

'India Can Show The Way To Go Green'



L-R: Panel: **Suhel Seth**, Managing Partner, Counselage; **Sunita Narain**, Director, Center for Science and Environment; **Dhruv Sawhney**, CEO, Triveni Group; **Jamshyd Godrej**, Chairman, Aspen Institute India; Chairman and Managing Director, Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Co.Ltd.; Moderator: **Elliot Gerson**, Executive Vice President, The Aspen Institute USA

"In many industrial fields India has shown the way to go green in cost effective manner. We have developed expertise and attained a leading edge in the world in the field of bio-mass plants. We can contribute a lot in this respect by setting up these plants in the US and Europe," said **Mr Dhruv Sawhney, CEO, Triveni Group**.

He was speaking at the Special Plenary session on '**Can India go green?**' on the third and last day of the '**Ideas India 2008**' seminar, conducted by **Aspen Institute India** here today. The panelists deliberated over the importance of environmental consciousness and future of green movement in India. They also talked about the way in which renewable energy can become a significant component in India's energy mix.

"Presently we are producing around 7000 megawatt of co-generated power with the help of sugar industry and the entire process is green in real sense, " Mr Sawhney informed.

Sunita Narain, Director, Centre for Science and Environment, said, "It is a reality that environmental imbalance is threatening the entire world and taking us towards a disaster. We must understand that climate change, in real sense, is all about growth."

"It forces us to rethink about our strategies and policies for growth. If we are really sincere about saving our planet from the looming environmental disaster, we need to completely reinvent them. We must start thinking out-of-the-box measures for growth," she added.

Suhel Seth, Managing Partner, Counselage, said, "Our problem is that most of the government policies, at the end of the day, remain no more than just lip service. What is needed is to find out the right ways and implement them in earnest to effectively safeguard our environment."

"In order to create right mechanism to prevent climate change, It is important to involve all the players from the industry to civil society. It is time for us and the government to come out with a clear road map for the future," he emphasized.

Jamshyd Godrej, Chairman, Aspen Institute India, Chairman and Managing Director, Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Co Ltd, said: "Industry is ready to comply with green requirements. There are many segments in the industry which have already started making efforts in this direction. For instance, the real estate industry has started large scale construction of green buildings and are getting very good responses from the public."

"In fact, green building movement in India is a very good example of how an idea and industry can work together to towards a real positive change," he added.

The session was moderated by **Mr Elliot Gerson, Executive Vice-President, The Aspen Institute USA**.

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