

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:957
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2006
ASIA- PACIFIC CLIMATE MEETING
Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

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

- (a) whether Asia-Pacific climate meeting was held recently at Sydney;
- (b) if so, whether India was a party to the meeting;
- (c) if so, the details of discussions held;
- (d) the decision taken and the action plan evolved therein; and
- (e) the response/obligations of India thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) The inaugural Ministerial Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, to which India is also a party, was held on 11-12 January 2006 at Sydney.

(c) to (e) Along with India, the other Partner countries to this Partnership are Australia, China, Japan, South Korea and the United States of America. The objective of this Partnership is to create a voluntary, non-legally binding framework for international cooperation to facilitate the development, diffusion, deployment, and transfer of existing, emerging and longer term cost effective, cleaner, and more efficient technologies and practices among the Partners. Towards this end, the Charter, which describes the purposes, organization, functions and other matters related to this Partnership, and the Work Plan, which focuses on power generation and distribution, as well as key industry sectors of our economies and establishes eight public- private sector Task Forces, were adopted in the meeting. The task forces are in the areas of cleaner fossil energy, renewable energy and distributed generation, power generation and transmission, steel, aluminum, cement, coal mining and buildings and appliances. Each Task Force is expected to formulate detailed action plans outlining both immediate and medium-term specific actions, including possible `flagship projects and relevant indicators of progress and also to define the current state of technology in terms of cost, performance, market share and barriers. The Partners had agreed to a sort of time bound schedule of activities and to review the progress of the work under this Partnership at the Ministerial level from time to time. India had shown interest in participating in the activities of all the eight task forces and would be co-chairing the task forces on Steel and Coal Mining.