

If you accept climate disruption, then there will be development disruption: DSDS 2015

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Heads of State, Nobel Laureates and thought leaders converged at the landmark 15th Delhi Sustainable Development Summit 2015 (DSDS) to find solutions for some of the key issues that will shape our global planet. This flagship event of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) 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 significance as the post-2015 development agenda is being finalized — the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) is expected to adopt the new set of goals in September 2015 and the climate negotiations (Conference of Parties — CoP21) will be held Paris later this year.

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 cy-

cling can reduce air pollution woes and improve public health. DSDS is a reaffirmation of the support that TERI receives from across the globe." Said Mr Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Minister of State for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, India: "Growth has brought in a scenario where in-

equities are growing. This has to be taken up in the development discourse. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that we are suffering due to the pressures created by climate change. We have the responsibility to improve the lives of the future generations. We have already taken the clean energy path — we have enhanced our renewable energy commitments and launched smart cities." "All countries have 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.

Said Mr Suresh Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister for Railways, India: "Climate change is a scientific reality. If we delay action, the repercussions will be disastrous. We need to find a unified solution to tackle climate change innovatively. We need to move towards a low carbon economy and this has the potential to create new employment opportunities."