



TERI opens Nordic Centre at University of Eastern Finland

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) launched its fourth European centre – the Nordic office at Joensuu campus of the University of Eastern Finland on December 3rd, 2012. The Office will promote collaborative activities with organisations in the Nordic region on issues related to sustainable forestry, bio-economy, and renewable energy.

December 7th, 2012, New Delhi: The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) inaugurated its Nordic office at the Joensuu campus of the University of Eastern Finland earlier this week. Present at the ceremony were the Indian Ambassador to Finland, H.E. Ambassador Manickam; Dr. R. K. Pachauri, Director General of TERI; Director of the University Board, Dr. Elli Aaltonen; Director of the Finnish Forest Development Centre TAPIO, Dr. Ritva Toivonen; University Rector, Dr. Perttu Vartiainen; and Prof. Liisa Tahvanainen. Attending via video were Dr. Tarja Cronberg, Member of the European Parliament, and Dr. Pekka Hallberg, Chair of the University Advisory Board, former President of the Finnish Supreme Administrative Court, and Chair of the Koli Forum.

Dr R. K. Pachauri, awarded the Order of the White Rose of Finland in 2010, discussed the reason behind the selection of Joensuu as the location for TERI's Nordic office, saying, "The University of Eastern Finland is a significant institution with broad-based expertise and innovative approaches to bio raw materials and biomass-based solutions". He also added, "Furthermore, the presence of other organisations also carrying out scientific research in the field in Joensuu is important to TERI." Earlier this year, the University had nominated Dr. R. K. Pachauri as its first ever Honorary Professor.

Potential projects and collaborative activities were discussed at the inauguration ceremony, with members of the Finnish industry expressing their eagerness to establish collaboration with TERI and India. Finnish experts in the field of Forestry can provide immense technical support to India, specifically in the areas of bio-resource management, bio-economic innovation, sustainable forestry and utilisation of different renewable energy sources for power generation. The potential for foreign student and professor exchange programmes was also explored. While TERI's research on climate change and related issues is on a global scale, TERI Nordic will focus on the challenges of the boreal and arctic areas, but will also take a global approach to issues related to sustainable forestry, bio-economy, and renewable energy.

The fourth international office to be opened in Europe, TERI Nordic at Joensuu will provide immense potential and opportunities for cooperation and collaboration with various organisations and companies in the Nordic region.

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