

Lack of global will to tackle climate problem: PM

Would like to be an inspiration for sustainable living as I was for fitness, want green revolution across the globe: Arnold Schwarzenegger

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POINTING out that per capita emission in industrialised countries is 10 to 12 times that of those in developing countries, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh today said there appears to be a "lack of will" in the global community to tackle climate change.

"It is necessary to recognise that currently there appears to be a lack of collective global will to address this problem with the seriousness it deserves," Singh told the 12th Delhi Sustainable De-

velopment Summit.

"The need for equity is starkly reflected in the fact that the emissions per capita in industrialised countries are ten to twelve times those of developing countries. We know that total emissions in the world must decline, but what does this imply for emissions in individual countries? We must find a way of solving this problem in a way that does not deprive developing countries of their right to develop."

He referred to the principles of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change which provide the basis for creating a

workable framework for "a successful, rule-based, equitable and multilateral response" to issues relating to climate change.

"India will play a constructive role in the ongoing negotiations and we will certainly live up to whatever obligations fall upon us as part of a fair and equitable agreement," Singh said.

"We hope to build a strategy for the Twelfth Five Year Plan which begins in April this year and it will be designed to ensure significant benefits for climate along with inclusive sustainable growth. Food and energy security and sus-

tainable use of scarce natural resources will constitute important constituents of our strategy for sustainable development. We will seek to reduce the emissions intensity of our GDP by 20-25 per cent by the year 2020 taking 2005 as the reference level," he said.

Hollywood star Arnold Schwarzenegger, who served as Governor of California from 2003 until 2011, told delegates that he wished to make a significant contribution as a crusader for environment the same way he did for fitness.

"I began to weight train at the age of 15 and was awarded the title of Mr Universe at 20. At that time I wanted to inspire people to be fitness conscious. Now it feels

great to see gyms in offices, in schools, in hotels. Fitness was my crusade then, and green is my crusade now. I want to inspire people for sustainable living, the same way I did for fitness," he said. "California's green economy is booming. There are 10 per cent more jobs, as against the whole of US. The state is 40 per cent more energy efficient than the rest of the US. I will stop at nothing. I want green revolution all around the globe. That is my mission."

"India doubled up renewable energy share in the total energy production to 11 per cent. Renewable energy investments also went up by 52 per cent... this is the reason India leads the way in renewable energy investments," he said.