

India to achieve targets of Paris Agreement on climate change

Harsh Vardhan inaugurates East India conclave of Ministers

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East India is the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change owing to its geographical and ecological diversity even though this region is least contributor in global warming. Stating this here on Sunday, Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Dr

Harsh Vardhan reiterated India's commitments at the Paris Agreement and said India will potentially achieve the targets of Paris Agreement before the deadline. Inaugurating the high level Council on Climate Change Resilient East India: Minister's Network, he also talked about inculcating 'Green Good Behaviour in ourselves' and said that such a conclave that brings experts and practitioners from the scientific community would not just help the East India region but the country at large.

The Department of

Environment and forests, Government of Bihar, organised the Conclave in partnership with Action on Climate Today under Department for International Development, UK and The Centre of Environment, Energy and Climate Change at Asian Development Research Institute, under aegis of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change. The Ministers of Environment and Forest from Chhattisgarh, Assam, Odisha, Jharkhand and West Bengal are also attending the two-day conclave which

also brings together policy makers, top Government officials, decision makers and industries from East Indian region to deliberate and exchange lessons on building a climate-resilient nation.

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said impacts of climate change were most felt in Bihar even though it was the least contributor to this issue. "Bihar is most impacted by climate change even though it has not contributed to it in any way; it faces the most unique occurrence of both floods and droughts", he said. He also high-

lighted the issue of silt deposition in its two big water bodies, Ganga and Kosi, and suggested that removing the silt could not solve the problem, but giving it way to pass on to the oceans.

He said the average rainfall was gradually declining whereas the water level in all the rivers of Bihar would go high during the floods. Saying that real source of energy is the sun and not the coal, the CM said Bihar will work for solar energy plants. He said it was not because of the peoples' need but their greed that nature has been badly interfered and impacted.