

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.525
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2021

Target and strategy for achieving net-zero CO2 emissions

525. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

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

- (a) whether Government has set a target year for achieving net-zero CO2 emissions;
- (b) if so, the year and the reasons for the same;
- (c) the details of the measures to achieve this target, both on-going and future plans; and
- (d) the impact of the on-going measures for the same till date?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) At the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP-26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Glassgow, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has announced that by the year 2070, India will achieve the target of Net Zero.

(c) & (d) Under the Paris Agreement, India has submitted its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) with quantified targets to reduce the emissions intensity of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 33 to 35 percent by 2030 from 2005 level, to achieve about 40% cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030, and to create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO₂eq through additional forest and tree cover by 2030. Further, to deal with the challenges of climate change, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India at Conference of Parties (COP26) at Glasgow presented five nectar elements, Panchamrit, to deal with the challenges of climate change - (i) India will reach its non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030 (ii) India will meet 50 percent of its energy requirements from renewable energy by 2030 (iii) India will reduce the total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now onwards till 2030 (iv) by 2030, India will reduce the carbon intensity of its economy by less than 45 percent and (v) by the year 2070, India will achieve the target of Net Zero.

Measures for reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases are being coordinated under the overarching framework of the National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC), which comprises of several National Missions including on solar energy and energy efficiency. India has embarked on one of the largest clean energy transitions in the world, through ambitious targets in non-fossil and renewable energy. India has also made strong strides in

sustainable mobility as exemplified, for example, in its policies for incentivising e-vehicles, rapid development of mass/public transportation networks, electrification of Indian Railways and net zero of Railways by 2030, leapfrogging from BS IV to BS VI fuel norms, 20% ethanol blending in fuel by 2025, etc. Forest and tree cover in India is also on the rise, and these also serve as sinks for greenhouse gases.

As per the third Biennial Update Report (BUR) submitted to the UNFCCC in 2021, India has achieved 24% reduction in emissions intensity of its Gross domestic Product (GDP) between 2005 and 2016.
