

Climate Change: Countdown to Copenhagen

by Dr. R. Ramachandran, Associate Editor (Science), Frontline



After a brief introduction to the science of climate change and the social and economic impact of its consequences on a developing country like India, the talk will look at the evolving international politics of climate change since 1992 when the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change came into being. The most important element of this multilateral framework has been the Kyoto Protocol that came into force in 2005, an interim measure to quantitatively limit carbon and other greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere, the main anthropogenic cause of climate change, whose first commitment period comes to an end in 2012. In December 2009, the 192 signatories to the Convention will meet at Copenhagen for the 15th Conference of the Parties to arrive at an agreement for the second commitment period beyond 2012. The current state of play of the negotiations, the current face off between the developed and developing countries, the shifting policy stance of India and the prospects at Copenhagen will be discussed.

Dr. R. Ramachandran, a NSTS Scholar, obtained his Masters in Physics from St. Stephen's College, Delhi and his Ph.D. in Theoretical Physics from TIFR. At present he is the Associate Editor, Frontline. He has scripted and directed science films. He is a Member and Past President of the Indian Science Writers Association and a Member of Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change constituted in May 2007.

Friday, 27 November, 2009 at 4 p.m.
Lecture Theatre (AG 66)
TIFR, Homi Bhabha Road, Colaba, Mumbai 400005