

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

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UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 524
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2021

Outcome of UN Climate Conference in Glasgow

524. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY:

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

- (a) the outcome of the United Nations Climate Conference held recently at Glasgow;
- (b) whether India has made any commitment for reducing Greenhouse Gas emission;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the proposed action plan for reducing Greenhouse Gas emission and whether it would compromise on growth in the country's developing economy?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c)

During the recently concluded 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (CoP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Glasgow India emerged on the world stage as a voice of developing countries, voicing concerns of the developing world and leading international initiatives to drive change in building an environmentally sustainable world.

The Prime Minister (PM) presented five nectar elements, 'Panchamrit' to fight against challenge of climate change:

- India will reach its non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030.
- India will meet 50 percent of its energy requirements from renewable energy by 2030.
- India will reduce the total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now onwards till 2030.
- By 2030, India will reduce the carbon intensity of its economy by less than 45 percent.
- By the year 2070, India will achieve the target of Net Zero.

These panchamrits will be an unprecedented contribution of India to climate action. India told the world while we all are raising our ambitions on climate action, the world's ambitions on climate finance cannot remain the same as they were at the time of the 2015 Paris Agreement.

The PM, further said ‘it is necessary that as we track the progress made in climate mitigation, we should also track climate finance’.

Under the Paris Agreement, a structured process through a work programme has been launched for working on the new collective quantified goal (NCQG) that will complete its work by 2024. The work programme will consider the needs of developing countries, call for submissions from parties and experts, undertake technical work and then give its recommendations. This is a big step forward towards forcing the hand of developed countries to realise that there has to be a NCQG by 2025 and this goal must come through a structured process under COP.

India along with the developing countries has, for the first time, been able to bring in a language that ‘notes with deep regret’ the failure of the developed countries to deliver the promised climate finance.

The PM launched the Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS), which will work to achieve sustainable development through a systematic approach to promote resilient, sustainable and inclusive infrastructure in Small Island Developing States.

India also launched the Green Grids Initiative-One Sun One World One Grid (GGI-OSOWOG) along with the UK. GGI-OSOWOG will bring technical, financial and research cooperation to help facilitate cross-border renewable energy transfer projects, which will provide OSOWOG its global infrastructure.

India was supportive of the enhanced transparency framework but remained firm that there must be assured and adequate climate finance provision for fulfilling enhanced reporting needs.

India was successful in getting language inserted regarding support from GEF (Global Environment Facility) to developing countries for ETF (Enhanced Transparency Framework). On markets, Article 6 has been finally resolved in a balanced manner that takes into account the concerns of developing countries, including India. India, along with other developing countries, convinced developed countries to agree for a transition of pre-2020 projects / activities and units from the Clean Development Mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol. The conclusion of Article 6 lays the ground for participation of the private sector in the new carbon markets that will emerge under the Paris Agreement. On adaptation, a two-year work programme has been launched on the global goal, which was a big demand of developing countries.

(d) Government is implementing the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) which provides the overarching framework for climate actions, through national missions in specific areas of solar energy, enhanced energy efficiency, water, agriculture, Himalayan ecosystem, sustainable habitat, green India and strategic knowledge on climate change. Under the NAPCC’s overarching framework, thirty-three (33) States /UTs have prepared State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC). Further, to support adaptation measures in States/UTs in areas that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, Government is implementing the National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC). In addition, Government has set up an Apex Committee for Implementation of Paris Agreement (AIPA) to coordinate and oversee the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

India's commitments balance the concerns and priorities of climate change, sustainable development including poverty eradication, and economic growth of the country. India has already reduced emission intensity of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 24% between 2005 and 2016 against the pre-2020 voluntary goal of reducing it by 20-25% from 2005 levels by 2020.

India's climate actions under Paris Agreement are nationally determined, and are undertaken in the context of equity, and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in the light of national circumstances. There is no compromise on growth in country's developing economy.

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