

PRESS RELEASE

‘Green the priority sectors’

Patna, 27 July. Addressing a Green Dialogue on Wednesday in Patna, S Siddharth, additional chief secretary (Finance), said, **“We are aiming to come up with a green budget that not only takes care of the positives of a budget but also the negatives of it.” He added that the State will ultimately have a very robust green budget.”**

The programme, ‘Greening Priority Sectors for Sustainable Economic Recovery in Bihar’ was organised by Centre for Studies on Environment and Climate (CSEC), a specialised centre at ADRI, and Development Alternative Group (DAG), Delhi. Siddharth was the chief guest on the occasion.

He said Bihar was among the first states to have a green budget. Siddharth said, **“We need to train and teach our people how to design and redesign your policies that takes care of both, the negatives and the positives of a green budget to have a better and Net green budget.”**

Prabhat P Ghosh, member-secretary ADRI, chaired the programme and the context setting was done by Geetika Goswami from DAG. The programme featured a talk on ‘technological innovation for greening Industries and Agricultural sectors’ by Srikant Kasturi, a leading expert in the area, and another on the need to adopt innovative financial practices ‘for issue-based budgeting, financing and investment for greening the priority sectors’ by TERI experts Saheli Das and Shailly Kedia.

Later, a roundtable discussed ‘strategies, priorities and gaps in Bihar’s policy landscape for sustainable recovery and climate resilience’. Agriculture secretary N Sarvanan Kumar, principal chief conservator of forests N Jawahar Babu, BIA president Arun Agrawal, and BSPCB member-secretary S Chandrasekar participated in the discussion.

Agriculture secretary N Sarvanan Kumar said, “The farmers must ultimately move to adopting climate-resilient agricultural practices. And, the State has taken excellent measures in promoting organic farming and marketing the produce.”

Vivek Tejaswi, deputy director of CSEC, ADRI, conveyed the vote of thanks.

(Anjani K Verma)