



### *Overview of Proceedings*

---



THE SECOND  
**SUSTAINABLE**  
**ENVIRONMENT**  
**AND ENERGY**  
**SUMMIT 2020**

---

*Venue*  
Hotel Le Meridian, Janpath, New Delhi

*on*  
December 19, 2020

# Preface

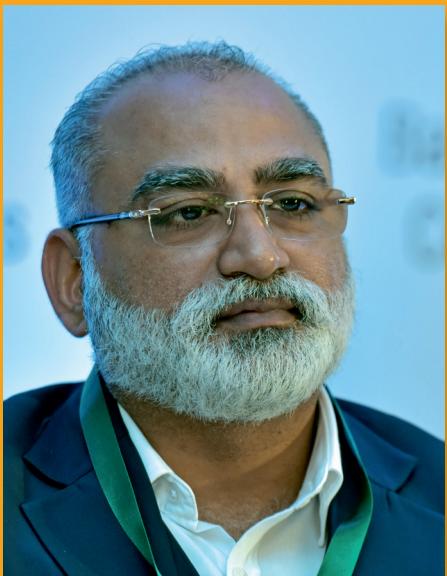
This report represents the proceedings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Sustainable Environment and Energy Summit 2020 to the readers.

Social Responsibility Council (SRC) organized 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Sustainable Environment & Energy Summit on 19th December, 2020 at Hotel Le Meridian, Janpath, New Delhi. Presided by Mr. Arun Khurana, Founder of Social Responsibility Council (SRC), the Summit was a hybrid of physical and virtual presence of speakers and guests under the Organizing Chair of Mr. Vivek Narayan Sharma, Advocate, Supreme Court.

Mr. Vivek Narayan Sharma commented on the objective of the Summit, being held to discuss serious environmental issues pertaining to 'Policies on Sustainable Environment & Energy and their impact', 'Sustainable Finance for effecting real change', 'New environmental perspectives and best practices post COVID-19' and global problems like pollution, deforestation, climate change etc. and to find relevant solutions to curb such problems for providing better living to future generations.

This volume collects summary of speeches of all speakers present in the Summit. We hope this proceeding would be inspiring, informative and useful to all the readers. It will help set a course of action for the stakeholders in environment and energy sustainability.

# Foreword



**Arun Khurana**

Founder  
*Social Responsibility Council (SRC)*

My joy knows no bounds in organizing and presiding over the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Sustainable Environment and Energy Summit. Until not too long ago, the humanity & the world over frenetically was chasing a dream of development; razing forests, carelessly generating gargantuan carbon footprints, thoughtlessly promoting motorized vehicles, burning fossil fuels and doing more such shenanigans. When the unmindful development became counter productive, then the sense began to dawn. A holistic view of development slowly entered into the human conscience.

Lately, the twigs of sustainable environment and energy have begun blossoming. Efforts of course correction are a universal reality. But sustainability needs a lot more to be done. The Sustainable Environment and Energy Summit is just an appropriate step in this direction. It is one of the noblest responsibilities which SRC undertakes with great passion and enthusiasm. The Summit's success and avid participation of eminent personalities testify the fact that we are, maybe a small, but effective instrument of change, contributing to Environment Sustainability.



**Vivek Narayan Sharma**  
Chairman, Organising Committee,  
2<sup>nd</sup> SEE Summit

**Mr. Vivek Narayan Sharma** - a Socio-Politico-Constitution expert and renowned Advocate practicing at Supreme Court of India. He is the ex-Joint Secretary of Supreme Court Advocates on Record Association.

He is the President of 'Society for Criminal Justice' and National Advisor to 'Ladli Foundation', Consultant & Convener for eminent social, political outfits and law journals in India. He is Advisor (Legal) to Indo-Canada Chambre De Commerce (ICCC).

One of the most popular, most discussed and most-read Columnist for Times of India (TOI) and Economic Times (ET), he has authored the famous book "Electionomics" published by leading publisher Thomson Reuters.

