



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (IISD), BHUBANESWAR

Press Release

PROCEEDINGS OF MEETING HELD ON 8th August, 2007 for

LAUNCHING OF EASTERN REGIONAL BRANCH OF INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (IISD) AT BHUBANESWAR, Orissa

Eastern regional branch of Indian Institute of Sustainable Development (IISD), was launched in a colourful public function in an auspicious evening at Hotel Swosti Plaza, Bhubaneswar on 08.08.2007 at 06.00 PM; where Sri S. N. Patro, Hon'ble Minister, Energy, IT and Culture; graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Sri Sahadeb Sahu, Former Chief Secretary, presided over the function. Prof. Fani Bhusan Das, Former Commissioner-cum-Secretary, H&UD Dept, Govt. of Orissa, Dr. Niranjan Panda, Western Orissa Development Council, Sr. B. Mallick, Former Joint Secretary, Home Affairs, Govt. of India graced the occasion as Guests of Honour. The meeting was attended by the Senior Govt. Officials, Industrial Authorities, Dignitaries from Academia and Research, Press Personalities from Audio Visual and Print Media, Reporters, NGOs etc.

At the beginning, Dr. Srikanta K. Panigrahi, Member Board of Trustee, IISD, New Delhi briefed the overall background and goal of the institute. He further expressed that the regional branch at Bhubaneswar shall be actively involved in devising sustainable development of the State of Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhatisgarh, West Bengal, Assam, Sikkim and North East States; through technology enhancement and shall be developed as a **Knowledge Centre** to meet the local needs. Dr. Panigrahi announced the names of the persons, who have expressed their interest to work as honorary officials and advisors of the eastern regional branch of IISD and emphasized on the principle of Business model, in which this regional branch will operate.

Sir Archak Pattnaik, Director (Technical) IISD, made a detailed presentation on activities, scope and vision of IISD. He emphasized on development of expertise in

various issues, which can provide solution to environmental implications of developmental projects. The institute shall be immensely helpful to the State Govt., industrial houses, Developers, NGOs etc; involving all the major stakeholders from different walk of life. He focused on the proposed activities at regional branch at Bhubaneswar.

Hon'ble Chief Guest, Guests of Honour, and President lauded the effort of IISD for launching the regional branch at Bhubaneswar, which was the need of the state. They expressed their confidence on the institute in advising the concerned for making a balance between development and environment. They also assured all necessary support to the institute.

There was a deep interactions with the media and the people of the evening, with Dr Srikanta K. Panigrahi; who very pro-actively answered queries of the media person and sought everyone's help to develop the institute at Bhubaneswar as an Centre of Excellence; creating an historic example of it's kind for time to come.

The meeting ended with mass recitation of National Anthem.

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