



Press Release

Minister for Environment & Forests Ms Jayanthi Natarajan calls for a people movement to contribute to the environment & the global commons at TERI's DSDS 2012

World leaders, industry captains, policy makers, non profits and Govt bodies focus on biodiversity, sustainable development and global commons with special thrust on South Asia and Africa

New Delhi: 3 Feb 2012: Ms Jayanthi Natarajan, Hon'ble Minister of State for Environment and Forests, Govt. of India, was the keynote speaker on the second day of the **12th Delhi Sustainable Development Summit (DSDS) 2012** organised by **The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)**.

In her keynote address at the special session on biodiversity Ms Jayanti Natrajan urged the dignitaries and delegates from across the world present at DSDS 2012 to consider how they could relate to the lay person to save biodiversity and demystify these issues for normal people to understand and make this into a people's movement. She called for a people's movement to contribute to the environment and the global commons.

She said "It is my firm conviction that a successful response to the changing needs of the world can come only through sustainable development that is equitable and people centered. All of us should remember, that climate and environment are not dependent on us, in fact we are dependent on them. We need to contribute as a responsible citizen and contribute to the environment and the global commons." She added, "Immediate action is required to address the cause of biodiversity as there are 300 million people in the country who are dependent on biodiversity for their livelihoods."

She discussed the inter-linkages that biodiversity has with global commons, with economy, with the atmosphere, with ordinary men and women, in short with all elements of the world.

She highlighted the active role of India in protecting the global commons and discussed the implementation of NAPCC (National Action Plan on Climate Change) and how its 8 missions cater to different aspects of biodiversity and global commons at large. Highlighting India's role in protecting and conserving biodiversity she discussed the role of National Biodiversity Act (2002), National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and 32,500 biodiversity management committees that work with communities at the local level to conserve biodiversity.

The second day of TERI's DSDS 2012 saw world leaders, industry captains, policy makers, non profits and government bodies focus on biodiversity, sustainable development and global commons with special thrust on South Asia and Africa. Most of them said that DSDS will set the stage for CoP 11 to be hosted by India in October 2012.

The first session of the day was on biodiversity. The session was chaired and moderated Dr Ashok Khosla, President, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Mr M F Farooqui, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, set the theme for the session. He emphasized that biodiversity and issues of Global Commons are closely linked and one impacts the other. He said, **“Biodiversity helps in creating local livelihoods, therefore protecting the interests of global commons should be win-win for all including the local population dependent of the natural resources.”**

Professor Kazuhiko Takeuchi, Vice-Rector, the United Nations University & Director of Institute for Sustainability and Poverty, Japan stated that key outcome of COP 10 was Nagoya Protocol which focuses on society in harmony with nature. They are now working towards Satoyama Initiative which focuses on three issues – 1. Resilience of society equipped with traditional knowledge, 2. New types of global commons (private sector, NGOs, urban residents) for partnership in protecting ecosystem and 3. Need for new business model for sustainable exploitation of resources

Dr Abdul Rahim Nik, Deputy Secretary General, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia emphasized challenges in managing biodiversity in Malaysia. These include 1) Inventory of biodiversity, 2) Proper laws for enforcement and protection, 3) need for transboundary cooperation, 4) Role of forests in mitigating climate change.

The session **Corporate Dialogue on Global Commons** saw multinational corporations discussed ways to do business and protect the global commons. Acknowledging that businesses can't afford to ignore social responsibility, eminent personalities discussed on how corporate can take up the onus to preserve the commons in this session. This session was moderated by **Prof. Jeffrey A Sonnenfeld, Senior Associate Dean for Executive Programs & Lester Crown Professor in the Practice of Management, Yale School of Management, Yale University, USA** and the prominent speakers were Mr Sai Ramakrishna Karuturi, Founder & Managing Director, Karuturi Global Limited, India, P Dr Rajiv Kumar, Secretary-General, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, India, P Mr Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Managing Director, CLP Power India Private Limited, India, P Mr Pasi Rousu, Partner and Cofounder, President, Chempolis Asia & Pacific, Finland, Mr Björn Stigson, Former President, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Switzerland, P Ms Hilde M Tonne, Executive Vice President and Head of Group Industrial Development, Telenor, Norway and P Mr Venkatesh Valluri, Chairman, Ingersoll-Rand (India) Limited, India.

In the ministerial session held on **Sustainable Management of Global Commons in South Asia**, eminent ministers from Quebec, Pakistan, Tanzania, Afghanistan, Cambodia and Bhutan mulled ways to protect the commons in south Asia and invited the corporates to join hands in the venture.

The session on **Global Commons and Challenges in Africa** saw ministers from Africa and world-wide identify Africa's potential and agree to work together for a common goal, i.e. sustainable growth and protecting global commons.

The high-level panel discussion on **Our Water Commons** saw panelists discuss issues like water security and the importance of water as one of the supreme commons.

Over the past decade the **Delhi Sustainable Development Summit (DSDS)** has evolved as a major global event that addresses the key challenges of sustainable development and explores the means by which this can be attained.

In its 12th edition DSDS is focusing on the theme, *'Protecting the Global Commons: 20 Years Post Rio'*. DSDS 2012 will be the first important meeting of global leaders preceding the June 2012, Rio+20 Summit. Two decades after Rio 1992 Summit time is ripe to assess the progress made in protecting our planet. DSDS 2012 will examine what has been achieved and how awareness had been created; it will attempt to define new directions to be followed; and set an agenda for further action

About DSDS

The DSDS (Delhi Sustainable Development Summit) has been the flagship conference of TERI since 2001. It is a global forum that seeks to provide long-term solutions to protect this planet. Held annually, DSDS is the only event of its kind in the world with participation by global stakeholders—multilateral and bilateral development organizations, governments, the corporate sector, non-governmental organizations, and academic and research institutions. Now globally esteemed as a credible summit on global issues related to sustainable development, it continues to provide hope to communities lagging behind on development indicators. For more details please log into <http://dsds.teriin.org/2012/>

About: The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

From microbiology to global climate change, from smoke-filled rural kitchens to plush corporate boardrooms, from schoolchildren to heads of state—no sphere of human endeavor is unfamiliar to TERI. Headed by world-renowned economist and Head of the Nobel Prize winning UN Climate panel, Dr. R K Pachauri, TERI is best described as an independent, not-for-profit research institute focused on energy, environment, and sustainable development and devoted to efficient and sustainable use of natural resources.

A dynamic and flexible organization established in 1974, all activities in TERI move from formulating local and national level strategies to suggesting global solutions to critical energy and environment-related issues. Headquartered in New Delhi, TERI has established regional offices in Mumbai, Bangalore, Goa, Guwahati and Mukhteshwer in the Himalaya's and International centers in Japan, Malaysia, the United Arab Emirates, Washington DC, London and Utrecht, The Netherlands.

For More Details Please Contact

Ketchum Sampark

Kavita Bhaskaran - +91-9981355009
Anjali Berry – +91-9891526436
Prashant k – +91- 9650026623

TERI

Rajiv Chhibber-+91-9810426698
Debanjana Choudhuri -+91- 8447084563

