GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:801 ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008 IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

(a) whether any study has been conducted by the Government to assess the impact of Climate Change;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to address the problem of climate change?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) As a part of the Initial National Communication of India to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); the vulnerability assessment and adaptation studies of climate change have been made in various areas such as water resources, agriculture, forests, natural eco-systems, coastal zones, health energy and infrastructure.

Further, the Expert Committee on Impact of Climate Change set up by the Ministry of Environment & Forests in June 2007 assessed the impact of climate change on six areas, namely water resources, agriculture, Natural Eco-system, Health, Coastal Zone Management and Climate modeling. Reports of the Expert Committee in these areas have been prepared.

(c) The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) was released by the Prime Minister on 30th June 2008. The National Action plan outlines eight Missions in specific areas of Solar, Enhanced Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Habitat, Water, Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system, Green India, Sustainable Agriculture and Strategic knowledge for Climate Change.

Besides, a range of policies and programmes have been initiated to address the problem of climate change in the context of sustainable development, such as:

ensuring energy conservation and improved energy efficiency in various sectors as well as setting up of Bureau of Energy Efficiency

promoting use of renewable energy

power sector reforms and active renewable energy programme

use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport

fuel switching to cleaner energy

afforestation and conservation of forests

promotion of clean coal technologies

reduction of gas flaring

encouraging Mass Rapid Transport systems

environmental quality management for all sectors