

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:923
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2013
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a summit was held in Rio on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), wherein the member countries including India had requested the Secretary General of United Nations (UN) for starting preparations with regard to it so that on achieving 2015 Millennium Development Goals, works can be undertaken for SDG;
- (b) if so, the details of preparations made by India in this regard;
- (c) whether Indian Scientists, technicians, businessmen and other experts have been included in Sustainable Development Solutions Network;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the preparations made by India with regard to meeting of UN General Assembly scheduled to be held in 2013?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in June 2012 at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil wherein it was decided to initiate the inter-governmental process for developing global SDGs. The Open Working Group (OWG) has been formed by United Nations General Assembly on 22/01/2013 in which India is member of troika consisting of India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The OWG has met for four times so far and India was represented by Permanent Mission of India (PMI), New York.
- (c) & (d) We understand that Centre for Environment Education and TERI University are members of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network.
- (e) India, as in the past, will be participating in the 68th Session of United Nations General Assembly which will convene at UN Headquarters on September 17, 2013 and the General debate will open on September 24, 2013.