



## World Environment Day

(5<sup>th</sup> June, 2014)



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5 June

### Message

World Environment Day will be observed on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2014 to raise global awareness for taking positive environmental action to protect nature and the planet Earth. World Environment Day was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1972 to mark the day on which United Nations Conference on the Human Environment began. The Day is observed Globally under the aegis of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) with different themes. This year's theme is "Raise Your Voice, Not the Sea Level". The theme focusses on serious concern of rising sea level which threatens small islands, collectively home to more than 63 million people and treasures of natural beauty, vibrant culture & music. They play an important role in protecting the oceans and many of these islands are biodiversity hotspots containing some of the richest reservoirs of plants and animals on the planet.

This year's World Environment Day focusses on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) which are threatened from sea level rise due to small size, changing climate on account of global warming and impact of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions. Average sea level rise is @ 3mm/ year and this is a larger rate of sea level rise seen over last several thousand years. It must be noted that large countries like ours too are threatened from sea level rise. It is predicted that many coastal areas are likely to be submerged in few decades causing irreversible ecological damage besides affecting economy & population severely.

Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation (DFCC) has been conceived to provide fast & dedicated electrified railway corridors for bulk movement of goods, replacing dependance on traditional but polluting modes of transportations notably road transportation. DFCC is projected to save 6.11 million ton CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent in 2016-17 which will increase to 27.23 million ton CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent by 2041-42. DFCC will thus make its contribution to prevent GHG emissions reducing global warming & sea level rise. Our contribution may be small compared to global efforts required in this direction but significant and is acknowledged by funding agencies.

Construction work has started in both the Eastern & Western Corridors. It will be our endeavour to ensure that construction of the corridors is as per the schedule. In the process we need to ensure Environmental and Social Safeguards are properly addressed throughout this phase.

On the occasion of World Environment Day, I wish you success in making significant contribution to save our planet Earth for the future generations.

Jai Hind

  
(R.K. Gupta)  
Managing Director