GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 358 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.01.2019

Climate Change Conference

*358. ADV. JOICE GEORGE:

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

- (a) whether the Government participated in the climate change conference at Katowice, Poland recently and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the conference was mandated to finalize the modalities, procedures and guidelines, called the "Paris Rulebook" and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the conference finalized the rulebook for implementation of the Paris Agreement, which was unanimously adopted by all member countries and if so, the details thereof along with the stand of the Government on various issues discussed in the conference;
- (d) whether the Paris Agreement with the adoption of the said rulebook is well on its way to being operationalised; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the role to be played by India in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) TO (E) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 358 BY ADV. JOICE GEORGE; SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI) ON CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

(a) to (e) An inter-ministerial delegation of Government of India participated in the 24th Session of the Conference of the Parties (CoP 24) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Katowice, Poland on 02nd – 15th December 2018. One of the mandates of the meeting was finalization of guidelines for implementation of Paris Agreement in the post-2020 period. Decisions on various elements under Paris Agreement Work Programme (PAWP) were adopted in CoP 24. Agreement on Article 6 relating to the cooperative approaches (market mechanisms and non-market approaches), could not reached among Parties and further discussions on it would continue in 2019. The adopted decisions recognizes different starting points of developed and developing countries and need for support to developing countries for implementation of Paris Agreement; provides flexibilities for developing countries and gives consideration to principles of equity, Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC) etc.

The Paris Agreement is to be implemented in post-2020 period in line with the guidelines adopted under Paris Agreement Work Programme. Under the Paris Agreement, India submitted its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) outlining eight (8) goals for 2021-2030, including (i) to reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP by 33 to 35 percent by 2030 from 2005 level, (ii) to achieve about 40 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by 2030 with the help of transfer of technology and low cost international finance including from Green Climate Fund (GCF), (iii) to create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO₂ equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030. The other targets pertain to sustainable lifestyles; climate friendly growth path; climate change adaptation; climate change finance; and capacity building and technology.

India engaged positively and constructively in the negotiations and protected its interests. India also provided leadership on issues of particular interest to developing countries like provision of finance, technology development and transfer, capacity building, equity and differentiation. The salient features of the key decisions are placed at Annexure I.

Annexure I:

Salient Features of key decisions

- i. Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC): guidance preserves the nationally determined nature of NDCs and reflects the principles of the Paris Agreement while recognizing that developed countries have to display leadership for achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement.
- ii. Adaptation: the guidance on adaptation recognizes the adaptation needs of developing countries and includes provisions on providing support for adaption activities of developing country parties.
- iii. Transparency Framework: guidelines under transparency framework mandate developed countries to report on all aspects including mitigation, support provided including finance, technology development and transfer and capacity building while self-determined flexibilities are accorded to developing countries.
- iv. Global Stocktake (GST): the guidance on GST includes assessment of collective progress on all the pillars of climate action (mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation) towards achieving the long-term goals under the Paris Agreement. India expressed its reservation on the GST decision regarding the need for considerations on equity in output of GST process, which is an important consideration in GST process so that vulnerabilities, problems and challenges of the poor and marginalised are addressed.
- v. Compliance Mechanism: the compliance mechanism will be facilitative and respect national capabilities and circumstances and will involve Parties at every stage of the process.
- vi. Climate Finance: the adopted guidance requires developed countries to provide detailed information biennially on the projected levels of public financial resources to be provided to developing countries. The climate finance guidelines further require developed countries to account for finance provided to developing countries including reporting on how it is over and above Official Development Assistance (ODA). The work on setting up a new collective finance goal also progressed and Parties agreed to initiate in November 2020, "deliberations on setting a new collective quantified goal from a floor of USD 100 billion per year".
- vii. Technology framework: the overarching framework for technology recognizes the need for enhanced support towards operationalization of the framework and comprehensively covers all stages of technology development and transfer.
