

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3695
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2012
OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCES
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any policy and regulatory mechanism for reduction of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODSs) including nitrous oxide;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the salient features of the policy;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for reduction of ODSs and the target achieved so far;
- (d) whether Government proposes to review its fertilizer subsidy policy to address the issue; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and action taken in this regard so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (e): India is a party to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Nitrous oxide is not a controlled substance under the Montreal Protocol as it is not an Ozone Depleting Substance (ODS).

India has prepared a country program in 1993 to phase-out the ODSs and has taken, measures which include, inter alia, notification of the Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 , grant of fiscal incentives by way of exemption from payment of Customs and Excise Duties for goods required for non-ODS technology, supporting 302 projects with estimated funding of about Rs. 1500 crores for phasing out 58,980 Ozone Depleting Potential (ODP) tonne in production and consumption sectors of the ODSs and, awareness campaigns.

As on January 1, 2010, India has successfully phased out the production and consumption of Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), halons and Carbon Tetrachloride (CTC) except for some essential and critical uses. The use of methyl bromide has been allowed upto 1st January, 2015. Since Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) are used as interim substitute to replace CFCs, their production and consumption is allowed upto 1st January, 2030. So far, India has met all its international commitments in phasing out of the ODSs.