

Global Summit on Environment Concludes at Talkatora Stadium in Delhi

Indian Ministers Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Mr Arjun Ram Meghwal and Mr Haribhai Chaudhary addressed different sessions of the Summit

10 Feb, NEW DELHI: The Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya, in collaboration with the Union Ministry of Science and Technology, organised a day-long Global Summit on Science, Spirituality, Education and Environment at Talkatora Stadium here today.

Inaugurating the summit, **Hon'ble Minister of State for Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs Arjun Ram Meghwal** said he could tell by experience that spirituality was a science that was capable of making things happen. To reach others through the power of vibrations was definitely science, he said.

Dr. Harshvardhan, Union Minister for Science and Technology, Earth Sciences, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, said that India had made great progress in all spheres of science and technology.

To develop environmental-friendly values, both science and spirituality work together. We must do small good deeds and adopt green good behaviour and green good social practices, he said. He also said that India's original sanskar is selfless karma yoga, and humanity is the true religion. The five eternal powers of truth, honesty, love and compassion, good karma, and God's power lead us towards success.

Padmashri Dr. Sharad Kale, former Head of Technology Transfer and Collaboration at Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai, said that spirituality is a science of interplay between the spirit and matter. The world is a family, he said, and so we need to keep it clean by first achieving cleanliness at our homes, and for that the practice of spirituality was imperative. He urged the gathering to adopt a sustainable and environment-friendly lifestyle, stop using plastics, plant trees, avoid wasting food, and aim for zero waste per household.

Mr. Haribhai Parthibhai Chaudhary, Union Minister of State for Coal and Mines, said that despite a spurt in spiritual channels, there was no decline in crime rate and corruption because little attempt was made to implement the words of wisdom in practical life.

Mr. Ernesto Castellanos, Business Analyst & Economist from Mexico, said that to fight corruption the world over, there was need for ethical leadership that practised values and led by example. "We don't need books on values. We need living examples," he said.

Vice Admiral Satish Ghormade, DG, Indian Naval Operations, said that as a person working in the field of defence, he felt it was important to first secure our own mind, and to be at peace. He said Rajyoga meditation taught by the Brahma

Kumaris was a good blend of science and spirituality. It created a treasure of values for use in everyday life.

Rajyogi BK Mruthyunjaya, Chairperson of the Brahma Kumaris' Education Wing, said that there was a need to create the right balance between science as a tool and spirituality as its master. This could be achieved by practising core values and meditation. To be free of waste thoughts is one of the key teachings at the Brahma Kumaris, he said.

Addressing the mid-day Open Session of the Summit, **Professor E.V. Swaminathan, Corporate Trainer and Counsellor**, said that many researches presented at the United Nations have pointed out that the consumption of non-vegetarian diet has created more pollution on the planet than the combined pollution from industrial and vehicular emissions. He urged the gathering to adopt a vegetarian, simple and positive lifestyle that was in alliance with nature.

Brother Golo J. Pilz, Head of 'India One' Solar Thermal Power Project of the Brahma Kumaris, said that the BK organisation is one of the most experienced users of solar cooking systems. Today 35,000 meals are prepared every day at its Mount Abu headquarters using the power of sun. He said that though science was very clear about stating the upcoming disasters of climate change, people and governments were unwilling to change their lifestyle. "Any change we make has to come from an inner change. We must respect life, walk our talk and eat well," he said.

Dr. Mohit Gupta, Cardiologist, GB Pant Hospital, New Delhi, said that merely holding conferences and summits was not enough to create a positive change in the world. Unless we elevate our thoughts and put those in practice, our talks would remain hollow. To achieve a green world, we must sow good thoughts, he said.

Rajyogini BK Shukla, chief coordinator of the event, said that without purity of mind, honesty of heart and cleanliness of intention, there could be no peace, progress, health, harmony and happiness at human, societal and environmental spheres.

Grammy Award Winner and environment activist Mr. Ricky Kez and his band presented a colourful and touching concert that brought together both music and nature. **Violinist Ms. Ayako Ichimaru** from Japan also enthralled the audience with uplifting music.

Rajyogini BK Pushpa led the gathering into a meditation experience.

