

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 309**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.03.2022

**Rise in earth's temperature due to air traffic**

309. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:

Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the fact that increasing temperature of the earth and the environment as a whole is due to increase in global air traffic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is aware of the danger posed by rise in temperature and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the concrete steps being taken by Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)**

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 309 DUE FOR REPLY ON 31.03.2022 RAISED BY  
DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA**

(a) and (b) According to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), global warming is a result of greenhouse gas emissions due to all anthropogenic activities related primarily to the use of fossil fuels and land-use and land-use change including aviation. Of these, carbon dioxide is overwhelmingly the key greenhouse gas of concern. As per the 2019 Environmental Report of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the aviation sector accounts for approximately 2% of global anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, including international and domestic aviation. The aviation sector, accordingly, contributes to that extent to global warming and subsequent rise in earth's temperature.

(c) The Government is seized of the matter. As per the World Meteorological Organisation, the global mean temperature for 2021 was about 1.11(± 0.13) °C above the pre-industrial (1850-1900) levels. Studies show that average temperature over India has warmed around 0.7°C during 1901-2018 and similar warming has been observed in the sea-surface temperature in the tropical Indian Ocean by 1°C for 1951-2015. Rise in temperature may result in exacerbating frequency and intensity of extreme weather events including, inter alia, cyclones, heavy rains, storm surges, and heatwaves.

(d) Since climate change is a global collective action problem, India firmly believes in global cooperation to deal with the challenge through multilateral processes. India is a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and its Kyoto Protocol (KP), and the Paris Agreement (PA). The Government of India stands committed to combating climate change through its several programmes and schemes including the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) which comprises missions in specific areas of solar energy, energy efficiency, water, sustainable agriculture, Himalayan ecosystem, sustainable habitat, green India, and strategic knowledge for climate change. The NAPCC provides an overarching framework for all climate actions. Thirty-three States /Union Territories (UTs) have prepared their State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) in line with NAPCC taking into account the State-specific issues relating to climate change. These SAPCCs outline sector-specific and cross-sectoral priority actions, including adaptation. The Government is also implementing National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change to support adaptation measures of States/UTs in areas that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change.

India has made efforts to progressively delink growth from emissions, and the emission intensity of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has reduced by 24% between 2005 and 2016. Apart from resolutely addressing climate change domestically, India has launched international coalitions such as International Solar Alliance (ISA) and Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI). Recently, at the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of Parties (COP 26) to the UNFCCC in Glasgow, new initiatives under CDRI and ISA, viz, Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) and Green Grids Initiative—One Sun One World One Grid (GGI-OSOWOG) were also launched. Along with Sweden, India co-leads the Leadership Group for Industry Transition. (LeadIT) for voluntary low carbon transition of hard-to-abate sectors.

Further, India, as a signatory to the Paris Agreement, has submitted its Nationally Determined Contributions to the UNFCCC. It is on track to achieving all of them in the time-frame noted in these NDCs. India, further, through the National Statement at COP26 at Glasgow has announced its Panchamrit, enhancing its climate actions. This has been widely

welcomed in the world, as India has made these announcements despite its negligible contribution to global warming having contributed only about 4 percent to global cumulative emissions from 1850 to 2019.

Further, a number of other measures are taken keeping in view the threat of climate change by various departments, ministries and entities of the Government, as part of their regular mandated activities and responsibilities. These are periodically shared with all stakeholders and the world through India's National Communications and Biennial Update Reports submitted to the UNFCCC.

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