

PM moots sustainable development formula



Manmohan Singh looks on as Sonia Gandhi presents an award for best performing Gram Panchayat 2010-11 to N Subeetha of Tamil Nadu

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PRIME MINISTER

Manmohan Singh on Thursday said that global cooperation is the new way for development and should be based on three fundamental tenets including sustainable development, equal access to global resources and thrust on poverty alleviation.

The prime minister made these observations at the inaugural session of the 12th Delhi Sustainable Development Summit organised by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).

Speaking on global cooperation for sustainable development, Singh said "There is growing realisation that sustainable development is not something that can be achieved by countries acting individually. The threat of climate change caused by greenhouse gas emissions has brought the world to a critical point where the actions of each country affect the planet. Sustainable development in this environment, therefore, calls for cooperation of all countries, both industrialised and

developing. That cooperation must be based on the foundation of the right to development and the need for an equitable distribution of burden."

On the occasion, the prime minister also bestowed the Sustainable Development Leadership award for 2012 to Finland president and cochair of the UN High Level Panel on Global Sustainability, Tarja Halonen.

Sustainable development can't be achieved by nations acting individually: PM

Singh said, "The idea of sustainability began as a developmental ideal. Over time, it has become an important focus of policy, particularly in developing countries, as we struggle to reconcile our effort to develop with the compelling need to protect our environment. Air pollution, industrial pollution, increasing quantum of waste and pollution of our rivers are some problems we all face."