

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2623

ANSWERED ON:26.08.2013

VENTURE CAPITAL FUND TO PROMOTE GREEN TECHNOLOGIES

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to set up a Venture Capital Fund to promote green technologies for a cleaner environment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the funds earmarked from it to promote green technologies;
- (d) whether the Union Government has linked all academic institutions that work on climate change to National Knowledge Network (www.nkn.in);
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Union Government has identified key knowledge institutions that become centres of excellence in climate change related research; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) The National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) encourages private sector initiatives for development of innovative technologies for Climate Change adaptation and mitigation through Indian Fund for Sustainable Energy (INFUSE), which is a unique venture capital fund. This fund focuses on investing in and mentoring early-stage start-ups in the sustainable energy sector.

Further, Government through its National Mission on Enhanced Energy Efficiency under NAPCC has also initiated work on rules, development of appraisal documents, operational manual etc. for setting up Venture Capital Fund for Energy Efficiency.

(c) INFUSE having a total fund size of Rs. 125 crores, is backed by the Government of India's Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and Department of Science and Technology (DST) along with leading national, international organisations and global businesses. The Technology Development Board, an autonomous institution of the Department of Science and Technology has committed to invest Rs. 10.00 crores towards INFUSE.

(d) to (g) The Mission envisages networking academic and scientific research institutions including creation of integrated National Knowledge Network. Indian Institute of Technology -Bombay and International Crops Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics-Hyderabad have been identified as the knowledge institutions to carry out multi-disciplinary studies on climate change.