

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:337

ANSWERED ON:24.02.2010

COPENHAGEN CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

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

- (a) the outcome of the recent climate change conference held in Copenhagen;
- (b) whether India has deviated from its earlier stand on climate change;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore;
- (d) whether the Government has ratified or proposes to ratify the accord reached at the conference; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) The negotiations at Copenhagen Climate Change Conference could not reach an outcome, as mandated by the Bali Action Plan, in December 2007. At Copenhagen, it was decided that negotiations under the Adhoc Working Group on Long Term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA) and Adhoc Working Group on Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP) would continue for another year and reach a conclusion at the 16th Conference of Parties in December 2010. However at Copenhagen, few Parties including India participated in an informal discussion at the initiative of COP President that produced a text called 'Copenhagen Accord'. The Accord could not be adopted by Parties and was only 'noted' by them.

(b)& (c) India's stand adopted during Copenhagen Conference is consistent with the principles and provisions of the Bali Action Plan. India has agreed that the mitigation actions of developing countries will be voluntary in nature and will not be result of a legally binding agreement.

(d) & (e) As the Copenhagen Accord was not adopted by the Parties, the question of its ratification by Parties does not arise. However, in response to Copenhagen Accord, various countries including India have communicated their quantified emissions targets or domestic mitigation actions as appropriate to UNFCCC Secretariat. India has communicated that its proposed domestic actions are voluntary in nature and will not have a legally binding character. Further these actions will be implemented under the proviso of Art. 4.7 of the UNFCCC.