

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2764
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011
CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India`s role at the UN Climate Change Conference held at Cancun was appreciated by the BASIC countries (Brazil, South Africa, India and China);
- (b) if so, whether the India`s position in global environment has been redefined; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the agreement arrived at the Conference?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) & (b) India's position on Climate Change negotiations has been anchored in the principle of equity and "common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities" of Parties as enshrined in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Kyoto Protocol and Bali Action Plan. During the 16th Conference of Parties (CoP-16) of the UNFCCC held in Cancun, Mexico, India inter alia played a coordination role among BASIC countries (Brazil, South Africa, India and China) to have balanced and comprehensive set of decisions in accordance with the Bali Road Map.

(c) COP-16 discussed all the issues on Climate Change and adopted a package of decisions called as Cancun Agreement. The salient features of the Cancun decisions are as follows:

- (i) The Agreement allows developed and developing countries to take globally cooperative actions through simultaneous reporting of their respective mitigation commitments/pledges and actions;
- (ii) Developed country mitigation commitments and voluntary mitigation actions of developing countries are recorded in separate documents annexed to the decision;
- (iii) The developed countries' ambition level for emission reduction as expressed in the Cancun pledges is lower than that required by projections made in the Fourth Assessment Report of the Inter governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC);
- (iv) The developing countries agreed at Cancun, in a spirit of flexibility, to a regime of transparency of their mitigation actions through 'international consultation and analysis', even though such a step was not mandated under the Bali Action Plan. Accompanied by a regime of transparency, the common reporting of mitigation targets and actions by all countries represents a major new step in the existing climate regime;
- (v) There was no agreement on a second commitment period for developed country parties under the Kyoto Protocol;
- (vi) There was no agreement on a legally binding agreement, though the Ad-hoc Working Group on Long Term Cooperative Action was tasked to continue to discuss legal options with a view to arrive at an agreed outcome;
- (vii) Decisions were also taken on setting up a Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Framework, and Technology Mechanism;
- (viii) A Review process has been mandated to review the global goal of climate stabilization by 2015.