

प्रधान मंत्री Prime Minister <u>MESSAGE</u>

It is gladdening to learn about the organisation of 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum at Jaipur. An instance of multilateral cooperation, this coming together of various global and national organisations to deliberate upon issues that have a significant bearing on the future of humanity augurs well for the world.

The presence of global policy makers, administrators, public and private sector experts, research institutions, industry representatives and educational institutions will generate strategic policy inputs on how to firmly ingrain Circular Economy across sectors the world over.

With a focus on the Asia-Pacific region, the Forum will help member-countries in shaping policy initiatives and actions on 3R and the Circular Economy in the years to come. The presence of start-ups and businesses will lead to knowledge exchange and cooperation. Nurturing these partnerships will propel the growth towards a Circular Economy and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In India, Culture and Nature have had a deep link since ancient times and are inseparable. Circular Economy in fact, has been an integral part of our earliest traditions and culture. The three Rs – Reduce, Reuse and Recycle have been followed in every household for centuries. It is therefore, natural for India to enthusiastically work with the world in any endeavour towards sustainable development.

Today, India continues to leave behind a strong imprint as a trusted partner for the welfare of mankind. Our per capita carbon footprint is far lower than the global average because our lifestyle continues to be rooted in sustainable traditional practices. It is no coincidence that 40% of energy mix comes from non-fossil sources and we have attained Paris commitments years ahead of schedule.

However, green and clean energy are only the means to attain a goal. Our destination is a greener planet. It is for this reason that India follows and strongly advocates a P-3, or Pro Planet People approach.

For this reason, India has taken forward Mission LiFE or Lifestyle For Environment as a mass movement of environmentally conscious lifestyle, replacing mindless and destructive consumption with mindful and deliberate utilisation. It is such efforts that will help the world not just stay the course, but also help accelerate towards a resource-efficient Circular Economy.

As India marches ahead towards building a strong, developed nation by 2047, we are taking conscious decisions to boost high growth. We remain firmly committed to keep this growth clean, green and sustainable.

I am confident that the vibrant deliberations at the Forum will lead to practical outcomes and chart new pathways towards sustainable growth. India has always been more than willing to share its experiences and learnings in its journey towards Circular Economy.

As a knowledge platform and a hub of activity, this Forum will be a precursor to the World Circular Economy Forum being hosted in India next year.

May the deliberations at the 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum be highly successful and fruitful.

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(Narendra Modi)

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