

Symposium “Towards Copenhagen”, November 30, 2009

A Symposium “Towards Copenhagen” was organised by the Japan Project at ICRIER on 30th November. Mr. Shyam Saran, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh’s Special Envoy on climate change delivered the keynote address at the meeting. The symposium focused on the following issues:

- What are the implications of Japan’s ambitious commitment to reduce carbon emissions for the international climate change negotiations?
- What would be the cost of this commitment for the Japanese economy struggling to cope with the worst economic downturn since World War II?
- In tandem with the idea of an East Asian Community does the ‘Hatoyama Initiative’ on climate change signal a foreign policy shift in Japan with regard to Asia?
- What is the likely impact of Japan positioning itself as “bridge” among countries with varied interests for international economic and trade issues?
- What should be India’s approach to securing its national interest in international climate change negotiations?

Mr. Anwarul Hoda, Professor, ICRIER, chaired the symposium. The key guest speakers were Mr. Joichi Kimura Chief Representative JBIC, Dr. Lalima Varma, Professor of Japanese Studies JNU, Dr. Prodipto Ghosh, Distinguished Fellow, TERI, Prof. R.S. Ratna, Professor Centre for WTO Studies, IIFT and Ms. R.V. Anuradha, Partner Clarus Law Associates.