

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.321
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2015

Global Warming

*321. SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering new initiatives for mitigating global warming including reduction of carbon emissions through use of energy sources other than coal and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the major oil companies are touting the substitution of coal by natural gas for tackling global warming and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to incentivise the industry with low carbon emissions and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the other steps being taken by the Government at National and International levels to promote "Green Initiatives" along with the success achieved thereunder?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) TO (D) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 321 BY SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN REGARDING 'GLOBAL WARMING'.

(a) The submitted Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) submitted by India envisages that about 40 percent of cumulative electric power installed capacity shall come from non-fossil fuel based energy sources by 2030. It has proposed massive increase in renewable energy from 35 GW (upto March 2015) to 175 GW by 2022 through National Solar Mission and other activities in Wind, Biomass, and Small Hydro. India is aiming to generate 100 GW solar power, 60 GW power from wind, 10 GW bio-mass power and 5 GW small hydro-power by 2022.

(b) Natural Gas generates 40% less CO₂ as compared to coal, and about 30% less than heavy oil. The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has undertaken initiatives for Mitigation of Carbon Emissions & Climate Change in Oil & Gas Sector. However, its use depends on availability and cost.

(c) Government has taken a number of initiatives in the past for the development of renewable energy in the country which inter-alia include generation based incentives/subsidies, fiscal incentives such as accelerated depreciation, concessional customs duty, excise duty exemptions, income tax holiday for 10 years and preferential tariff for renewable energy power projects. In addition, Reserve Bank of India has issued revised guidelines for all scheduled commercial banks making significant inroads for renewable energy in the priority sector lending.

The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has launched its 'Perform, Achieve and Trade' (PAT) scheme. PAT is a market based mechanism in which sectors are assigned efficiency targets. Industries which over-achieve will get incentives in the form of energy saving certificates. These certificates are tradeable and can be bought by other industries which are unable to achieve their targets. Similarly, Renewable Energy Certificates (REC) trading mechanism has been launched by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) and Ministry of Power to promote generation of Renewable Energy in India.

Further, the Government of India has also setup the National Clean Energy Fund (NCEF) by levying a cess of 200 per tonne of coal produced domestically or imported, for the purpose of financing and promoting clean energy activities in the country. Under NCEF, Viability Gap Funding (VGF) up to 40% of the project cost is available to any project/scheme relating to innovative methods to adapt to Clean Energy Technology.

(d) Government of India has formulated the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) on June 30, 2008 comprising eight National Missions; (i) Solar Energy (ii) Enhanced Energy Efficiency (iii) Sustainable Habitat (iv) Water (v) Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system (vi) Green India (vii) Sustainable Agriculture and (viii) Strategic knowledge, to address adaptation and mitigation related to climate change.

In line with the objectives of NAPCC, the State Governments have prepared State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC) consistent with the national objectives and state priorities. These plans include the current and future State's climate change scenarios and likely impacts of

climate change and focus on adaptation and mitigation in sectors such as water, agriculture, tourism, forestry, transport, habitat, energy, etc.

The National Adaptation Fund on Climate Change has been established with the objective of addressing the existing funding gap for undertaking adaptation activities at State level. 350 crores has been allocated for remaining two years of 12th Five Year Plan. The funding is being provided for adaptation projects related to agriculture, water, forestry, coastal, disaster, health, tourism, marine system and capacity building.

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) was established at the Sixteenth Conference of Parties held in Cancun, Mexico, in December 2010 to support projects, programmes, policies and other activities in developing countries to combat climate change. GCF is now operational.
