Quotes from previous Summits

Business as usual can lead us to catastrophe. It is important to think differently through different instruments, whether it is technological change, policy change, change in attitude, optimum usages of resources so that challenges are converted to opportunities.

Mr. Suresh P Prabhu, Union Minister for Railways, Government of India

Decision are in, delays are out. If no decisions are taken one cannot grow, and if you don’t grow you can’t achieve sustainable development targets. Companies and governments need to take decisions while balancing both sustainability and growth.

Mr. Prakash Javadekar, Minister of State for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India

We are still struggling to create a basic infrastructure which could be adaptable to be incorporating what is latest in the world to make it smart. The government in power has identified developing smart cities as part of its agenda.

Mr. Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Minister of State (I/C) for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs

Integrated Reporting is the next step in the evolution of reporting and that it marks a fundamental change in the way corporates communicate with their stakeholders.

Mr. U K Sinha, Chairman, Securities and Exchange Board of India

Research is overwhelmingly pointing in the direction today that says you can actually grow, and you can grow green at the same time. If we improve resources efficiency, we will not grow better and live better.

Dr. Andrew Steer, President and CEO, World Resources Institute

We live in a century where physical borders mean less and less; where companies are larger than governments; and where we are constantly bombarded with a call for increased transparency.

Mr. Paul Druckman, CEO, The International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC)
CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development celebrates the tenth year of its annual Sustainability Summit on 15-16 September in New Delhi. The 10th Sustainability Summit will be an exclusive event to present sustainability solutions, best practices, enhance learning experiences and develop partnerships to position innovative ideas into action.

The annual Sustainability Summit will continue its legacy by bringing together distinguished speakers and sustainability leaders from across the globe, national and international CEOs, ministers and bureaucrats who will provide intellectual insights through solutions that will create tangible and realistic steps for a transition towards sustainable and thriving future.

The year 2015 brings the world together to embark on new pathways to combat climate change and take steps towards global sustainability. The high-level negotiations in this year can reshape the global development agenda and put the world on a course towards sustainable and inclusive growth. In this perspective, the Summit aspires to create a progressive dialogue between Businesses and Government on ‘Road to & beyond Paris’ with the vision for a clean and sustainable world.
Focus Areas

Road to Paris 2015
In few months, 196 countries will gather in Paris to secure a legally binding, global climate agreement with emission reduction commitments for the first time ever. A strong agreement at COP21 will make significant contribution to the collective response to climate change by helping governments articulate climate-sound development policies. It will provide a clear signal to businesses, to guide investments towards low carbon outcomes. This will in turn benefit the natural environment, preventing degradation of ecosystems, protecting biodiversity, eliminating poverty, improving health and quality of life. The session will focus on Business-Government dialogue on ‘Road to & beyond Paris’ and develop solutions for a sustainable future.

Smart Cities: Transforming Life, Transforming India
Cities, particularly in the developing world, face numerous challenges in responding to the growing demands of urban population. Increasingly being recognised as the only place for ‘opportunities’, cities invite more and more people that results in consuming huge amount of energy, heavy transport usage, create more unnatural space by destroying natural ecosystems, and emit a lot of greenhouse gases. In India, cities are under pressure to cope with the delivery of urban services, and to ensure a minimum quality of life to their residents. Housing, a basic human need, is an important pillar for smart cities in India. There is an urgent need to develop a framework encouraging large scale development of houses, especially for affordable houses. Significant investments are required to develop the requisite physical and social infrastructure to address the challenges of better living and drive economic growth. The session will discuss the process of efficient implementation of smart city initiatives in India through experiences and solution from government and industry networks.

The Value and Economic Benefits of Biodiversity
Biodiversity provides critical life-support functions and services to society, including food, clean water, genetic resources, flood protection, nutrient cycling and climate regulation, and many others. These services in turn are essential to human health, security, and economic growth. Yet despite the significant economic, social and cultural benefits provided by biodiversity and ecosystem services, global biodiversity continues to decline. Given that the costs of inaction are in many cases considerable, there is an urgent need for both: a broader and more ambitious application of policies and incentives to mobilize finance for biodiversity and ecosystem service conservation and sustainable use; and a more efficient use of existing financial resources for biodiversity. As a megadiverse country, India set itself very ambitious National Biodiversity Targets. However, India’s biodiversity faces a variety of threats, ranging from land use changes in natural habitats to overexploitation of natural resources, proliferation of invasive species and climate change. This session will explore the larger picture of the value and benefits of biodiversity and ecosystem services. It will particularly look at these benefits from an economic point of view and showcase how economy as a whole benefits from the services provided by ecosystems. This will be evident by illustrating the economic risks and costs associated with biodiversity loss and destruction of ecosystems.
Focus Areas