## Important Facets of Speech:

**Mr. Vivek Narayan Sharma** outlined factual ground conditions pertaining to environmental problems arising in relation to Air, Water, Power and E-waste. He further highlighted awareness in the context of lack of implementation of environmental laws. Mr. Vivek showed his major concern in growing more trees as that's the reason of the world being alive. He emphasized that India is currently having 35 billion trees against the need of 140 billion trees, similarly the world graph is also the same, world has 400 billion trees and again it's a requirement of 1 trillion trees. He said that the day might not be far away when we would be buying air in cylinders just to stay alive; hence we have to save air for our future generation. Adding another angle to this, he stated that he has found that the issues of Environment are complex and our entire ecosystem has been endangered through sometimes our reckless attitude, sometimes lack of awareness, sometimes helplessness but mostly because of greed and non-implementation of laws. Environment is the most hyped subject because people like to talk about it, then to adhere to environment friendly acts. He talked about some of the major sustainability concerns and solutions like he talked about waste treatment, cleaning of the Ganga and other rivers, solar renewable energy can be enforced at large scale and environmental friendly acts practices. He said that e-waste and air pollution is a big concern. He showed his concern about ozone layer depletion and talk about the reasons behind air pollution and ozone layer depletion. Some of the main reasons behind air pollution, he stated are transportation, open burning of garbage waste, agricultural activities, indoor air pollution, burning of fossil fuels etc. He talk about the few examples of those countries who are implementing the laws and certain anti air pollutions activities and reforms to defeat air pollution, like China, Netherlands, France etc. He ended his speech by quoting MAHATMA GANDHI - EARTH PROVIDES ENOUGH TO SATISFY EVERY MAN'S NEED, BUT NOT EVERY MAN'S GREED.



**Mr. Justice Dipak Misra**

*Former Chief Justice of India  
Chief Guest, 2<sup>nd</sup> SEE Summit*

**Mr. Justice Dipak Misra** served as the 45th Chief Justice of India and is nephew of Mr. Justice Ranganath Misra, who was the 21st Chief Justice from 1990-1991. During his tenure, he has passed judgments improving the rights, lives, livelihood and conditions of citizens in India. A big advocate of duties, sustainable environment, development and renewable energy, with his judgments and approach, he has outlined intelligent practices for sustainable and healthy life.

## Important Facets of Speech:

**Mr. Justice Dipak Misra**, former Chief Justice of India said we should inculcate the attitude to obey the command of nature and state should follow the obligations as enshrined under Article 48 (A) and the citizen should perform his duty as engrafted under Article 51(A) (g) that is the requirement to become a constitutional individual. There has to be harmonious co-existence of Sustainable environment, sustenance of growth and economy. He emphasised the concepts of Inter-generational Equity and Understanding. Stating that in 21st century, there is need of planetization of individual and present generation, he asked youths to pledge to achieve Environmental Peace with Growth, Progress and Environmental Morality.



**Shri Tarun Kapoor, IAS**  
Ministry of New & Renewable  
Energy (MNRE), Government of India  
Special Guest, 2<sup>nd</sup> SEE Summit

**Shri Tarun Kapoor, IAS**, is Joint Secretary (National Solar Mission) in the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India. He holds a degree of Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical) and Masters in Business Administration. He has a multi-sectoral experience of serving in both Private and Government under various administrative capacities. He served as Director for more than 4½ years in a Government-owned Hydro Power Utility with installed capacity of 1500 MW, the largest in the country and also headed for about 3½ years a Government-owned Hydro Power Utility, engaged in development of more than 3000 MW Hydro power generation capacity and MD of State Transmission Corporation. He also served as Director, Department of Energy, Government of Himachal Pradesh. His area of experience mostly lies in the field of power and renewable energy, particularly solar and Hydro.

## Important Facets of Speech:

The esteemed guest **Shri Tarun Kapoor, IAS**, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Government of India presented his warm greetings to all the guests present at the summit through a prerecorded video message. He confirmed that the Ministry is committed towards Clean Energy, Protecting the Environment and the Sustainable forms of Energy. He said that the Government and the Ministry is working on a complete shift to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) instead of Petroleum. To support the cause, the Government is setting up a Trunk Network of making Natural Gas all over the country and has a plan to set up about 34,000 kilometers of Trunk Pipelines out of which approximately 17,500 kilometers of Pipelines are already commissioned. The Ministry in near future is planning to make Bio Chemical Gas from the residue obtained from the Agricultural Sector. He also talked about the price decrease of LNG with which the Government is planning to bring LNG workable in India.

He too stated to shift to ecofriendly energy from Petrol, diesel to CNG and improve the environment. To promote the use of electronic vehicles, huge network of EV charging stations has to be set up in retail outlets. He said that ministry have huge program to setup 5000 compressed biogas base plants, this biogas is also methane just like other natural gas. He also introduced LNG, as a cleaner form of fuel, it is very efficient and usable for long distance travel. He also threw some light on various policy reforms that included easy accessibility of bio fuels, CNG and bio gas in open market, so that gas exchange is easily available for sale and purchase.



