Regarding policy for developing carbon neutral educational institutions-laid

SHRI P. RAVINDHRANATH (THENI): I wish to state that as far as the future of sustainable development is concerned, Climate action should begin from Schools. It is time that we start thinking about our educational sector as leading the charge towards a sustainable society. Starting from schools, carbon neutrality should be part of the curriculum to make the youth climate-ready. Not only that, schools should also shift its carbon footprint at the same time. Schools should resort to renewable energy for consumption, school buses should be mandatorily electric and students should be taught how to compost out of their own food waste. There should be environmental action teams in each school and at the District level. These are the key steps for educating the children and youth to learn about solutions that they can take to their home. These small steps will actually help integrate these solutions into the children's lived experience, that will spill over into the community also. I wish to urge upon the Government to urgently bring about a specific policy that will make our campuses carbon neutral by 2030 so that we can achieve the target of net-zero emissions by 2070.

<u>14.11 hrs</u>