PM seeks equitable sharing of climate change burden

fe Bureau

New Delhi, Feb 2: Expressing concern over the lack of collective global will to address climate change, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Thursday emphasised on equitable distribution of burden of climate change.

"The need for equity is starkly reflected in the fact that emissions per capita in industrialised countries are 10-12 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?" Singh said while addressing the 12th Delhi Sustainable Development Summit.

He categorically stated that there appears to be a lack of collective global will to address this problem with the seriousness it deserves. "We need to give renewed momentum therefore to the global negotiations for cooperative collective action for management of climate change," he added.

In this regard, he referred to the principles of UN framework convention on climate change which provide the basis of creating a workable framework based on a broad-based equitable and multilateral response to issues relating to climate change.

Stressing on the need for cooperation from developed as well as developing countries to address the issue, he said: "Co-operation must be based on the foundation of the right to development and the need for an equitable distribution of burden sharing."