

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

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UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1005
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.02.2022

Submission of research papers at UN Climate Change Conference

1005 DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU:

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

- (a) whether Government has submitted any agenda and research papers at the recent UN Climate Change Conference COP26 held at Glasgow;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the major decision taken in COP26;
- (c) whether India being one of the largest emitter of Carbon Dioxide and Green House Gases was directed by UN COP26 to adhere certain major changes in their transport vehicle policy and energy sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b) The Government of India has articulated and put across the concerns of developing countries at the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Glasgow, United Kingdom. As a part of its overall approach, India emphasized the foundational principles of equity, and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and called for climate justice in global climate action. It also highlighted that all countries should have equitable access to the global carbon budget, a finite global resource, for keeping temperature increase within the limits set by the Paris Agreement. All countries must stay within their fair share of this global carbon budget while using it responsibly. India also called on the developed countries to undertake rapid reductions in emissions during the current decade so as to reach net-zero much earlier than their announced dates, as they have used more than their fair share of the depleting global carbon budget.

India also highlighted that the transfer of climate finance and low-cost climate technologies have become more important for the implementation of climate actions by the developing countries. The ambition on climate finance on the part of developed countries cannot remain same as it was at the time of the Paris Agreement in 2015. It was also emphasized that just as the UNFCCC tracks the progress made in climate mitigation, it should also track provision of climate finance by developed countries.

Apart from resolutely addressing climate change domestically, for the world, India has created and continues to nurture international initiatives such as the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).

Further, India presented the following five nectar elements (*Panchamrit*) of India's climate action:

- (i) 500GW non-fossil energy capacity by 2030.
- (ii) 50 per cent of energy requirements from renewable energy by 2030.
- (iii) Reduction of total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now to 2030.
- (iv) Reduction of carbon intensity of the economy by 45 per cent by 2030, over 2005 levels.
- (v) Net zero emissions by 2070.

The major decisions at COP26, as reflected in the 'Glasgow Climate Pact', pertain to mitigation, adaptation and finance required for meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement.

(c) and (d) All decisions at the annual Conference of Parties of the UNFCCC are arrived at by consensus and hence the question of India being directed to undertake any action by such decisions does not arise. India, for its part, abides by commitments to the UNFCCC in letter and spirit. India with more than 17% of the global population has contributed only about 4.37% of the global cumulative greenhouse gas emissions between 1850 and 2019. Even though we are not part of the problem, India is committed to being part the solution and has done far more than its fair share. The Government stands committed to combating climate change through its several programs and schemes. India's commitment to emission intensity reduction of the economy is an economy-wide target and not specific to any sectors including transport and energy sectors.
