Press Note 30th January 2010

India has sent a communication today to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change conveying information on India's domestic mitigation actions.

In view of the current debate underway in the international climate change negotiations, the Government of India has formally conveyed to the UNFCCC that India will endeavour to reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP by 20-25% by 2020 in comparison to the 2005 level through domestic mitigation actions. While these actions will be in the nature of India's contribution to the global efforts to address climate change, India has clarified that its domestic mitigation actions will be entirely voluntary in nature and will not have a legally binding character. The mitigation actions will also not apply to agriculture sector. The emissions from agriculture sector will be excluded from the assessment of emissions intensity.

India's mitigation actions will be taken in accordance with the principles and provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention. The Convention requires that the developed country parties known as Annex I Parties undertake mitigation commitments with specific quantified targets to reduce their emissions, while the developing countries like India take mitigation actions in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibility and respective capability. India intends to implement its mitigation actions in accordance with the provisions of the relevant national legislations and policies and will elaborate in due course the actions required in various sectors to achieve the overall objective of the emissions intensity reduction.
