PM to open sustainable summit on 31 Jan

Global leaders, environmentalists will discuss resource-efficient growth, development at meet

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will inaugurate the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit (DSDS) on 31 January which will see global leaders and environmentalists coming together on a platform to discuss resource-efficient growth and development.

Organised by The Energy Research Institute (TERI), the summit has been held annually in New Delhi since 2001. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will inaugurate the event on 31 January.

Over the years with the involvement of world leaders from every section of human endeavour, sustainable development has moved from a concept to policies and programmes in different parts of the globe,” R K Pachauri, TERI director general, told reporters on Tuesday.

The 13th edition of the DSDS focusing on the theme, ‘The Global Challenge of Resource Efficient Growth and Development’, provides an efficient platform for thought leaders and policymakers to discuss effective policy mechanisms to reduce energy and resource footprint.

The summit seeks not only to build a global consensus to protect natural resources but also to explore innovative solutions to boost efficient practices and minimise unsustainable consumption patterns.

It will see participation of three heads of state – Guyana President Donald Ramotar, Seychelles President James Alix Michel, Republic of Kiribati President Anote Tong – dignitaries, Nobel laureates and ministers from several countries. Pachauri said the demand for resources is growing faster than the addition to their reserves.

‘Most importantly, using resources efficiently also makes it possible for the poor to gain access to them, which otherwise they may not be able to afford,’ he said.

The DSDS-2013 will be preceded by the World CEO Sustainability Summit. It will witness an impressive congregation of corporate leaders exchanging views on the role of business in protecting resources.