore the technical feasibility for default temperature setting of AC at 24 °C.

It is estimated that an increase in air conditioning temperature of room by 1 °C, saves about 6% of electricity. Generally, air conditioning temperature is set between 20-21 °C, whereas the ideal/optimal temperature is 24-26 °C. Change in air conditioning temperature from 20 °C to 24 °C, will save about 24% electricity. This will reduce emissions and thereby be good for the environment; it will save money, and it is also good for health.

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(e): An outreach awareness programme for promoting energy conservation in space cooling through optimum temperature settings has been initiated for disseminating information regarding the benefits of optimum temperature setting in AC, apart from other measures that can be adopted by consumers for saving energy.

Some of the other steps taken by the Government to save electricity include:-

- i. Standard & Labeling (S&L) Programme for appliances to provide the consumer an informed choice about the energy saving and thereby the cost saving potential of the relevant marketed product.
- ii. Labeling of energy efficient agriculture pumpsetsupto a connected load of 15 KW.
- iii. Prescription of specific energy consumption norms for energy intensive industries notified as designated consumers and implemented through Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) Scheme.
- iv. Formulation of Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC) for energy efficiency improvement in commercial buildings.
- v. Design-guidelines for energy efficiency in multi-storied residential buildings.
- vi. Demand Side Management (DSM) in Municipal, Household, Agriculture and Small & Medium Enterprises (SME) sectors.
- vii. Promotion of energy efficient LED lamps through Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) and Street Lighting National Programme (SLNP).
- viii. Promotion of Energy Efficient Fans and Agriculture pumpsets.
