

Terminator turns climate warrior

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Hollywood superstar and former California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has turned into one of the top climate warriors of the globe.

On his first visit to India, Schwarzenegger made a charged speech at the 12th Delhi Sustainable Development Summit where he stated "bust the word impossible, it is an excuse to stay on the sidelines."

When he became governor, he was determined to prove to the world that a green economy could become a reality "and today California is 40 per cent more energy efficient than the rest of the US."

"Our green economy is booming with California set to obtain one third of its electricity from clean renewable sources by 2020," he said.

"The green economy attracts ten times more jobs and (during his tenure) California attracted 60 per cent of venture equity. we did not listen to the naysayers," he said with a chuckle.

"I won't stop till I spread this green revolution," he declared, comparing his commitment to the environment with his determination in his more youthful days to promote body building. Championing the cause of physical fitness, saw him lead a movement which has overseen the setting up of gyms in every hotel across the globe.

His lifestyle also remains climate friendly. Arnie, as he is called by his fans, drives two Hummers with one run on biofuel and other being fitted with a hydrogen engine. The swimming pool and jacuzzi in his



Abhishek Bachchan (left) receives the Green Globe Award for outstanding contribution by a celebrity from Teri director-general R.K. Pachauri at the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit in New Delhi on Thursday. — AP

PM: GLOBAL COMMUNITY LACKS WILL

AGE CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, FEB. 2

A combative Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Thursday expressed regret that the global community lacked a collective will to tackle the serious problem of climate change.

Reintroducing the key issue of equity, the Prime Minister noted that emissions in developed countries were 10 to 12 times more than in developing nations.

"We need to find a way of solving this problem in a way that does not deprive developing countries of their right to development," he said

while inaugurating the 12th Delhi Sustainable Development Summit.

With India being in the frontlines of climate vulnerability, it has a vital stake in the evolution of a successful response to climate change.

Mr Singh recognised that one of the important gains of the 17th UNFCCC climate meet at Durban was that an agreement was finally reached on the 2nd Commitment Period of the Kyoto Protocol. "I am glad that an agreement was reached. We cannot make progress in this difficult area if we allow the commitments of the past to be unravelling," he said.

home use solar power. But he is upfront as he states, "People will use energy-efficient products only when their costs come down," Schwarzenegger

also spoke about his own NGO called R20-Regions of Climate change, partnered by regional governments to boost local economies and improve public health.