

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 382
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.12.2015

Conference of Climate Change

382. SHRI KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:
SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:
DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of a study report by Climate Central indicating that a number of coastal cities, including Mumbai and Kolkata would be submerged, if the global temperatures continue to rise at the current pace;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether a conference on climate change and cut in carbon emission is proposed in the near future to address the said issues;
- (d) if so, the stand proposed to be taken by the Government in the said conference;
and
- (e) the other measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b): A number of reports on climate change are published from time to time. The report entitled 'Mapping Choices: Carbon, Climate, and Rising Seas Our Global Legacy' (November 2015) prepared by Climate Central, an independent research organization of USA is one of such reports. According to this report, under business as usual scenario of 4° C temperature rise, three urban agglomerations of Kolkata, Mumbai and Howrah are projected to be amongst the most affected due to sea level rise.

As per the India's Second National Communication submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2012, sea level is projected to rise by 3.5 to 34.6 inches between 1990 and 2100, which would result in salinity of groundwater in coastal areas and inundation of some of the coastal areas.

Studies on Coastal Zones have been conducted for developing an approach to assess coastal vulnerability due to sea level rise. The Coastal Regulation Zone Notification was also published in 2011. Besides, Government has launched a project on 'Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan' for mapping of a hazard line along the coastal areas of the country taking into account the sea level rise due to climate change and other parameters such as, shoreline change, tides and wave etc.

(c) & (d): India is a party to the UNFCCC. The 21st session of the Conference of the Parties to UNFCCC is being held from 30 November to 11 December 2015 to finalize an international agreement to tackle climate change. India has reiterated that the ongoing negotiations for the climate agreement should be held as per the principles of Equity, Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities enshrined in the UNFCCC.

All Parties under UNFCCC have been requested to submit their Indented Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) towards addressing climate change. Accordingly, India has submitted its INDCs which envisages reduction of emission intensity of its GDP by 33 to 35 percent by 2030 from 2005 level, achieve 40 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by 2030, and also create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO₂ equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.

(e): The Government has launched the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) to deal with the climate change related issues. NAPCC outlines eight Missions in specific areas of solar energy, enhanced energy efficiency, habitat, water, sustaining Himalayan Ecosystems, forestry, agriculture and strategic knowledge for climate change. Further, States/Union Territories have prepared State Action Plans on Climate Change consistent with the objectives of NAPCC.
