

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:688
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2014
BAN ON HYDRO FLUORO CARBONS
Saraswati Shri Sumedhanand

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

- (a) whether the Government has agreed to hold discussions under Montreal Protocol to discontinue the use of Hydro-Fluoro Carbons as Coolant;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Hydro-Fluoro Carbons increases global warming manifold in comparison to carbon-dioxide and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the names of alternatives, if any, developed in place of Hydro-Fluoro Carbons;
- (e) whether several developed countries including the United States has offered assistance to India in this regard and
- (f) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a)to (f): The Government of India and the United States of America (USA) recalled previous bilateral and multilateral statements on the phase-down of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). It was recognized to use the institutions and expertise of the Montreal Protocol to reduce consumption and production of HFCs, while continuing to report and account for the quantities reduced under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Both India and USA pledged to urgently arrange a meeting of the bilateral task force on HFCs to discuss the issues such as safety, cost and commercial access to new or alternative technologies to replace HFCs. The two sides would thereafter cooperate on next steps to tackle the challenge posed by HFCs to global warming.

The HFCs are GHGs with high Global Warming Potential (GWP) and because of this reason these were included in the Kyoto basket of gases along with other GHGs. The GWP of HFCs is approximately from 12 to 14,800 compared to that of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂).

There are almost no non-HFC technologies for many applications as per the recent Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP) report. TEAP is the technical body of the Montreal Protocol, which advises the Meeting of the Parties (MOP) to the Montreal Protocol on technology and economic aspects. There are uncertainties about the so called low-GWP alternative technologies to HFCs, even for the applications where alternatives are available.

No assistance has been offered to India by any developed countries including USA in this regard.