

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2697

ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012

ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS' MEETING

Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has hosted the ASEAN-India Environment Ministers' Meeting recently in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the issues on which leaders of participant countries agreed for cooperation; and
- (d) the extent to which the objectives of the said conference are likely to be achieved?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Government of India hosted the ASEAN-India Environment Ministers' Meeting on September 7, 2012 at New Delhi, which was co-chaired by Ms. Jayanthi Natarajan, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests, Government of India and Mr. Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi Bin Haji Osman, Minister of Development, Brunei Darussalam and Chair of the ASEAN Ministers of Environment, and was attended by senior delegates from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and the ASEAN Secretariat. This meeting was preceded by the Senior Officers' Meeting of ASEAN and India on September 6, 2012.

(c) & (d): Both sides discussed various aspects of biodiversity governance in the context of the Eleventh Conference of Parties (CoP-11) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) which was subsequently hosted by India in Hyderabad from October 1 to October 19, 2012.

The Meeting unanimously adopted the 'New Delhi ASEAN-India Ministerial Statement on Biodiversity' whereby both sides agreed to enhance awareness among all stakeholders, strive towards mainstreaming biodiversity concerns into development processes, enhancing priority in terms of resource allocation and mobilization for biodiversity conservation, and to create networks for sharing best practices in conservation and resource enhancement in marine and its related ecosystems.

Both sides also agreed to work together for conservation and management of flagship species and enhancing conservation management and sustainable utilization of Coastal and Marine Biodiversity. Both sides also agreed to meet and exchange views on issues of common interest at appropriate ASEAN Environment Ministers' Meetings.

The Meeting also enabled confirmation of support of ASEAN Member States to India in ensuring a successful set of negotiations which was achieved during the CoP-11 Meeting.