

Planning Commission

Dated 07.01.2010

Press Release

The Government of India has committed itself to making India a 'low carbon' economy. It has recently announced voluntary and unilateral targets to reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP. It is important that implementation of these targets be built into a strategy for the twelfth five year plan, consistent with the national objectives of poverty alleviation, sustainable development and inclusive growth.

A number of studies on low carbon growth have been undertaken by various organizations, and several initiatives in different sectors are already underway or are being planned. However, there is a need for a coherent view of potential options to be taken, and a mutually consistent strategy to be evolved to give the overall goal of low carbon development a concrete shape.

With the above objective, the Planning Commission has constituted an Expert Group to prepare a strategy for low carbon economy for India. The Expert group is headed by Shri Kirit Parikh and has 25 other Members as per the order annexed. The terms of reference of the Expert Group are as follows:

1. Review existing studies on low carbon growth/low carbon pathways for India prepared by various organizations
2. Conduct further analysis, as required, to assess low carbon options for the Indian economy.
3. Present a report outlining the roadmap for India for low carbon growth. This would include the following:
 - An evaluation of some key alternative low carbon options with an analysis of their cost-benefit and relative merits and demerits
 - An Action Plan comprising of critical low carbon initiatives to be undertaken, including sector-specific initiatives, along with a suggested timeline and targets starting 2011 that can feed into the Twelfth Plan process.
 - List of enabling legislations, rules and policies as required to operationalise the low carbon roadmap.

The Expert Group will present an interim report by end-April 2010, and a final report by end-September 2010 to the Planning Commission.