

Stakeholders' Consultation Meeting in Bihar - Quantifying GHG Emissions and Action Plan for the Rolling Mills and Distilleries

In a remarkable effort to combat climate change and promote low-carbon development, DA, along with the Bihar State Pollution Control Board (BSPCB), recently held a stakeholders' consultation meeting on the 'GHG Emissions Inventory and Action Plan for the Distilleries and Rolling Mills in Bihar.' The meeting, organised under the 'Low Carbon Development Pathway for Bihar' project, saw representatives from various industries and state departments come together to discuss the preliminary findings from the baseline analysis and GHG emissions inventory assessment of Bihar's Distillery and Rolling Mill sector. The meeting aimed to pave the way for a low-carbon development pathway for these industries.

The consultation, held at Parivesh Bhavan, BSPCB, in association with Development Alternatives and with support from Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation, was chaired by Dr DK Shukla, Chairman, BSPCB. The session commenced with Shri S Chandrasekar, Member Secretary, BSPCB, warmly welcoming the representatives from Distilleries and Rolling Mills and setting the stage for the discussion. He emphasised the importance of assessing carbon emissions and working collaboratively to achieve Carbon Neutrality goals in Bihar's industry sector by 2070.

Dr DK Shukla further highlighted the potential benefits for industries through the newly notified carbon credits trading scheme by the Government of India. As Bihar aims to become carbon neutral by 2070, the role of sectors such as Rolling Mills and Distilleries in contributing to this goal is of immense significance.



Shri Pankaj Dikshit, Director, Department of Industries, Govt. of Bihar, addressing the stakeholders'

In frame, Left to right – Dr Naveen Kumar, Scientist, BSPCB; Shri Vivek Ranjan Maitrey, Director, Food Processing, Department of Industries, Bihar; Shri Pankaj Dikshit, Director, Department of Industries, Govt. of Bihar; Dr D K. Shukla, Chairman, BSPCB; Shri S Chandrasekar, Member Secretary, BSPCB.

Shri Pankaj Dikshit, Director, Department of Industries, Govt. of Bihar, underlined the cultural significance of environmental protection and sustainability in Bihar. He stressed the need to minimise reliance on fossil fuels and increase the use of renewable energy sources for sustainable growth in

industries. He emphasised that “reducing emissions from the sector should be a shared responsibility and not solely the task of the government.”

During the meeting, Development Alternatives (DA) presented a detailed analysis of the carbon emissions estimation of the Rolling Mills and Distillery units in Bihar, along with strategy recommendations for a low-carbon development pathway. According to the study, the Distillery sector has been found to have negligible carbon emissions to the atmosphere. As Bihar is the first state to adopt the State Ethanol Blending Policy (EBP), it has the potential to become a leader in grain-based ethanol production in the nation. However, for the Rolling Mills, there are emissions related to coal use, prompting recommendations for technology upgradation, alternative fuels, and policy changes.



Representatives from industries, organisations, and government departments at the Stakeholders' Consultation. BSPCB

Shri Vivek Ranjan Maitrey, Director, Food Processing, Department of Industries, Bihar, emphasised the urgent need to mitigate carbon emissions to achieve the 2070 carbon neutrality goal. He offered the industry representatives support while encouraging them to stay informed about policies that can help them become carbon-neutral while benefiting economically. He stressed the importance of finding green alternatives and nature-based solutions to curb emissions, ultimately securing a sustainable tomorrow for future generations.

The meeting concluded with Dr Soumen Maity, Vice President, Development Alternatives, extending a vote of thanks to all the participants for their active involvement and commitment to a low-carbon future.

Bihar's proactive efforts in holding this stakeholders' consultation meeting and its commitment to a low-carbon development pathway signal a positive direction toward sustainable growth and climate resilience. The stakeholders' consultation meeting has laid the groundwork for reducing GHG emissions from Distilleries and Rolling Mills through collaborative efforts between industries, state departments, and environmental organisations. By heeding the recommendations presented and capitalising on alternate energy sources, innovative technologies, and supportive policies, Bihar has the potential to become a leader in curbing carbon emissions. This commitment to carbon neutrality by 2070 sets a shining example for other regions to follow in the journey toward low-carbon development.