

LWSIT wins Earth Care Award 2014

It is with great pleasure and humility we would like to inform you that **Lutheran World Service India Trust have won Earth Care Award 2014.**

A brief overview of Earth Care Award - The Earth Care Awards seeks to identify and foster actions across several sectors with special reference to mitigation and adaptation imperatives related to climate change.

Lutheran World Service India Trust along with ENDEV have won Earth Care Award 2014 awarded by JSW, a leading corporate & The Times of India, most widely circulated Newspaper in India, for Community based Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change: Water Resources, Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry.

The award is open to the Non- Government Organizations, industrial establishments and other corporate houses for their work of excellence in the field of climate change adaptation and mitigation and open to all SAARC countries.

For this year's award, 106 nominations were made and after rigorous process of studying of documents, field visits for interviews and documentation by the expert agency Center for Environmental Education and series of analyses by an expert Jury board, LWSIT and ENDEV, another research based institution, received the award for the synergy through partnership for the community based category.

The award was for promoting and storing salt tolerant rice varieties in the project area of South 24 Parganas district in West Bengal, which is criss crossed by riverines and susceptible to massive flood and cyclone. LWSIT also promotes land development through CBOs to deal with the problems of salinity and water availability in the area along with mangrove plantation with active participation and involvement from the communities.

Dr. Subhash Chandra Garai, Program Manager of LWSIT, travelled to Mumbai (the travel expenditure was borne by the organising agency) to receive the award on behalf of LWSIT, which included a trophy, a citation and a cash award of INR 150,000.

Honour For India's Green Heroes

Earth Care Awards Bring Recognition To Community Groups & Corporate Houses That Show Eco Initiative

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

In May 2009, cyclone Aila hit the Sunderbans, a delta in the Bay of Bengal consisting of 102 islands, sheltered from the sea by mangroves and embankments. In a day, the cyclone washed away 1,300 embankments, killing about 300 people and rendering many homeless. One of its consequences was increased salinity of the soil, which could no longer support paddy. "It occurred to me that a 100 years ago, people lived in this area but these embankments weren't there," said A K Ghosh, president of ENDEV (Society for Environment and Development), "so what did they eat?"

On Wednesday, at the fifth edition of the Earth Care Awards instituted by JSW Foundation and The Times of India, ENDEV and Lutheran World Service India Trust (LWSIT) received the 'Community-based Mitigation

and Adaptation to Climate Change' award for tracing indigenous, salt-tolerant rice varieties and developing seed banks so the community would be more resilient to natural disasters. "Farmers now have 2,000kg of seeds from the initial 10kg," said Ghosh.

The Centre for Environment Education (CEE) was the knowledge partner for the awards, and the TERRE Policy Centre was the outreach partner. The awards ceremony was held at the JSW Centre, which has LEED Platinum Certification, the highest possible green rating. The jury included McKinsey's Rajat Gupta, retired civil servant Shailaja Chandra, Prof. MS Swaminathan, chairman of the MS Swaminathan Research Foundation, Dr William Dar, director general of the International

the Semi-Arid-Tropics (ICRISAT), Kartikeya Sarabhai, director of the Centre for Environment Education, TERRE Policy Centre's chairperson Rajendra Shende, Pradip Shah, the chairman of IndiaAsia Fund Advisors and the Centre for Development Studies director, Aneeta Benninger.

During the ceremony, chief guest Dr R K Pachauri said, "The scientific community can give you a detailed assessment of climate change but what is far more compelling is to have those implementing measures tell us about their

expired Cadbury chocolates, Nivea Cream, broken tyres and industrial waste, which are burnt as fuel in the manufacture of clinker (a cement intermediate) by Kymore Cement Works, ACC Ltd, which won the award for 'Green House Gases Emission Reduction in Industry.' "The use of alternate fuel and raw material has resulted in a 4% reduction in the use of coal energy," said S C Chaudhary, Kymore's senior general manager, plant operations, adding that the plant harvests rainwater in old pine

The plant has cut down 4 units of electrical energy per tonne of cement by improving their equipment and replacing inefficient motors.

Tata Consultancy Services won an award in the same category as ACC for creating green office infrastructure, procuring renewable energy sources and reducing its carbon footprint by 34% in 2007-2008 and 26% in 2009.

Farmland Rainwater Harvesting Systems, which developed a 'V-Wire injection well' technology for runoff rainwater harvesting and recharge in Karnataka, won the 'Innovations for Climate Protection' award.

By decentralising water man-

mentally-friendly way of dissolving caste barriers. They won an award for 'Community-based Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change.'

