

Beat: News

ISA Trillion Dollar Opportunity To Serve Humanity: Piyush Goyal

Making Solar Accessible

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USPA NEWS - Minister of State for Power, Coal and New and Renewable Energy, Mr. Piyush Goyal meeting the President and CEO of BigBelly Solar, Mr. Jack Kutner, in New York on April 21, 2016.

Stakeholders Urged To Work Towards Making Solar Accessible Through Technology And Cheap Sustainable Finance

"The International Solar Alliance (ISA) is a trillion dollar opportunity to serve humanity and those in the dark," said Mr. Piyush Goyal, Minister of State (IC) of Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy in New York on April 22. The Minister was speaking at the Roundtable on International Solar Alliance -the Trillion Dollar Opportunity- organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Terrawatt Initiative (TWI) under the aegis of the International Solar Alliance.

"India has launched this initiative as an obligation towards the larger humanity as an article of faith," said Mr. Goyal. He also added that for India, this is not being dictated by external exigencies. He called upon stakeholders beyond governments to make this initiative a success.

The ISA which comprises 121 countries that lie partially or fully between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn is intended to create a platform for larger collaboration for technology, research and development and capacity building. "This is about improving the quality of life of large number of people who are still grappling with problems of energy and accessibility at affordable prices," said the Minister.

The Global Solar Council also committed to creating 25 million jobs in the solar space among the ISA countries. Similar commitments of dedicating a part of their funding portfolio to renewables was given by GIIC, a federation of pension funds.

Speaking earlier at the session, Mr. Sumant Sinha, Chairman, CII Special Task Force on Solar said, "The efforts of the governments in the ISA countries will have to be matched with efforts by the business community through collaborative efforts."

Ms. Isabelle Kocher, Chairperson, TWI, delivered the welcome address and urged stakeholders to work towards making solar accessible through technology and cheap sustainable finance.

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