

**Business Session on Green Economy**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2011; CII Headquarters, New Delhi**  
**Press Release**

**WE NEED GREEN & ECONOMY BOTH**  
**Expect Industry to take Leadership in Technology –Jairam**



“We have a great responsibility towards our growing population, we need to add 8-10 million jobs every year and ensure that the jobs are green. We also have to ensure environment conservation as livelihoods need to be preserved & enhanced” said **Mr. Jairam Ramesh, Minister of State (I/c) for Environment & Forests** at the CII Business Session on Building a Green Economy.

He defined Green Economy as one that protects & enhances the natural capital while meeting the economic imperatives. Mr. Ramesh remarked that those who think that Green Economy is an academic concept are making a mistake. He stated that India is the only country with unique multiple points of vulnerability and this underlines the need to make a transition to a Green economy. He called upon industry to take the leadership in technology as Indian entrepreneurs have the capability to make it possible.

The session was also addressed by **Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director, UNEP & Under Secretary General, United Nations Organisation**. He said that in his perception India presents a unique opportunity to draw a link between high technology growth & value of equity. He mentioned that Green economy is not an alternative economy but is very much a thing of the present. While underlining the significance of corporate sector in the green economy, he stated that industry is part of the solution as much of the problem and the power to shift from conventional model to a green economy is greatest with the corporate sector. This holds true not only of the large business but also the small industries.

Speaking at the session, **Dr. T Chatterjee, Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests** expressed that the movement of green economy will not only encourage the Green but also the brown. "Green economy has to be all inclusive and this is where I feel CII is integrating it in its own agenda", he said.

While welcoming the participants, **Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII** said that Green economy presents great opportunity for the corporate sector within its challenges. Industry has to leverage these and partnerships will play a key role in making this happen.

The session was organised by the CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development together with Ministry of Environment & Forests & UNEP to mark the World Environment Day. India is the global host of the World Environment Day 2011.