

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1791
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2008
IPCC REPORT ON CLIMATE CHANGE
Jindal Shri Naveen;Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken the cognizance of the recent report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC);
- (b) If so, the details of its findings;
- (c) whether the Government has made any study of the Report for its implementations in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken to contain the consequences of the expected climatic changes in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in the answer to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1791, to be answered on 12.03.08 by Shri Chandrakant Khaire and Shri Naveen Jindal.

(a) to (e) The Government is aware of the reports of Inter Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and is seized of the concerns. The IPCC has brought out the Fourth assessment report containing the information on the science of climate change, Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability to Climate Change, mitigation of climate change. The report provides global observed changes in the climate parameters and also contains future projections of climate change during upto end of 21st century. According to the report, the global atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide has increased from a pre industrial value of about 280 ppm to 379 ppm in 2005. The projected temperature increase by the end of this century is likely to be in the range 2 to 4.5oC with a best estimate of about 3oC.

The report provides global and regional level impacts – both observed and projected for various physical and biological systems besides various sectors of economy. The observational evidence from all continents and most oceans shows that many natural systems are being affected by regional climate changes, particularly temperature increases and by 2050s, annual average river runoff and water availability are projected to increase by 10-40% at high latitudes and in some wet tropical areas, and decrease by 10-30% over some dry regions at mid-latitudes and in the dry tropics, some of which are presently water stressed areas. Further, heavy precipitation events, very likely to increase in frequency, will augment flood risk. The reports provides impacts on Ecosystems, Food, Fibre and Forest products, Coastal systems and low-lying areas, Industry, Settlement and Society and Health.

The report further provides global level assessment of new literature on scientific, technological, environmental, economic and social aspects of climate change after 2002. It provides global trends of greenhouse gas emissions; mitigation in short and medium term (until 2030); mitigation in long term (after 2030); policies, measures and instruments to mitigate climate change; sustainable development and climate change mitigation and gaps in knowledge. The report does not provide country specific information and discusses the various issues at global level.

A range of under mentioned policies, programmes and initiatives address the concerns of projected climate change:

- a) energy conservation and improved energy efficiency in various sectors as well as setting up of Bureau of Energy Efficiency
- b) promoting use of renewable energy
- c) power sector reforms and active renewable energy programme
- d) use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport
- e) fuel switching to cleaner energy

f) afforestation and conservation of forests

g) promotion of clean coal technologies

h) reduction of gas flaring

i) encouraging Mass Rapid Transport systems

j) environmental quality management for all sectors

The Government has set up "Expert Committee on Impacts of Climate Change". The Terms of Reference of the Committee are to study the impacts of anthropogenic climate change on India & to identify the measures that we may have to take in the future in relation to addressing vulnerability to anthropogenic climate change impacts and any other matter relevant to these.

A coordination committee chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister called "Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change to coordinate national action for assessment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change" was constituted on 6th June 2007 to evolve a coordinated response to issues relating to climate change at the national level and to provide oversight for formulation of action plans in the area of assessment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change.