"A typical drinking water system in a village involves an underground bore-well, from which water is pumped to overhead tanks and then goes to public water-taps. The dominant caste would control the water, and switch the pump on at times convenient to them, and not to Dalit labourers," said Apoorva Oza, CEO, AKRSP. "But in the systems we worked on, water from the bore-well goes to underground storage tanks servicing around 25 households."



(Left) Award winners with the jury members; (above) Sangita Jindal, chairperson, JSW Foundation, with chief guest Dr R K Pachauri

5th JSW - THE TIMES OF INDIA
EARTH CARE AWARDS-2014
 Edition Awards For Excellence In Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation



Paddy Power

ENDEV & Lutheran |
SUNDARBANS

The revival of salt-tolerant rice varieties in the vulnerable Sundarbans Delta Region by ENDEV—Society for Environment & Development and Lutheran World Service Trust. Their efforts to create community-level institutions such as seed banks for the conservation of these varieties have earned them the Earth Care Award. Today, farmers have 2,000kg of these seeds from the initial 10kg

CATEGORY 2

**GREEN HOUSE GASES
EMISSION REDUCTION**

CLIMATE PROTECTION

Water Recharge Farmland Rainwater Harvesting Systems

Their innovative 'V-Wire injection well' technology aids water recharge in arid regions and eliminates the need for tanker water, establishing new bore wells and the utilization of energy during the water extraction. Other benefits include the reduction of top soil loss, the checking of sea water ingress in the coastal areas, and the reduction of hardness and salinity in the groundwater source. FLRHS has done 5,000 such installations to date across the country

'India should turn to renewable sources of energy'

Dr Rajendra K Pachauri, chief guest at the Earth Care Awards, chairperson of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and director general of The Energy and Resources Institute, spoke to Anahita Mukherji on why India need not go down the same path as the developed world. Excerpts from an interview:



Should Western countries be forced to pay more attention to reducing carbon footprint than countries like India, as the developed world has contributed more towards damaging the environment?

The UN framework on climate change states the need for a common but differentiated responsibility that all countries need to undertake on climate

change. But I feel it is in the interest of countries like India not to follow the path of the developed world, and opt instead for energy security and lower levels of air pollution which would be

achieved through a different energy mix. There are economic benefits to using energy more efficiently. Instead of importing hydrocarbons and coal, it will be more efficient for India to use low carbon sources of energy and turn to renewable energy on a large scale. This does not compromise growth; it's just a different pattern of development.

You seek to bring corporates on board the battle against climate change. At a time when large corporates have backed think-tanks that fund climate change sceptics, why would they support sustainable development at the cost of business interests?

Lots of corporates have done outstanding work in conserving the

environment, which shows that such actions have co-benefits. Let's accept that corporates are a part of society and if climate change has a major negative impact on society at large, they will also be affected by it. Rational thinking, reflection and use of knowledge and science will prove the need for corporates to take climate change seriously.

How can one hold businesses accountable for their impact on the environment?

Business has a crucial role to play in dealing with climate change. Enlightened government policy and the right regulatory mechanisms can hold the corporate sector accountable.

“ This award is quite an achievement for Kymore Cement Works, ACC Limited. The team has done a good job on the front of energy, environment, community and resource conservation. This is a good initiative by JSW and The Times of India to improve the environment performance of the whole industry



Subhash Chandra Chaudhary | ACC
KYMORE CEMENT WORKS

“ The JSW-TOI awards are one of the most important initiatives today because caring for the earth is the responsibility of all Indian citizens. If we don't care for the earth, we are heading towards extinction



Dr Subhas Chandra Garai |
LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICES TRUST

“ It is good to see that field work done in remote rural areas gets recognized in our urban-centric world. Also, it reinforces our belief that community-centric work is the best way to help communities cope with the vagaries of climate change



Apoorva Oza | AGA KHAN RURAL
SUPPORT PROGRAMME

“ This Earth Care award is unique for us because in 2010, we received this award for our water-harvesting filter technology. Afterwards, we were able to expand our business nationwide and globally as this award, presented by JSW and The Times of India, is recognized both nationally and internationally



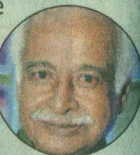
Michael Sadanand Baptist |
FARMLAND RAINWATER HARVESTING

“ We feel really honoured to get this award. It is an endorsement of our efforts over the past 7-8 years in the sphere of sustainability. This reaffirms our direction and the path we are taking towards climate change mitigation



Dr Aniruddha Agnihotri |
TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES

“ It is great to get this recognition from the organizations that have arranged this award. We do feel that this incentive will be very useful as the workers of the institution get recognized. This award is one of the major reasons why we can now scale up our operations in other coastal areas of West Bengal



Dr A K Ghosh | ENDEV (SOCIETY FOR
ENVIRONMENT & DEVELOPMENT)



...the use of water for cement production. India (AKRSP) hit on an