Next 10 Years of Sustainable Business in India

India plays strategic role in world’s transformation to a sustainable, low-carbon path that will mitigate climate change impacts, improve human health, and foster prosperity for all. India can build shared prosperity for its 1.25 billion citizens by changing the way the business creates value. As we approach towards a milestone for global climate action and development agenda, the country is tackling existing challenges in energy access, water security, infrastructure, agriculture productivity, disaster resilience, pollution control, integrated with financial and social development. In this context, we call upon Captains of Indian Industry to focus on the future of Sustainable and Inclusive India in next 10 years; a decade that would reshape, redefine and reboot India.

Electric Vehicles: Changing the Future of Sustainable Mobility

Urban transport planning in India has to address numerous challenges of deteriorating air quality, rising greenhouse gas emissions, and adverse rising energy security risks. There is an increasing consensus that additional measures will be required to mitigate the adverse impacts of transport in India. Electric vehicles (EVs) offer alternate mobility options that can help to redress these adverse impacts. The Government recognizes the urgency to look at sustainable mobility solutions reducing emissions from on road vehicles, improving mass transport and shift to alternative technologies like electric vehicles. The National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP 2020) was announced to incentivize use and production of electric vehicles in India. Though the electric vehicle market in India is still at a nascent stage however technology and battery advancements are making EVs more attractive to consumers due to increasing convenience and affordability. In long term EVs is likely to play a significant role in low carbon transition of India and facilitate the increase in renewable energy share in the electricity sector. This session will focus on how EVs can be the part of the larger sustainable transport solutions in order to catalyze the transition from a fossil-fuel dependent culture to a more sustainable transportation model.
Focus Areas

**Water for Life**

Water pollution is a serious problem in India as almost 70 per cent of its surface water resources and a growing percentage of its groundwater reserves are contaminated by biological, toxic, organic, and inorganic pollutants. In many cases, these sources have been rendered unsafe for human consumption as well as for irrigation and industrial needs. The degraded water quality can contribute to water scarcity as it limits its availability for both human use and for the ecosystem. It is projected that India will reach a 'water stressed' situation in next 50 years with far reaching consequences. As a result there is an urgency to conserve and utilize the limited availability of water resources in an optimum and efficient manner. The Government of India has set up a mission to ensure water security by 2025 and has embarked upon an ambitious programme of irrigation development, river rejuvenation and reducing pollution loads to revitalize and restore the sanctity of our rivers and water courses. The session will focus on how businesses and government can conserve this resource in an integrated manner.

**Fair and Equitable Sourcing in Reputation Economy**

Fair and equitable sourcing entails sustainable use of natural ingredients, while ensuring that all contributors along the supply chain are paid fair prices and share the benefits derived from the use of biodiversity. On the one hand, Indian bio-resource based companies are obliged to comply with access and benefit sharing (ABS) regulation set out by the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA). On the other hand, fair and equitable sourcing offers companies opportunities for market differentiation along with consumer trust and loyalty. This session explores the nexus between fair and equitable sourcing and enhanced brand reputation. Although from a low base, biodiversity awareness in India has grown significantly between 2012 and 2015. 50% of Indians agree completely that it is important for companies to have policies that respect biodiversity when sourcing natural ingredients used in their products. Being a party to Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, India is implementing the protocol through the Biological Diversity Act at the national level. The consumers' pull factor and push from the government are ushering a new era for corporates to rethink their sourcing strategies.

**SDGs & Post 2015 Development Agenda**

With the MDGs concluding at the end of 2015, world leaders have called for an ambitious, long-term agenda to improve people’s lives and protect the planet for future generations. The United Nations is in the process of defining a post-2015 development agenda which are a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be launched at a special Summit in September. The SDGs reaffirm the need to achieve sustainability solutions by promoting economic development, social inclusion, environmental sustainability, and good governance including peace and security. This is an opportunity for an emerging economy like India to shape the global sustainability agenda. Along with other stakeholders, businesses are also positioning themselves to support the implementation of the agenda through responsible business action. The session will highlight the role of government and businesses in advancing and achieving the SDGs.
**Focus Areas**

**Special Plenary – Decade of Managing Sustainability**

A decade ago ITC and CII envisioned creating a Centre of Excellence that would build capabilities of businesses in India on sustainability and also build the ecosystem necessary for sustainable businesses to thrive. At the time, for businesses that were accustomed to control regimes and were almost isolated from global economy, sustainable development seemed esoteric and lacked business imperative. Since then, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development (CESD) has been working to enable the Indian businesses to be sustainable. The Centre has catalyzed evolution of ecosystems from primary environmental compliance norms and siloed business systems to adoption and implementation of world-class Sustainability Management Frameworks. Through advisory and capacity building services the Centre has enabled many organizations to realise their sustainability goals. This session will focus on evolution of sustainability practices in businesses in India via the journey of the Centre in its first decade, 2006-2015. The session will begin with the release of the publication "Decade of Managing Sustainability: Success stories from 2006-2015" followed by industry leaders sharing their best practices and their experience of engagement with the Centre.

