

4 FEB 2011

KS TERI Promoter 4/2/11
65395

PM stresses on green regulatory policies

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 3

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh today said the country should have a structure of regulatory policies to check the potentially damaging impact of development projects. He, however, cautioned against the risk of reverting back to Licence Permit Raj.

Addressing the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit organised by The Energy Resources Institute, he said incentives for sustainable development must encourage economic decision makers to act in an environmentally benign manner.

For this he proposed a two-pronged strategy for it, putting

in place a structure of regulatory policies and making the polluter pay. Standards, however, were not enough, he said. "They must also be enforced which is often difficult. It is also necessary to ensure that these regulatory standards do not bring back the Licence Permit Raj which we sought to get rid of in the wake of the economic reforms of early '90s," he added.

The PM said residual pollution could still be caused despite regulatory efforts, so there should be a provision of polluters paying for it. This, he said, would discourage polluters and also provide means of financing necessary corrective steps to counter the pollution caused.