

YUVA (Youth Unite for Voluntary Action) Meet 2013

Executive Summary

YUVA (Youth Unite for Voluntary Action) Meet is an annual event for youth organized by TERI as a special event of TERI's annual flagship initiative Delhi Sustainable Development Summit (DSDS). The meet aims to bring together youth from across the nation and from overseas to enhance their understanding of issues concerning sustainable development, network with like-minded people, and collectively voice their views and exchange ideas.

YUVA Meet 2013 was organized on 28–29 January 2013 at New Delhi with support from the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India; Tetra Pak India Pvt. Ltd.; and the British Council, and in partnership with United Nations University. Focusing on the theme 'Green Growth – Preparing Youth for Sustainable Living', the meet aimed to enhance the knowledge and understanding of youth on issues and challenges related to green growth and developing their capacities to be able to contribute towards development which is sustainable, low carbon, resource efficient, and socially inclusive. Participants were involved in panel discussions, interactive sessions, and activities revolving around the theme.

The meet was graced by the presence of Mr Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India; Ms Nita Chowdhury, Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India; Ms Sharda Ali Khan, Joint Secretary (NSS), Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India; Mr Charlie Walker, Acting Director (India) and Director Programmes, British Council; and Dr RK Pachauri, Director-General, TERI, and experts from different organizations, educational institutes, corporates and government bodies.

230 young participants from 53 colleges/universities/organizations in India, and 9 nations (Russia, Philippines, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Swaziland, Namibia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, and India) came together to participate in this meet, along with members from other youth groups, the National Service Scheme (NSS), and Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) from different states of India. 10 young people from YUVA Meet 2013 were shortlisted to represent youth at the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit (DSDS) 2013.

As a follow-up of YUVA Meet 2013, State Level Youth Seminars were organized in seven different states/union territories of India – Assam (Guwahati), Goa, Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal), Haryana (Gurgaon), Punjab (Jalandhar), Maharashtra (Pune), and Uttarakhand (Dehradun) – during February–March 2013 within the purview of the theme of YUVA Meet. In total, 1,034 young people from 104 different colleges/universities/university departments participated in these seminars across the nation along with representatives from NGOs, NYKS and NSS.

