

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2173
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2007
``INDO- US AGREEMENT ON ENVIRONMENT``
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether the Government has signed any Agreement with the United States of America on environmental issues;
- (b) if so, main areas of mutual co-operation in the said Agreement;
- (c) whether any action-plan has been undertaken in the country after India and the United States of America agreed to co-operate on environmental issues;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the US has also offered any help in dealing with the tiger conservation;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the response of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between India and United States of America in January 2002 concerning cooperation in environmental protection for a period of five years. The MoU provided for cooperation in environmental governance, air and water quality management and management of toxic chemicals and hazardous waste, environmental health, pollution prevention and control, environmental management systems, environmental monitoring and assessment, environmental risk assessment and management, environmental education, etc.

The MoU had a validity period of five years and expired in January 2007. Subsequently, a document extending the original MoU for a period of another five years has been signed between the two countries on 2nd April 2007. This provides for a framework for policy and technical cooperation between the two countries in four major activity areas: Urban Air Quality Management, Water Quality Management, Management of Toxic Chemicals and Hazardous Waste, and Environmental Governance.

(b) & (d) A number of cooperation activities planned under the MoU have been undertaken so far, namely

- (i) Training programme on Source Inventory of air pollutants.
 - (ii) Monitoring assistance to Central Pollution Control Board for PM 2.5 Sampling and Analysis
 - (iii) Workshop on NOx pollution control.
 - (iv) Training programme on Emission Inventory
 - (v) Demonstration of International Vehicle Emission Model
 - (vi) Health Benefit Assessment training programme, etc.
- (e) No Sir
- (f) & (g) Does not arise