

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 714
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2024**

MISSION NET ZERO CARBON EMISSION

714. SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has signed an MoU with United States for International Development/India (USAID/India) for supporting Indian Railways to achieve Mission Net Zero Carbon Emission by 2030;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the MoU provides a platform for Indian Railways to interact and share the latest developments and knowledge in the railway sector;**
- (d) if so, whether the MoU facilitates utility modernization, advance energy solutions and systems, regional energy and market integration and private sector participation and engagement, training and other interactions for knowledge sharing;**
- (e) if so, whether it is likely to help Indian Railways to reduce dependence on imported fuel such as diesel, coal etc.;**
- (f) if so, whether it is likely to help in the development of local ecosystem; and**
- (g) if so, the details thereof along with the present status thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

(a) to (g): A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Indian Railways (IR), Government of India and United States

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Agency for International Development/India (USAID/India) on 14th June, 2023. The purpose of this MoU is to further the partnership between USAID/India and Indian Railways as they pursue their common goals related to contributing to India's ambitious clean energy targets (energy efficiency, renewable energy and energy security) including market-based approaches to scaling advanced energy technologies and building capacity of the workforce. The MoU, inter-alia, includes different areas of cooperation such as long term clean energy planning and procurement; development of energy efficiency policy; technical support for addressing regulatory and implementation barriers; and capacity building programs.

Technical assistance for the services under this MoU is intended to be provided by USAID under the South Asia Regional Energy Partnership (SAREP) initiative.

The scope of the MoU, inter-alia, includes identifying, scaling and accelerating the deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency measures which will result in reduced dependence of IR on imported fuel such as diesel, coal etc. Procurement of power through renewable energy and implementation of energy efficiency measures has the potential to generate green jobs in the economy. This will also strengthen local ecosystem giving boost to local product development which will help in employment generation. This MoU is effective for a period of five years or until the effective end of South Asia Regional Energy Partnership (SAREP) program of USAID/India.