**Shri PK Gupta**  
Additional Chief Secretary,  
Delhi Government  
Special Guest, 2<sup>nd</sup> SEE Summit

## Important Facets of Speech:

**Shri PK Gupta** talked about some of the major problems Delhi is facing. Firstly, he threw some light on rising level of vehicular traffic that Delhi is facing and with those even bigger problems of pollution are arising which are life threatening. He suggested that wide roads can be a solution that are still existent in many places, but these roads are enclosed by either slums or by corporate agencies. Secondly, he highlighted the potential problem of garbage disposal as around 10,000 metric tons of garbage is being produced every day. Steps are being undertaken as dumping sites being developed such as that of Ghazipur, Okhla, Bhalswa, but here also height of dump exceeds 50 metre which is alarming. Although 10 metre height is reduced through machines. The biggest challenge will be to manage these dumps and separate. Thirdly, he focused on Delhi's environment which is co-dependent on neighboring states. Some of them include snowfall in Himachal Pradesh, burning of agriculture residue in Punjab and Haryana, scorching heat coming from Rajasthan. Lastly, he moved his locus of problems to migration of people from different states to Delhi owing to economic opportunities present here. Development of Delhi is not organized due to which it has distorted growth. And, then he also talked about solutions.



**Mr. Vinod Kumar Duggal**  
Home Secretary from 2005 to 2007  
Special Guest, 2<sup>nd</sup> SEE Summit

**Mr. Vinod Kumar Duggal** is a retired Indian civil servant. Duggal served as Home Secretary from 2005 to 2007 in the government of Manmohan Singh. He belongs to the 1968 batch of IAS. On 23 December, 2013, he was appointed as Governor of Manipur by President Pranab Mukherjee. Vinod Duggal also worked as a Secretary, Water Resources, in 2005. In 2009, he was appointed as a member-secretary of the Sri Krishna committee on Telangana. He served in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi as commissioner between 1996-2000. He served as the Sri Krishna Committee member to look into the demand of Telangana state. He is also a member of the Justice for Punchhi Commission on Centre-State relations.

## Important Facets of Speech:

**Shri VK Duggal**, former Governor of Manipur & Mizoram emphasized the need of youths to participate in environmental issues for better resolution to sustainability concerns. He said that the new normal arising due to Covid-19 pandemic should be used in the context of the better and stronger recovery. This should also be the turning point for all the global economies to reflect on the existing model of economic development that is largely dependent on environmentally unsustainable fossil fuels. He stressed that continuous rise in Carbon dioxide is a major challenge worldwide. He stated that India has the lowest per capita energy consumption at 872kwh against the world average of 3300kwh, the same is much higher in developed countries. He said that we need to accelerate efforts to increase the share of green energy resources, sources in the total energy mix and completely decarbonized energy mix are the forceable future. Highlighting global response to be participatory in such issues to achieve any target, he focused on decarbonization to have a proper society. Later, he added energy decarbonization and economic growth are not exclusive. He commented that today is the only major D20 country who's the actions and ambitions are compatible with the second-degree goal of the Paris agreement, the global agreement on climate change. He further quoted about the Pradhan Mantri Yojana that initiated LPG connections to reduce deforestation. He stressed on the need of global partnership is required the most especially quoting that it's the time to listen to the Nature, before it becomes late.



**Dr. René Van Berkel (PhD)**  
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in India  
Guests of Honor, 2<sup>nd</sup> SEE Summit

**Dr. René Van Berkel (PhD)** is UNIDO Representative and heads the Regional Office of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in India. René has 28 years professional experience in resource efficiency and cleaner production (RECP), industrial productivity, sustainability and green industry/economy, with extensive international experience in Europe, Australia and Asia, covering a variety of manufacturing and related sectors.

## Important Facets of Speech:

**Dr. Rene Van Berkel** from the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) India Representative presented his heartiest congratulations to the Social Responsibility Council (SRC) for conducting the Summit. He talked about the various methods to Sustain the Environment that India needs to adopt like for Bio Chemical Waste Management and solutions to overcome it. He also mentioned about the Kanpur Leather Development Project. Dr. Rene discussed about the emphasized philanthropy and social responsibility which are important factors for sustaining environment and India needs to adopt best global practices to scale down environmental concerns of today. He talked about solutions for climate, resources and environment, and also about the strategic policy for industrial transformation. He talked about Kanpur Leather Development Project, Biomedical waste Management and solutions to manage it. He also expressed his thoughts on how business can give help in getting recovery to a nation from crisis. Stressing on the need for sustainable environment and energy, Dr. Rene discussed solutions for the relevant concerns we are facing today.



