

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:560

ANSWERED ON:06.05.2013

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TARGETS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) whether the economically rich countries are forcing costly technology in the name of green economy on the poor and developing countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a high profile panel of the United Nations on global sustainability has recommended that the world adopts sustainable development targets;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the response of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) to (e) IN THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 560 ON "SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TARGETS" RAISED BY SHRI ANADRAO ADSUL & SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.05.2013

(a) & (b) At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, also known as Rio+20, held on June 20-22, 2012 at Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, the developing countries succeeded in getting the required domestic policy space on green economy. One of the themes of the Conference was "Green Economy in the context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication". The Outcome Document of the Conference affirms that there are different approaches, visions, models and tools available to each country, in accordance with its national circumstances and priorities, to achieve sustainable development. The document firmly rejects the prescriptive policies of the developed countries, unilateral measures and trade barriers as well as un-warranted conditionality on official developmental assistance and finance under the guise of green economy.

(c) to (e) The United Nations Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Global Sustainability had submitted a report titled "Resilient People, Resilient Planet: A future worth choosing" in January 2012, before the Rio+20 Conference. The Panel presented 56 recommendations covering inter-alia the subjects of empowering people to make sustainable choices, sustainable economy and strengthening institutional governance.

On the issue of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the developing countries including India succeeded in getting incorporated in the Outcome Document of the Conference, the principles that would guide the development of these goals. The Conference recommends the importance and utility of having set up SDGs, based on Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, which fully respect all the Rio Principles, taking into account different national circumstances, capacities and priorities, which are consistent with international law, built upon commitments already made, and contribute to the full implementation of the outcomes of all major summits in the economic, social and environmental fields, including the Rio+20 Document. The Outcome Document underscores that the SDGs should be aspirational, global in nature and universally applicable to all countries while taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities. Subsequently, the United Nations General Assembly has decided to establish the Open Working Group on SDGs, in accordance with paragraph 248 of the Outcome Document.