



## South-Asian Speaker's Summit

---

 [drishtiias.com/printpdf/south-asian-speaker-s-summit](https://drishtiias.com/printpdf/south-asian-speaker-s-summit)

Recently, the **4<sup>th</sup> South-Asian Speaker's Summit** on achieving **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs) concluded in Male, Maldives.

- India had a heated discussion during the summit over the **Kashmir** issue with Pakistan, where India rejected the politicization of the forum by raising internal issues of a particular country.
- The joint statement released by the leaders in Male unanimously supported India's bid regarding Kashmir, & claimed it to be an internal matter of India, overlooking Pakistan's claims.
- In the summit, the Indian delegation was led by the Speaker of Lok Sabha.
- **International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)** also participated in the summit in order to achieve SDGs 2 & 3 targets: **Nutrition and food security as drivers of maternal, child and adolescent health in the Asia-Pacific region.**

### About Summit

---

- The Summit is intended for Speakers of the Parliaments of **Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives.**
- Parliaments play a key role in ensuring a sustainable future for current and future generations- given their legislative oversight, & representative and budgetary functions.
- This forum allows Speakers of various Parliaments to continue to develop dialogue and parliamentary cooperation on achieving the SDGs.

**Source: IE**