Mr. Justice Kalyan Rai Surana

Judge in Guwahati High Court  
Guests of Honor, 2<sup>nd</sup> SEE Summit

## Important Facets of Speech:

**Mr. Justice Kalyan Rai Surana** started with habitation problems that humans and animals are facing in Assam. Animals like tiger and elephants require considerable amount of forest space and humans are trying to establish their living and agricultural area which is conflicting. Further, Assam government has pre-defined its forest area which is about 34-35%, more than the national average, but around 35% of forest area is unclassified. Then he moved on to important conclusions. First was manifold increase in carbon footprints left behind by human activity, this problem needs to be addressed. Second, he highlighted importance of forests in humans' lives. Human life is possible only because of green cover which we obtain from forest area. As there are clashes between laws protecting the forest and that of forest dwellers which gave them the right to sustain themselves out of forest produce creates problems. CAMPA's activities regarding forest dwelling is not visible to ordinary eye of humans but on papers many projects are going on under it. At last, he expressed his concern over the fact that not enough sufficient efforts are put in to protect environment. At the end he suggested couple of solutions in which one of them was to have agriculture with tree cover and warned us that industrial farming is leaving a huge carbon footprint damaging entire environment, spread of knowledge and changing opinions of people regarding environment consciousness will be helpful.



**Mr. Justice Arun Monga**  
*Judge in Punjab & Haryana High Court  
Guests of Honor, 2<sup>nd</sup> SEE Summit*

## Important Facets of Speech:

**Mr. Justice Arun Monga**, Judge, Punjab and Haryana High Court appreciated introduction of Environment Oath by SRC and spoke of the duty towards Environment & nature and said that one must act as soldier to promote sustainable environment and to make this as a solemn oath, one must realize to respect nature, not to play with it and must become subservient to the nature. He added that it is not a fight between humans and nature, it is fight between sustainable development and mitigation of climate change and how we can achieve it. He concluded by quoting that the fundamental rule is sustainable development which is possible only by sustainable energy. At last, he complimented and commented Adv. Vivek Narayan Sharma and SRC for the cause.



**Shri Ved Prakash**

*General Manager to Dedicated Freight  
Corridor Corporation of India  
Guests of Honor, 2<sup>nd</sup> SEE Summit*

## Important Facets of Speech:

**Shri Ved Prakash** connected with the people through diverting focus towards transport having impact on the environment. He told about the golden quadrilateral project connecting all the four major metropolitan cities i.e., Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Calcutta. He stated that all these four cities are highly congested having 16% of the rail network which is used to carry 58% of the freight volume and 52% of the passenger volume. While for the same cities, corridor of national highway it comprises of only 0.4% of freight and 40% of the traffic. And this background has caused the development of the freight corridor.

The difference between rail and freight corridor is its designed feature. It will be able to carry high wagons and each wagon can carry more weight of around 20 tons more. Average speed will be higher than the rail and highway speed. Further, signal and system will be at 2 km each.

Hence, freight corridors will be supporting towards sustainable environment.



**Shri Baijayant Panda**  
National Vice President and  
spokesperson of the  
Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP)  
Guests of Honor, 2<sup>nd</sup> SEE Summit

**Shri Baijayant Panda** is an Indian politician. He is the National Vice President and spokesperson of the Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP). He was a Member of Parliament in the 15th and 16th Lok Sabha from Kendrapara. He was also a Member of Parliament in the Rajya Sabha for two terms from 2000 to 2009. In 2019, his debut book *Lutyens's Maverick* was released in Delhi. It is a collection of Op-Eds and columns that he has been writing since 2009 for major national media outlets including Times of India.

## Important Facets of Speech:

**Shri Baijayant Panda** stated that we as an individual can ourselves contribute to environment. Through his experience of 19 years, he shared being Member of Parliament where he represented East Coast of India, the place had experienced immense damage due to environmental concerns and increasing carbon footprints resulting in erosion of coastline and river banks that in turn caused many villages to get washed away and displacing thousands of people. The huge cost that has to be borne by the government as well as the displaced people for relocating themselves and finding new livelihood. He further went on to state that even after experiencing such hardships, these very same people continue to follow the same traditional method of livelihood that contribute to environmental damage.

