



Charity Begins at Home and Energy Efficiency begins at Campus

Satara/Pune, India -30 May /1 June 2013, College campuses are the crucibles in which precious metals called ‘ youth’ are molded. Injecting the best practices of making the campuses energy efficient is like adding the knowledge-value to such molds. TERRE Policy Centre forged the partnership between Scholars from Princeton University –USA and the campuses in India at Pune and Satara in India to promote such best practices.

A group of seven scholars from Princeton Energy and Climate Scholars interacted in one-day seminar each at College of Engineering Pune (COEP), one of the top twenty engineering colleges in India and at Yashwantrao Chavan Institute of Science (YCIS) Satara, an emerging center of inclusive learning in rural India.

COEP held this interactive event as the first of its activities of their smart grid project for the campus, supported by the World Bank and decided to continue the interaction with Princeton in coming years to reduce the consumption of its electricity with phased pre-decided targets. YCIS presented its plans to reduce its electricity consumption in fifty high schools in rural Maharashtra along with its own campus in Satara. It also agreed to hold annual interactions in Satara and Princeton.

The seminars included the exchange experiences in efforts to make campuses energy efficient and sustainable. The Princeton Scholars and Researchers and faculty from COEP and YCIS presented on this occasion the cutting edge research papers on energy, climate change and environmental issues.

In his video message, **Robert H. Socolow, Professor**, Princeton University and **Director, Climate and Energy Challenge, Princeton Environmental Institute** stated that the partnership between Indian campuses and Princeton is win-win opportunity and that he has great faith in the potential of young Indian students who could make difference in facing a challenge of energy and climate

“Colleges are ‘learning’ as well as ‘earning’ centers. Learning comes by doing and earning comes by saving the electricity and by skill building so that the young students could be gainfully employed to make energy efficient India,” said **Rajendra Shende, Chairman of TERRE and former Director, UNEP**.

Mr. Saurabh Kumar, Managing Director of Energy Efficient Services Ltd (EESL), a joint venture of Ministry of Power of India, while lauding the initiative stated that EESL would “lend full support for its replication across the length and breadth of the nation”. **Prof A. Sahasrabudhe, Director COEP** in his inaugural speech urged for continued

exchanges under Partnership with Princeton University scholars and said, “ students and faculty of COEP are encouraged with this launch that has potential to make real difference for the environment and economics of India”.

Dr. A Burungule, Secretary and Principal of YCIS said, “ Such projects are significant progression in making the school campus energy efficient and inculcate in students the tenets of energy efficiency.”

Contact:

TERRE Policy Centre, Vinita Apte, aptev@gmail.com,
www.terrepolicycentre.org

TERRE Policy Centre

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