

Q.No.2116 Question was cancelled.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2117
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2023

Achieving Net Zero Carbon Target

2117. DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS:

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

- (a) whether the Central Government has taken steps to achieve the internationally committed Net Zero Carbon Target to mitigate and adapt the climate change, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the Central Government has any proposal to frame a timeline to close down all the coal and lignite mines in the country in achieving the above-mentioned target, 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) India, at the 26th session of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (COP 26) in November, 2021, announced its target to achieve net zero by 2070. This goal is to be achieved through periodic enhancement of Nationally Determined Contribution (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement to the UNFCCC and corresponding domestic climate actions towards low carbon transition, supported by climate finance and technology transfer under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement.

As per India's updated NDCs submitted to UNFCCC in August, 2022, India has overachieved its commitments made in its NDC (2015) on electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources.

India stands committed to reduce emissions intensity of its GDP by 45 percent by 2030, from 2005 level; achieve about 50 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030 which would require transfer of technology and low-cost international finance including from Green Climate Fund. Government of India has also laid emphasis on propagating a healthy and sustainable way of living based on traditions and values of conservation and moderation, including through a mass movement for 'LIFE'—'Lifestyle for Environment' as a key to combating climate change. The other targets pertain to climate friendly cleaner path, climate change adaptation, climate finance, development and transfer of technology and capacity building.

The Government of India is implementing the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) which provides an 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. All State Governments are also encouraged to prepare their own State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) consistent with strategies in the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). India has also submitted its Initial Adaptation Communication to UNFCCC as part of its initial reporting obligation.

In recognition of the Para 19 of Article 4 of the Paris Agreement, India's Long-Term Low-Carbon Development Strategy (LT-LEDS), has been submitted to the UNFCCC, and it reaffirms the goal of reaching net-zero by 2070. India's LT-LEDS is based on the principles of equity and climate justice and the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities.

The Central Government has emphasized on alternate sources of energy generation such as Wind energy, Solar energy, Tidal energy, Hydro-electricity generation and has advised to decrease consumption of fossil fuel energy sources. Further, it is necessary that the plan for the country's energy security is based both on the expansion of non-fossil fuel sources for power generation and rational utilization of fossil fuel resources. Specific steps for such utilization include, inter alia, expanding renewables and strengthening the grid and focusing on demand side management.
