

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 201
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2021

The Paris Agreement on Climate Change

201. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM

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

- (a) the stand of the Government on Paris Climate Agreement, in respect of carbon space;
- (b) whether other developing nations are also consulted for strengthening the stand of India;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of initiatives taken for pursuing the developed countries to meet their commitments of transfer of funds and patent free technology to the developing countries, to mitigate the effect of climate change?

ANSWER

MINISTER 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 RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 201 DUE TO THE REPLY ON 15.03.2021 RAISED BY
SHRI M. SHANMUGAM ON THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

(a) The central aim of the Paris Agreement is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, by keeping global temperature rise from pre-industrial levels to well below 2 degree Celsius and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius. It is well established scientifically that this requires that cumulative global emissions have to stay within a global carbon budget from pre-industrial levels, with such budget being determined by the appropriate probability of not exceeding the desired temperature goal. India has always emphasized that the global carbon budget should be equitable and fairly shared, based on the foundational principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities laid down in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and reiterated in the Paris Agreement.

However, India's share in cumulative historical global greenhouse gas emissions is only about 3 percent and India's per capita emissions are just about one-third of global average. According to the Global Carbon budgets and Equity in Climate Change, published in 2010, the historical carbon spaces occupied by various countries in 2009 (with 1850 as base year) are: USA: 29%; other Developed countries: 45%; China: 10% and India: 3%. According to India's Third Biennial Update Report (BUR) submitted to UNFCCC in February 2021, the per capita GHG emission in India was 1.96 tonne of carbon dioxide (CO₂) equivalent and net GHG emission was 2.531 billion tonne of CO₂ equivalent. The total CO₂ emission with Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) was 1.922 billion tonne and per capita emission of CO₂ was approximately 1.5 tonne in 2016. India's contribution to the problem of climate change is limited but its actions are fair and ambitious.

India has repeatedly noted in climate negotiations that the developed countries have historically consumed far more than their fair share of the global carbon budget.

The historical responsibility of the developed countries in the disproportionate appropriation of carbon space and the need for them to reduce their emission rapidly to allow sufficient carbon space for the developing countries including India, was particularly emphasised by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in his address to the Paris Agreement talks at COP-21 in Paris in 2015.

India continues to uphold the need for equitable access to carbon space as among the key principles guiding implementation of the Paris Agreement, as well as the achievement of the larger goal of sustainable development in keeping with the needs and aspirations of its people.

(b) and (c) Over the years, India is engaging constructively with other developing countries to consolidate its stand on common issues under climate change negotiations. India is an active member of Like Minded Developing Countries (LMDC), G77+China and BASIC (Brazil, South Africa, India and China). Further, India coordinates with these groups and other developing countries on a regular basis for a common position and strengthening India's stand.

(d) The Paris Agreement has stipulated the role of developed countries for mobilizing climate finance and technology transfer to support developing countries for climate actions. The Paris Agreement Work Programme adopted in the Conference of Parties (COP) at

Katowice, Poland reiterates the importance of the support, including financial support, that shall be provided to developing country Parties for strengthening cooperative action on technology development and transfer. India has been a strong and vocal advocate for the developed countries to meet their commitments of technology transfer and climate finance and to take lead in climate actions, while also highlighting the failure of the developed countries in terms of scope, scale and speed in the provision of climate finance. India raises these issues in all the available multilateral and bilateral platforms and meetings including, inter alia, the Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC, Petersberg Climate Dialogue, and Ministerial Meeting on Climate Action.
