

PRESS RELEASE

Both Rt. Hon. Baroness Sandip Verma and India' Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar support preference of India & UK to work together with a common agenda and approach on issues of climate change

Statements made at Institute Of Directors, India's Environment Congress in New Delhi on 11th July

Rt. Hon. Baroness Sandip Verma, Minister for International Development, Govt. of UK recently joined Institute of Directors, India's Silver Jubilee celebration on 10th July, 2015 and also she delivered this year's inaugural address at the IOD, India's 17th World Congress on Environment Management on 11th July, 2015 at Hotel Le-Meridien, New Delhi. Prakash Javadekar, India's Hon'ble Minister for Environment & Climate Change was the Chief Guest.

Institute of Directors, completed its 25 years of dedicated service to the Corporate world. Not only it has made an impact in the fields of Corporate Governance, Corporate Social Responsibility, Leadership and Boardroom excellence, role of Independent Directors, it has also been on the forefront of training of corporate directors, government and public sector leaders to keep abreast with other counterparts across many countries over the last 25 years.

Baroness Verma has been a great well wisher and supporter of IOD, India's mission over the years. On such auspicious occasion Baroness Verma gave an inspirational and challenging address to the august gathering. She emphasised the importance of Business world which is so responsible and sustainable and changed dramatically in recent years. She also talked about the transparency of boards. On the part of her concluding speech, she spotlighted to achieve the best when boards are equally representative of the world. She also congratulated IOD India for their work and expressed her strong feeling for the same. Around 470 delegates participated spread over two days.

On these 2 days the other key dignitaries who also made the remarkable presence with Baroness Verma to make the event very successful, include **Justice M. N. Venkatachaliah**, former Chief Justice of India, Supreme Court of India, **Justice (Dr.) Arijit Pasayat**, former Judge, Supreme Court of India, **H.E. Dr. Tayeb Kamali**, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Community Development, Govt. of UAE, **Dr. M. B. Athreya**, Ph.D. (Harvard), **Mr. Amitabh Kant**, Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, **Mr. Rakesh Garg**, IAS, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications & IT, **Mr. Dinesh K. Saraff**, CMD, ONGC, **Mr. Ravi Parthasarthy**, Chairman, Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Service Ltd., **Mr. Surjit K. Chaudhary**, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd apart from Ambassador of France to India and Sri Lanka High Commissioner to India and so on.

This year's famed 'Golden Peacock Awards for Environment & Sustainability were also presented during the occasion.

World of business has dramatically changed in recent years. Globalization has made Corporate Governance a Global Concern, and Good Governance now involves a lot more than code and compliance, for ensuring Sustainable Development. Boards must be transparent. She also emphasized that Diversity should be at the heart of Boards as women are nurturers. It will be a win-win situation for all. It will make a good business sense.

Both Baroness Verma and The Minister for Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India made statements supporting preference of India and UK to work jointly with a common agenda and approach on issues of climate change to ensure success at UNFCCC-COP21 or what is popularly known as Climate Change Conference at Paris in December 2015. The two leaders considered that a message delivered on the platform of IOD will have its impact on governments, businesses and civil society to indicate the commitment of two important economies that will impact the outcome at Climate Change Conference.

IOD, India is now preparing for this year's annual '15th London Global Convention on Corporate Governance & Sustainability' on 7 – 9 October 2015, at Millennium Hotel London Mayfair, in London. The theme is “**Effective Corporate Governance and Sustainability: MANDATE OF THE BOARD**”. The Convention is expected to be attended by over 150 organisations and around 300 business leaders, participants from across the globe, including around 100 from India.

Sd/-

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CEO, IOD, India
