

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3262
TO BE ANSWERED ON MARCH 20, 2025
CIRCULAR ECONOMY FORUM

NO. 3262. SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH GANGWAR:
SHRI RAVINDRA SHUKLA ALIAS RAVI KISHAN:
SMT. APARAJITA SARANGI:

Will the Minister for HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which the Government is planning to ensure that commitments made at the Circular Economy Forum translate into actionable initiatives at the national level;**
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to make India a global leader in the circular economy;**
- (c) the amount of the public funding allocated for implementing the circular economy initiatives discussed at the Forum; and**
- (d) the details of the expected financial returns from these initiatives?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI TOKHAN SAHU)

(a) : The 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia-Pacific was organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India in collaboration with the Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), from 3rd March to 5th March, 2025 in Jaipur, Rajasthan.

It has been held with the objective of discussing the circular economy policies, practices, strategies, regional cooperation and foster collaboration between governments, businesses, and civil society to accelerate the transition from traditional linear economy to more resource efficient and circular societies across Asia-Pacific. To promote the same and to reach consensus on a new voluntary and legally non-binding 3R (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) and Circular Economy Declaration (2025-2034) has also been adopted in the forum.

(b) : India is leading in promoting circular economy. Some of the key initiatives amongst many others are:

- 1) Circular Economy Action Plans for 11 waste categories (Lithium-ion batteries; E-waste; Toxic and hazardous industrial waste; Scrap metal (ferrous and non-ferrous); Tyre and Rubber; End of Life Vehicles; Gypsum, Used Oil, Solar Panels, Agricultural waste and Municipal Solid & Liquid Waste have been finalized.**
- 2) Regulations incorporating market based Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) principle have been notified in respect of plastic packaging waste, battery waste, e-waste, waste tyre, used oil and End-of-Life Vehicles:**
- 3) As a party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Paris Agreement, India submitted its first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in the year 2015 comprising, inter-alia, of following two quantifiable targets:**
 - (i) To reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP by 33 to 35 percent by 2030 from 2005 level; and**
 - (ii) To achieve about 40 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030.**

These two targets have been achieved well ahead of the time. In August 2022, India updated its NDC according to which target to reduce emissions intensity of its GDP has been enhanced to 45 percent by 2030 from 2005 level, and the target on cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources has been enhanced to 50% by 2030. India also submitted its Long-term Low Emission Development Strategy to achieve net-zero by 2070. As on 24th July 2023, India has progressively continued decoupling of economic growth from greenhouse gas emissions. India's emission intensity of gross domestic product (GDP) has reduced by 24 per cent between 2005 and 2016. India's current share of non-fossil sources based installed capacity of electricity generation is more than 40%.

(c) : Jaipur declaration (2025-2034) - a key outcome of the Forum, is a voluntary, non-binding and non-political commitment, which offers a comprehensive framework for transitioning to circular economy and improving resource efficiency over the next 10 years. The declaration consists of 13 Goals focusing on resource management, resource efficiency and low-carbon society, achieving clean environment, resilient economies and means of implementation via partnerships, technology transfer, research and development. The Declaration is a commitment for policy directionality. In India, along with policy, financial incentives are also provided under various national programmes like Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0, AMRUT 2.0 etc.

(d) : Through a radical departure from the traditional 'take, make, waste' production and consumption models, the circular economy could provide a potential \$4.5 trillion in additional economic output by 2030 world over. With respect to India specifically, it is estimated that, by 2050, India's circular economy could generate a market value of over \$2 trillion and create close to 10 million jobs.