**Sustainable Agricultural Development in Punjab**

The agricultural economy of the state of Punjab is on high growth path since the Green Revolution in 1960’s. It is the largest contributor to Central Pool of rice and wheat. Agriculture and livestock rearing are the main source of livelihood to the rural population. It has also brought prosperity to rural Punjab. In recent times, however, some disturbing trends have emerged. Over dependence on wheat & rice and intensive use of farm land with about 200% cropping intensity have led to the over exploitation of natural resources like soil and ground water. Excessive use of chemical fertilisers have reduced soil fertility, over use of ground water has dried the aquifers (alarming fall in ground water table), chemical fertilisers and pesticides have played havoc with the environment and human health. Agriculture in Punjab has become not only unsustainable but economically unviable under these circumstances. No other state in India is facing sustainability issues as does Punjab today. To face this challenge, Punjab needs a new model of agriculture based on the principles of natural resource regeneration. These issues can be addressed with concerted efforts of the Government, Banks, Line Departments, Grassroot level functionaries and the Farming community. In this context, NABARD in the region, aims to promote sustainable and equitable agriculture and ensure rural prosperity through effective credit support, related services, institution development and other innovative initiatives. NABARD is the sole National Implementing Entity (NIE) for UNFCCC’s Adaptation Fund and Green Climate Fund. This session as part of the 10th Sustainability Summit aims to discuss agricultural sustainability in Punjab thereby focusing on the solutions in increasing productivity, threat to food security and preventing depletion of natural resources.
This is an opportunity for sponsors to demonstrate their commitment towards sustainability and capitalize on the emerging prospects of the organization among the leaders in sustainable development by being a partner to the 10th Sustainability Summit. Sponsoring the summit will increase your company’s brand loyalty, create awareness about your products or services; you also benefit from a meaningful recognition and valuable networking opportunities. Your support helps us underwrite costs to make it affordable and accessible to all who wish to attend. Sponsor the Summit and be a part of the Sustainability movement.

Our team will be happy to work with you to determine which sponsorship best ties into your sustainability objectives, and will develop the most suitable package. Sponsorship categories are listed below:

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Register now

Register now, and join more than 4000 of your peers who have participated in the previous editions of the Sustainability Summit for interactive learning and networking.

As in the previous years, the **10th Sustainability Summit** will attract participants from Academia, Financial Institutions, Civil society, Consultants, Corporates- large, medium and small categories, Development & Multilateral Agencies, Environmentalists and CSR professionals, Central & State Governments - policy makers and regulators, Infrastructure developers and users, Media, Research Institutes, Technocrats, Investors, Venture Capitalist and many more from India and abroad.

Please use the enclosed **Reply Form** to register for the **10th Sustainability Summit**.
Please send the completed reply form along with the fee to:

Banajyotsna Baruah / Harneet Behl
CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development
Unit No 101 & 102, 1st Floor, Sewa Corporate Park, M G Road, Gurgaon – 122001
Tel.: +91 124 434 6376, Fax: +91 11 4150 1924
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About us

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) works to create and sustain an environment conducive to the development of India, partnering industry, Government, and civil society, through advisory and consultative processes.

CII is a non-government, not-for-profit, industry-led and industry-managed organisation, playing a proactive role in India's development process. Founded in 1895, India's premier business association has over 7400 members, from the private as well as public sectors, including SMEs and MNCs, and an indirect membership of over 100,000 enterprises from around 250 national and regional sectoral industry bodies.

A pioneering effort by CII, the CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development is an institution that creates a conducive, enabling climate for Indian businesses to pursue sustainability goals. It creates awareness, promotes thought leadership, and builds capacity to achieve sustainability across a broad spectrum of issues. The Centre is the fountainhead of ideas and practices to promote sustainability. It enables Indian businesses become sustainable, and channels the potential of Indian industry to power India’s agenda for inclusive growth and sustainable development.
For further information please contact:

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