He mentioned about electricity which until a few years back was not available to everyone, but the situation has changed a lot. He also mentioned that renewable energy was not economical in comparison to traditional form of energy that is based on coal and is cheaper. Hence, people were able to afford these that has caused much damage to environment which is the dichotomy we face. These are the very same people that are facing displacement due to environmental reasons and are not ready to accept the fact and change their way of life.

Despite these difficulties, India has taken up the challenge and had made huge contribution to conservation of environment by commitment to renewable energy which has had two impacts. Firstly, we are the fourth or fifth largest producer of solar energy in the whole world and secondly on an incremental basis per year, India is now either the largest or the second largest in terms of adding new solar energy capacity every year in the world. This has led to a huge shift of energy consumption where renewable energy is replacing traditional fossil adding to positive impact on the environment. Initially about 10-12 years ago as per the purchase agreements with solar projects, renewable energy used to be in the range of 15-18 rupees per unit, but now due to many changes and improved technology, it has come down to less than two and half rupees per unit and in fact it has now started going below the cost of coal and other fossil and fuel. He defines this phenomenon as grid parity and due to the tough policy decisions taken over the past few years, we have been able to reach this level and it's a trajectory that would continue.

# Conclusion

The second edition of sustainable environment and energy summit 2020 was a successful event, keeping covid-19 situation in mind all the necessary precautions were taken on priority basis on maintaining social distancing, with proper availability of hand sanitizers for all the present members.

Understanding the need of the hour, having sustainable environment is must for securing the lives of the future generation, with all the eminent speakers on the dice, each speaker drew attention towards the current condition of the world that results in depletion in context of environmental issues, as the world is ahead in terms of development in technology sector that ignores the loss of the environment. Pollution, climate change, deforestation etc. are not just one country's problem but a global issue that can only be protected when the world comes together to bring a change in rising issues. The speakers also highlighted the actions taken towards protection of the environment but also confronted the lack in implementation.

Every individual's contribution can lead the way to cure the world, by giving time to care for the nature, being sensitive towards it as not being a contributor in causing harm to the environment.

The summit was ended on a warm note by Mr. Vivek Narayan Sharma on saving the planet through each individual being sustainable to contribute to the world for better environment, bringing new possibilities for the country to be more concerned about the Mother Earth.

# Some Suggestions by SRC

---

- The world is all about energies and vibrations, every thought of an individual contributes to the vibrations of the world and become the destiny, so if every individual collectively creates a positive thought for the mother earth, it would reach faster to turn the laws which were not followed earlier to proper implementation of it. As all the ways failed, experimenting with spiritual energies can create new possibilities.
- Production and development of logistics for electric 4-wheeled vehicles should be promoted by the Government through PLI (production linked incentives) Schemes.
- India has world's largest Thorium reserve. Nuclear energy through Thorium is much cleaner and safer than Uranium, so the necessary technological shift from Thorium to Uranium should be fast tracked by the Government.
- People should be promoted to plant and maintain at least one plant sapling every month. This way, each individual could pave the way for the nation to become net carbon neutral.
- Recently, road construction using recycled plastic has been successfully demonstrated at various places across India. This should be further studied and implemented on a pan-India scale to recycle waste plastic for essential infrastructure.
- Achieving access to nutritional food and clean water for all, while protecting the biosphere and the oceans, requires more efficient and sustainable food systems – for example by increasing agricultural productivity and reducing meat consumption.
- Smart cities: Transforming our settlement patterns will benefit the world population and the environment– such as through 'smart' infrastructure, decent housing and high connectivity.
- Digital revolution: Science, technology, and innovation need to support sustainable development. Much depends on the way the world will put the Information Technology revolution to use – continuing present trends or inverting them by asserting societal control over them.
- For sustainable environment the number of vehicles that run on road on daily basis should be reduced. Such measures should be adopted which will be fruitful for nature and for humans also. This will lead to huge change in the environment by reducing pollution.
- For sustainable environment, everyone should join hands together and help in achieving certain goals. This could be done by planting more trees, reducing vehicles, less burning of agriculture residue, proper management of garbage that is being collected on a large scale every day, and by inculcating environmental sustainability into everyone's consciousness.

# Highlights 2020





# Highlights 2019





