

PRESS RELEASE

TERI-BCSD Summit explores the vision of using business as the driver to achieve sustainable development

TERI-BCSD today hosted the 12th Leadership Summit for Sustainable Development, which witnessed the participation of top corporate enterprises

New Delhi, October 7: The Energy and Resources Institute and the Business Council for Sustainable Development (TERI-BCSD) in partnership with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) today organized the 12th 'Leadership Summit for Sustainable Development – Business as Driver for Sustainable Development', its annual flagship event.

Inaugurating the event, **Dr R K Pachauri, President, TERI-BCSD & Director-General, TERI**, said: "A large share of economic activity will be in the hands of business organisations in the future. Hence, decision-making in the corporate sector would have a major impact on the form of development that a country as a whole pursues. Consequently, if the nation is to move in the direction of sustainable development, business would have to be a major driver for bringing this about. The Leadership Summit for Sustainable Development 2014 focused on how business should exercise its responsibility in this regard."

Speaking at the event, **Mr Suresh P Prabhu, Prime Minister's Sherpa at the G20 Meeting in Brisbane, Australia, and Chairperson, Council on Energy, Environment and Water**, said: "The Leadership Summit for Sustainable Development addressed current policies, gaps and issues, which can help the government and business leaders in building a conducive, trust-based environment." He added: "We need to change the mindsets of people, like the way TERI is doing through its campaign 'Lighting a Billion Lives'. Also, we need to encourage the private sector to invest in such initiatives."

The Summit played host to Indian and global business leaders, policy-makers, and thought leaders, who debated the challenges in mainstreaming environmental and social sustainability in their business strategies.

Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, Bureau of Energy Efficiency, said: "The definition of Sustainable Development differs from company to company. Businesses can play a key role in achieving sustainable development. Minimum efficiency code and standards need to be established to facilitate sustainable development."

Dr Annapurna Vancheswaran, Director, Sustainable Development Outreach, TERI, said: "With increasing depletion of resources, businesses will have to accelerate the pace of change and embrace

new models of growth, sustainability being one among them. Businesses have come to realize that investment in sustainability is good for both the immediate, as well as the long-term future.”

Speaking at the event, **Mr Ajay Goel, CEO, Tata Power Solar Systems Ltd**, said: “As a solar player, using sustainable energy as a means to transform communities is at the core of our business. We firmly believe solar power can significantly contribute to India’s socio-economic development and act as a catalyst of change. In order to aid this journey, it is important to nurture our country’s solar space.”

Mr Ajit Gulabchand, Chairman and Managing Director, Hindustan Construction Company Ltd, said: “With the rise in population and projected economic growth, we need to think of alternative energy like solar power with the motive of moving to a more efficient resource.”

The Summit hosted four theme-based sessions -- *Business as a Driver of Sustainable Development, Policy Dialogue with Business Leaders, Sustainability at Scale, High Level Environmentally and Socially Responsible Finance* – which largely focused on implementing sustainable development in business and innovating business practices.

Mr Anil B Jain, Managing Director, Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd, said: “A business is truly sustainable if it contributes in the creation of a sustainable society.”

During the event, TERI released four knowledge papers, namely, *Corporate Social Responsibility: A Guide to Strategy Development and Implementation, Roadmap for Incorporating Energy Efficiency Retrofits in Existing Buildings, Waste to Resources: A Waste Management Handbook* and *E-waste Management in India – A Corporate Imperative*.

The Summit concluded with a ‘High Level CEO Panel Discussion’, which saw the participation of eminent luminaries from across the spectrum of business, politics, government, academics, national and international organizations engaged in social and environmental programmes. The distinguished panellists who took part in the discussion included, **Mr Alok Dayal**, Sr Director, Credit & Environment Risk, IDFC Ltd, **Ms Anshula Kant**, Deputy Managing Director, State Bank of India, **Mr N K Maini**, Deputy Managing Director, Small Industries Development Bank of India, and **Ms Namita Vikas**, Sr President and Country Head Responsible Banking, YES BANK Ltd.

Chief Sustainability Officers’ Conclave – III

TERI BCSD’s Chief Sustainability Officers’ (CSO) Conclave is a platform to collectively engage and deliberate on environmental and social responsibilities of business organizations and conceptualize project ideas with business justification on different thematic and industry specific areas. The Conclave is the start of the year-long engagement of CSO Forum participating companies to identify business justifiable and business-supported project ideas. Participants at the Conclave are the torchbearers of sustainability in their respective organizations, who will take forward the mission of mainstreaming sustainable development in business planning and practices with a sense of urgency. The Conclave aims to facilitate and foster action-oriented dialogue on specific sustainability issues in a highly interactive

format to ensure effective problem solving, while the CSOs benefit from enriching peer discussions and pan-industry knowledge sharing.

***Chasing the Sun* (A Tata Power Coffee Table Book)**

To commemorate Tata Power Solar's 25-year journey in India, the company launched a coffee table book titled *Chasing the Sun*. The book presents a range of success stories on transforming communities across India, stretching from Ladakh to Tamil Nadu. A blend of reminiscent images of the people and regions touched by Tata Power Solar, the book captures lives changed by solar energy in India.

ABOUT TERI-BCSD

TERI-Business Council for Sustainable Development is an independent and credible platform for corporate leaders to address issues related to sustainable development and promote leadership in environmental management, social responsibility, and economic performance.

With TERI's globally acclaimed leadership in the areas of its work on sustainable development and climate change for four decades, TERI-Business Council for Sustainable Development leverages TERI's knowledge base and professional expertise for the business community in India. Over the years, in partnership with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), TERI-BCSD has been helping Indian Business to adopt environmentally and socially responsible business strategy and planning. For more, please visit: <http://bcsd.teri.res.in/>.

For more information, please contact:

TERI Basudha Das: 9999881145 Zainab Naeem: 8800286575	Ketchum Sampark Pvt Ltd. Varun Chopra: 9811241427 Prashant Kr. Gunjan: 9650026623 Sharat Shyam: 9953860601
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