

UN report on climate change

†2665. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards a report recently released by United Nation's (UN) Environment Programme regarding climate change;

(b) if so, whether this report expresses concern regarding environment getting toxic throughout the world;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(d) whether this report also outlines the reasons responsible for such a scenario;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether Government has any plans to resolve this problem in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (e) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has released a report in 2012 on Emissions Gap. As per the report, the global emissions in 2020 are likely to be 58Gt (gigatonnes) of carbon-dioxide equivalent if action is not taken by nations to reduce emissions to keep the global temperature rise below 2 degrees Celsius. The report points out that even if the most ambitious level of pledges and commitments were implemented by all countries under the strictest set of rules, there will be a gap in the desired emissions level and efforts of countries to the extent of 8 Gt of carbon-dioxide equivalent by 2020. The report also points out that it is technically and economically feasible to bridge the gap through accelerated uptake of renewable energy, fuel switching and energy efficiency improvements.

(f) Government of India is committed to the global goal of limiting the temperature rise below 2 degrees Celsius through enhanced actions under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the basis of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. Government is implementing the National Action Plan on Climate Change to support domestic actions for adaptation and mitigation. Government has also announced a

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domestic mitigation goal of reducing emissions intensity of GDP by 20-25% by 2020 in comparison with 2005 level. This is in line with the projections of the energy intensity of India's output that has shown a declining trend owing to improvements in energy efficiency, autonomous technological changes and economical use of energy. This domestic mitigation goal and the objectives of the National Action Plan on Climate Change are part of the sustainable development strategy outlined in the twelfth five year plan (12th FYP).

Meeting with ASEAN Countries

2666. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a meeting between Indian and Association of South East Asian Nations' (ASEAN) Environment Ministers was held in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details of the issues raised and discussed by the various participant countries during the said meeting; and
- (c) the details of the issues on which leaders have consensus for cooperation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (c) 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 Mrs. 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.

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 8 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