

India Set to Accomplish Mission Zero Waste at the 8th Regional 3R Forum

3 April, 2018, New Delhi: India is getting ready to host the eighth 3R Regional Forum in Asia and the Pacific in its cleanest city, Indore* from 9-12 April, 2018 co-organised by the [Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs](#) (MoHUA) Government of India, the [Ministry of the Environment](#), Government of Japan (MOEJ), and the [United Nations Centre for Regional Development](#) (UNCRD), under the theme of "Achieving Clean Water, Clean Land and Clean Air through 3R and Resource Efficiency- A 21st Century Vision for Asia-Pacific Communities".

While increasing attention is being given to climate change mitigation measures to arrest global warming, the combined effects of industrialization, urbanization, and mass consumption have led to an increase in the amount of waste generated in Asian countries. This, in turn, has led to the dumping of waste into open lands, rivers and water bodies, thus polluting air, water and land and having severe long-term impact on environment, health and even livelihoods. The Regional 3R Forum in Asia was thus jointly launched by UNCRD and the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, in November 2009, with an objective to provide strategic policy inputs to national government authorities in mainstreaming the principles of 3Rs in their overall policy, planning and development. The Forum seeks to address policies, programs, measures, tools and technologies in the context of achieving resource efficiency, sustainable production and consumption, integrated solid waste management, sound material-cycle, low-carbon and zero waste society.

In a message to the organizers of the Forum, the Honourable Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi said, "The mantra of 3R – Reduce, Reuse and Recycle- is at the heart of any vision towards the sustainable development of mankind. All stakeholders –producers, consumers and the State alike must adhere to this golden principle which can contribute significantly in solving the twin challenges of waste management as well as the sustainable development".

Keeping with the Indian government's focus on 'Mission Zero Waste', the plenary sessions at the Forum will draw attention to the role of the circular economy in preventing land, air and water pollution. Moreover, the Forum is also looking at enhancing the capacities of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) for integrating resource efficiency and 3R practices. Participants at the Forum will also work towards developing a sub-regional roadmap for implementing the global waste management goals for addressing SDGs in South Asia. Alongside, the Forum will seek to leverage opportunities for financing the 3Rs through both domestic and international investments. The highlight of the event will be a series of sessions with mayors from 106 Indian and foreign cities focusing on sustainable urban development and forging of inter-municipal partnerships and cooperation at the national and international level.

The Forum will be inaugurated by the Honourable Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan at the Brilliant Convention Centre in Indore and will be attended by the Honourable Minister of State (I/C), MoHUA, Shri. Hardeep Singh Puri on April 10, 2018. Honourable Chief Minister of the Government of Madhya Pradesh, Shri. Shivraj Singh Chouhan will be the Chief Guest at the closing session of the Forum.

It is imperative that zero waste society attaches paramount importance to the need for moving towards resource efficiency. 3R, resource efficiency and circular economy are intrinsically linked in a mutually beneficial way. Zero waste is a long-term vision that ultimately envisages a thriving society that exists within nature's resource constraints and its ability to assimilate waste. Moving towards zero waste is inherently a multi-stakeholder process which calls for partnerships within and between communities, businesses, industries, and all levels of government.

The 8th 3R regional Forum will conclude with the signing and subsequent adoption of the 'Indore 3R Declaration on Achieving Clean Water, Clean Land and Clean Air' in cities by mayors and city authorities.

For more information and registration for the 8th Regional 3R Forum, please visit <http://www.india3rforum.in/>

For updates on social media, please follow India 3R Forum on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

**Indore was ranked the cleanest city of India according to the Swachh Survekshan 2017, the annual cleanliness survey conducted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs since 2016.*