NEW DELHI: France on Thursday asked the global community to work together for the climate deal in Paris this year and warned that a significant reduction of greenhouse gas emissions is not achievable without equitable access to sustainable development.

Noting that 2015 will be a "defining moment" as far as climate change was concerned, French foreign minister Laurent Fabius, who is president of the Paris climate conference, however, was non-committal on questions whether the deal would be possible without India and China taking emission reduction targets.

"The countries have to commit as per differentiation principle of the climate convention," he said after inaugurating the 15th Delhi Sustainable Development Summit organised by the Energy Resource Institute in partnership with Hindustan Times.

He also appreciated the new solar and nuclear energy targets set by India and said such steps would help fight climate change.

He met Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the afternoon.

Arnold Schwarzenegger with Suresh Prabhu and Prakash Javadekar at the 15th Delhi Sustainable Development Summit on Thursday. PTI

He also made an impassioned plea to the nations to agree on major issues before assembling in Paris later this year for inking a deal to limit global warming to below 2 degree Celsius.

Fabius asked political leadership all across the world to act in “collective spirit” to achieve low carbon growth. The summit was attended by railways minister Suresh Prabhu and green minister Prakash Javadekar.

ARNOLD PRAISES MODI
Hollywood star and former governor of California Arnold Schwarzenegger heaped praise on PM Modi for the solar revolution in Gujarat when he was chief minister and asked other states to follow his model.

Stating that Gujarat was the California of India, he said that Modi had created “good action”. He also hoped that India, under Modi’s leadership, would play a key role in reaching an agreement in Paris.