GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 407 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2024

MISSION NET ZERO CARBON EMISSION, 2030

407. DR. BHOLA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with United States Agency for International Development/India (USAID/India) for supporting Indian Railways to achieve Mission Net Zero Carbon Emission by 2030;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the MoU provides a platform for Indian Railways to interact and share the latest developments and knowledge in the railway sector;

(d) if so, whether the MoU facilitates utility modernization, advanced energy solutions and systems, regional energy and market integration and private sector participation and other interactions for knowledge sharing;

(e) if so, whether it will help Railways to reduce dependence on imported fuel such as Diesel, Coal etc. and deployment of Renewable Energy (RE) plants will give fillip to RE technology in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof along with the present status thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (f): Indian Railways (IR) is working on 'Net Zero Carbon Emission by 2030' target with multipronged approach of shift from Diesel to Electric traction, procurement of power through renewable energy and Implementation of energy efficiency measures.

It is expected to give fillip to Renewable Energy (RE) technology in the country and will also result in reduced dependence of IR on imported fuel such as diesel, coal etc.

Indian Railways efforts will enable IR to achieve 'Net Zero Carbon Emission by 2030'.

For keep abreast with others in these areas, IR enters into Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with various countries.

On the similar lines a MoU was signed between IR, Government of India and United States Agency for International Development/India (USAID/India) on 14th June, 2023. The MoU, inter-alia, includes different areas of cooperation such as long term clean energy planning and procurement; development of energy efficiency policy; technical support for addressing regulatory and implementation barriers; and capacity building programs.

Scope of the USAID MoU is in line with the already planned and ongoing works of deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency measures over IR.

This MoU is effective for a period of five years or until the effective end of South Asia Regional Energy Partnership (SAREP) program of USAID/India.

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