

(c) the action plan formulated on the basis of this report to deal with the threats caused by climate change?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) Recognizing the importance of the fragile Himalayan eco-system, this Ministry has launched the National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS) in December, 2015 with an objective to build scientific and traditional knowledge, a network of practitioners (individual and institutions) and to demonstrate workable/implementation/replicable solutions to the problems in 26 identified thematic areas during the next 5 years through studies, pilots and interventions. The focus areas include Himalayan glacier, forest, water and land. There is a budget provision of ₹ 67.10 crore during the current financial year 2015-16 for implementation of the scheme.

**Environmental clearances to mining projects by CIL**

1799. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) how does Government intend to meet its targets stated in the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions if it is granting environment and forestry clearances to more mining projects by Coal India Ltd;

(b) whether Government is doing anything to offset the pollution caused by thermal power plants; and

(c) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) India has not taken any sector specific target in its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) to reduce emission intensity. The target will be achieved by implementing the policies and programmes in various sectors including promotion of clean energy, enhancement of energy efficiency, sustainable green transportation network, development of less carbon intensive and resilient urban centres, promotion of waste to energy projects and enhancing carbon sink through creation of forest and tree cover. The goals would be achieved by different missions and other plans and schemes of Government of India and State Governments.

(b) and (c) The Government has initiated several initiatives to reduce pollution caused by thermal power plants:

- (i) It has been decided that coal fired capacity addition in 13th Plan shall be through supercritical units only. Ultra Mega Power Plants are based on super critical technology;
- (ii) Government has approved automatic transfer of coal linkage from inefficient power plants to new supercritical plants subject to certain conditions to promote setting up of supercritical units in place of old ones;
- (iii) Advanced Ultra Super Critical Technology R&D project has been approved to achieve higher efficiency and reduce emissions from coal power plants;
- (iv) Revised stringent emission standards for coal based thermal power plants have been notified on 07.12.2015 by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change;
- (v) It has been decided that thermal power plants within 50 km of sewage treatment facilities will mandatorily use treated sewage water.

**Pollution norms for industrial units**

1800. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the environmental standards norms stipulated by Government for compliance by the industrial units in the country;
- (b) whether Government has imposed moratorium on clearances for all projects in some of the industrial clusters during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) whether Government has deferred green nod for projects in some of such industrial clusters in the recent past and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the other corrective steps taken/being taken by Government in the direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF and CC) formulate and notify standards for emission or discharge of environmental pollutants from industries, operations or processes. The standards are framed for an orderly approach to a specific activity for