

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6589  
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2010  
SAARC SUMMIT ON CLIMATE CHANGE  
Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

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

- (a) whether any summit of South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries on climate change is likely to be held in the near future;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the treaties/agreements likely to be signed on the occasion;
- (c) the details of various initiatives taken or likely to be taken by the Government to control green house gases in the country;
- (d) whether the Government is also contemplating to seek cooperation of Japan in this regard;and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

- (a) The 16th SAARC Summit was held in Thimphu, Bhutan from 28-29 April, 2010. The theme of the Summit was Climate Change.
- (b) Two statements, the "Thimphu Silver Jubilee Declaration: Towards a Green and Happy South Asia" and "Thimphu Statement on Climate Change" were issued by the Heads of the States/Governments. Further, two SAARC agreements were signed during the Summit. First, the "SAARC Agreement on Trade in Services" which includes measures to strengthen SAARC economic cooperation to maximise the realization of the region's immense potential in the service sector and to augment intra-regional trade in services in a mutually beneficial manner. Second, the "SAARC Convention on Cooperation on Environment" the objective of which is to promote cooperation among the SAARC member states in the field of environment and sustainable development.
- (c) The Government has taken several steps towards sustainable development through a range of policies and programmes to mitigate climate change aimed at energy conservation, improved energy efficiency in various sectors; promoting use of renewable energy; power sector reforms; use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport; fuel switching to cleaner energy; afforestation and conservation of forests; promotion of clean coal technologies and encouraging Mass Rapid Transport systems. The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) inter alia includes two missions, namely, National Mission on Enhanced Energy Efficiency; National Solar Mission that relates to mitigation and reduction of GHGs.
- (d) &(e) India does not have any specific agreement with Japan for cooperation in the area of Climate change. However, bilateral assistance from Japan is received in connection with several environment related projects.