

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2440
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022

IPCC report on climate change

2440. SHRI BRIJLAL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per recently released report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), there has been a significant increase in temperatures due to emissions in the country and if so, details thereof;
- (b) whether the said report has also mentioned the apprehensions of heavy rainfall, tropical cyclones and drought in the country in future, if so, response of Government thereon and the remedial steps being taken by Government to avoid said calamities in future; and
- (c) the effective steps taken/ being taken by Government to check the rising temperature and reduce emissions?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) and (b) Climate change is a global collective action problem. Reports from various sources, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) highlight that the increase in temperatures is mainly due to cumulative historical and current greenhouse gas emissions of the developed countries. India with more than 17% of the global population has contributed only about 4% of the global cumulative greenhouse gas emissions between 1850 and 2019. As per the Working Group I Contribution to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report titled, "Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis" released in August 2021, global warming of approximately 1.07°C has already occurred in the decade 2010-2019 since pre-industrial times (1850-1900).

Further, as per the Working Group II contribution to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report on 'Climate Change: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability' released in February 2022, global warming, reaching 1.5°C in the near-term, would cause unavoidable increases in multiple climate hazards and present multiple risks to ecosystems and humans. As per the report, rising temperature increases likelihood of the threat of heat waves across Asia, droughts in arid and semi-arid areas of West, Central and South Asia, delays and weakening of the monsoon circulation in South Asia, floods in monsoon regions in South, Southeast and East Asia, and glacier melting in the Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) region.

The Disaster Management Act, 2005 articulates the need for mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction into development planning. The central government has established a robust

early warning system and has significantly enhanced accuracy of weather forecasts. Forecasting agencies are continuing their efforts for improvement of warning and dissemination systems vigorously. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) supports National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) /State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMA) in framing necessary guidelines for the public with respect to different extreme weather events and the same are available in the public domain.

Some other measures for improving disaster preparedness include; (a) Publication of various guidelines on different disasters by NDMA; (b) Setting up of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) for prompt response and pre-positioning of NDRF in disaster vulnerable areas; (c) Encouraging States to set-up their own State Disaster Response Forces; (d) Strengthening of State and District Disaster Management systems through various schemes of Central Government; (e) Conducting mock drills and workshops for effectively responding to disasters; and (f) Carrying out capacity building of disaster professionals and communities by NDMA, NDRF and National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM).

(c) The Government is implementing the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), which is the overarching policy framework for climate action in India, covering mitigation, adaptation and generation of strategic knowledge on climate change. It comprises of national missions in the specific areas of solar energy, enhanced energy efficiency, water, agriculture, the Himalayan eco-system, sustainable habitat, green India and strategic knowledge on climate change. Further, 33 States/Union Territories have prepared State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs) consistent with the objectives of NAPCC.

A number of initiatives, activities have been taken for combating climate change which inter alia includes, promotion of renewable energy, energy efficiency measures in various energy intensive industries and sectors through the Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) Scheme which is a market-based energy efficiency trading mechanism. The government has launched the National Hydrogen Mission with the goal to make India a global hub for Green Hydrogen production and export, notified production linked incentive scheme for manufacturing advanced chemistry cells and for automobiles & auto components and leapfrogged from Bharat Stage-IV (BS-IV) to Bharat Stage-VI (BSVI) emission norms from April 1, 2020. Under Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) scheme, a total of 36.79 crores LED bulbs have been distributed to enhance energy efficiency as on date. Government of India has announced a voluntary vehicle scrapping policy to phase out old and unfit vehicles, which will help in encouraging fuel-efficient and environment-friendly vehicles. Indian Railways has taken a number of initiatives including setting up dedicated freight corridors, railway electrification, improving energy efficiency in traction, and increasing the share of renewable energy. Indian Railways has set a target of making itself 'net zero' by 2030.

As a result of the aforesaid measures, India's emission intensity of gross domestic product (GDP) has reduced by 24 per cent between 2005 and 2016. Further, India has also overachieved one of its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) announced at Paris Climate Summit (2015) by already meeting 40 percent of its cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil sources as of November 2021, which is almost nine years ahead of schedule.
