

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:8
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2007
REPORT ON GLOBAL WARMING
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether due to recent sea level, many Islands of the country have submerged into the sea;
- (b) if so, whether many more such Islands are under threat of submergence due to global warming;
- (c) whether Kolkata School of Oceanography has submitted a report to the Government in this regard;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has studied the said report; and
- (e) if so, the remedial steps taken or being taken by Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (e) :- A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 8, TITLED "REPORT ON GLOBAL WARMING" RAISED BY SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI DUE ON 26.2.2007

The School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University undertook a study entitled vulnerability Assessment in the Climate Change scenario: A pilot study on Ecological sensitive Sunderban Island System under the aegis of India's Initial National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. According to the report, 12 sea facing islands of Sunderbans are under threat of continuing erosion for the last 30 years and projects sea level rise of 50 cm by 2050. The relative sea level rise may occur due to deltaic subsidence and man made flow diversion. The study does not make any deterministic prediction and emphasises the vulnerability of the Sunderbans in the context of projected climate change. The Government is seized of the concerns in the wake of projected climate change. Climate Change is a global environmental problem, the principal responsibility for which lies with the developed countries, and not developing countries such as India. However India is engaged in the international climate change regime, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Kyoto Protocol, and various partnerships with other countries under the UNFCCC. While India does not have any GHG abatement commitments under the Kyoto Protocol, nevertheless a range of policies and programs help mitigate climate change. These include

- 1) Improving energy efficiency & conservation as well setting up of Bureau of Energy Efficiency
- 2) Power sector reforms
- 3) Promoting hydro and renewable energy
- 4) Promotion of clean coal technologies
- 5) Coal washing & efficient utilization of coal
- 6) Afforestation and conservation of forests
- 7) Reduction of gas flaring
- 8) Use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport
- 9) Encouraging Mass Rapid Transport systems
- 10) Environmental quality management