

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 622
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023

Impact of Climate Change

622. SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:
SHRI MAHABALI SINGH:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUSHWAHA:
SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK:
SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:
SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH PATEL:

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

- (a) whether the Government is using its G20 presidency to push for greater cooperation to combat complex climate issues, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government is working on adopting a comprehensive Green Industrial Policy, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of programmes being implemented to maintain environment balance and environment protection in urban areas, especially in Madhya Pradesh;
- (d) whether it is a fact that climate change has contributed significantly to forest loss in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to reverse the effects of climate change and conservation of forest and wildlife in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) The G20 Countries represent a spectrum of developed and emerging economies at different stages of growth and development. India's G20 Presidency brings an integrated, comprehensive and consensus driven approach to address climate change and pursue sustainable growth. The Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG) under India's G20 Presidency focuses on environment and climate change issues, with three priority areas, viz., arresting land degradation, accelerating ecosystem restoration and enriching biodiversity; promoting a sustainable and climate resilient blue economy and encouraging resource efficiency and circular economy. As climate change is a cross sectoral subject, it is addressed in some other Working Groups including the Energy Transition Working Group (ETWG) and Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG).
- (b) to (e) India has submitted its long term low carbon development strategy (LT-LEDS) towards net zero by 2070, to the UNFCCC in November 2022. The LT-LEDS lays out

the ongoing policies and programmes as well as the transitions envisaged towards low-carbon development pathways in seven key sectors including promoting economy-wide decoupling of growth from emissions and development of an efficient, innovative low emission industrial system.

India's actions on climate change are guided by the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), which is the overarching policy framework and comprises of national missions in specific areas of solar energy, enhanced energy efficiency, water, agriculture, Himalayan eco-system, sustainable habitat, green India, human health and strategic knowledge on climate change. These national missions are anchored by specific line Ministries with each mission having its action plan for addressing climate change while ensuring development. The National Mission on Sustainable Habitat (NMSH) under the NAPCC contains enabling climate actions pertaining to urban governance, capacity building, technology etc. The Mission has mitigation and adaptation strategies to address the issue of climate change in urban areas.

Further, 33 States/ UTs including Madhya Pradesh, have developed their State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC) that comprise sectoral and cross sectoral actions for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Various initiatives are being taken in cities in Madhya Pradesh for sustainable waste management, transport, housing etc, including under the Smart Cities Mission which is a part of NMSH.

Government of India is implementing various programmes to improve and increase forest and tree cover in the country through Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as National Afforestation Programme (NAP) and National Mission for a Green India (GIM). Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change also supports school nursery and urban forestry programmes through people's participation. In addition to this, State Governments and UT administrations have their own afforestation and reforestation programmes. As per the latest India State of Forest Report 2021, the total forest cover of the country has increased by 12,294 square kilometres in the last seven years (ISFR 2015 to ISFR 2021).
