

Climate concern

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Growth has brought in a scenario where inequities are growing and this has to be taken up in the development discourse, Union Minister of State for Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Mr Prakash Javadekar, said here, today.

"We have the responsibility to improve the lives of the future generations," Mr Javadekar said at the inaugural session of the 15th Delhi Sustainable Development Summit 2015 (DSDS), organised by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). "We have already taken the clean energy path – we have enhanced our renewable energy commitments and launched smart cities," he added.

The Environment Minister also quoted Prime Minister Narendra Modi as saying that



Prakash Javadekar. © AFP

been affected by air pollution. Clean air must be a birthright for all. We need to work towards clean air, water and energy for all," Mr Javadekar added. Heads of State, Nobel Laureates and thought leaders have converged at the three-day DSDS summit to find solutions for some of the key issues that will shape the global planet. It has provided a unique platform to further the developmental discourse on "Sustainable Development Goals and Dealing with Climate Change", the theme this year. The DSDS 2015 assumes

people were suffering due to the pressures created by climate change.

"All countries have

significance as the post-2015 development agenda is being finalised – the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) is expected to adopt the new set of goals in September 2015 and the climate negotiations under the Conference of Parties (CoP21) will be held Paris later this year.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr R K Pachauri, Director-General, TERI, said: "The IPCC reports have proved beyond doubt that if we don't take immediate measures, the future will be catastrophic. But climate change also offers an opportunity of co-benefits – investing in clean and affordable energy sources like solar and wind power can curb greenhouse gas emissions, and clean transportation systems such as trains and cycling can reduce air pollution woes and improve public health. DSDS is a reaffirmation of the support that TERI receives from across the globe."