GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:670 ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009 WORLD BANK REPORT ON CLIMATE CHANGE Kalmadi Shri Suresh

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

(a) whether the World Bank in its report have expressed concern over climate change;

(b) if so, the major findings of the report;

(c) the steps Government proposes to take to address the problem raised in the report; and

(d) whether the Government is planning to set up a Climate Information Management System to help integrate baseline information into policy, planning and investment decisions?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) The World Bank has released a report entitled "Climate change impacts in drought and flood affected areas: case studies in India" sometimes back. The report brings out the need to promote the mainstreaming and integration of climate related risks such as drought and floods in India's development policies and processes on the basis of case studies of three drought and flood affected states viz., Maharashtra, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. The report emphasizes the need to assess climate risks to agriculture and livelihoods; generating better information on current coping and climate risk management strategies; developing and demonstrating the use of a climate modeling framework with a view to identify future climate risks; and developing an adaptation plan that can help improve climate resilience and adaptive capacity.

(c) The Government is seized of the adaptation concerns of vulnerable population in the country. National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) released by the Prime Minister on 30th June 2008 seeks to address such concerns through launching of national missions and other initiatives. NAPCC includes eight missions out of which five relating to 'adaptation' and one relating to 'strategic knowledge' are geared to addressing such challenges.

(d) The scope of work of the National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change and other missions include consideration of issues relating to management of climate information and related matters.