

Press Release

High Level US delegation participates in a Biofuels Roundtable at TERI

Mr. John Mizroch, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, US Department of Energy meets TERI experts to explore ways to strengthen US India partnership in promoting clean energy.

New Delhi April 8, 2008: A High Level US delegation headed by Mr. John Mizroch, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, US Department of Energy (DOE) visited The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) for a round table conference "**New frontiers in Bio-Fuels: Opportunities for US-India partnership in Research, Development and Commercialization**". The purpose was to brainstorm on opportunities as well as barriers to building a stronger collaboration between US and India in the critical area biofuels and finally come out with action points to take this partnership further.

The objective of the US DOE delegation is to explore ways to strengthen US India partnership in promoting clean energy through sharing of technologies, tools, and best practices in the fields of bio-fuels, industrial energy efficiency, and green buildings. Apart from the Biofuels Roundtable at TERI, the delegation also discussed the possibilities of promoting Green Buildings and discussed the outcomes of several one-on-one meetings with industry and government representatives in India.

Mr. John Mizroch was briefed about TERI's work in area of biofuels, distributed generation and industrial energy efficiency. DOE is investing billions of dollars in research in these areas. Secretary Mizroch was very keen at the prospect of partnering with TERI for collaborative research. One opportunity would be collaborative research on Jathropha along with US department of Agriculture. He also showed interest to explore possibilities of working together on smart grids concept.

The roundtable was chaired by Mr. Ajit Gupta, Advisor & Head – UICA and Biofuel programme, Ministry of New and Renewable energy, India. Mr. Gupta while hoping that efforts such as these could reduce dependence on fossil fuels said, "*Both the Government of India and DOE, United States should collaborate and cooperate in the area of Biofuels as the market for biofuels is coming up and is rapidly accelerating.*" He was also hopeful of a MoU to be signed between both the countries on research, development and commercialization of biofuels, which would lead towards making the first generation of effective biofuel, replacing 10% of fuel consumption in the country.

The roundtable is a joint effort between TERI North America (NA), based in Washington DC; TERI - India, and US India Business Alliance (USIBA).

TERI NA's interest comes from its very mandate which is to build such clean energy partnerships between US and India. TERI-NA is a publicly supported, non-profit research organization incorporated in Washington, DC, USA. TERI-NA is by itself the

only Indian not-for-profit research institution with an established presence in North America. The genesis of TERI-NA is rooted in the realization that in the ever-changing global order, a greater convergence between the US and India on various strategic issues are bound to reflect themselves in the form of higher levels of cooperation on various issues of development. TERI NA is working towards strengthening US India partnership in promoting *an energy secure and environment friendly future* for both countries.

USIBA - US India Business Alliance is a trade association which aims at promoting bilateral growth of US and India based on shared values. TERI NA is working with USIBA to further the collaboration between US and India.

The delegation of the US Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy is visiting India between March 31 and April 9, 2008. The focus of the visit is to explore opportunities to foster collaboration between US and Indian organizations by sharing technologies, tools, and best practices in the fields of bio-fuels, industrial energy efficiency, and green buildings.

Media contact:

- Sophia Lonappan - Ph: 24682100, Extn. – 2202, 9891840309, sophial@teri.res.in,
- Rajiv Chhibber - Ph: 24682100, Extn. – 2234, 9810426698, rajivc@teri.res.in,
- Dalvinder Kaur - Ph: 24682100, Extn. – 2269, 9891377700, djkaur@teri.res.in,