



Former Prez APJ Abdul Kalam interacting with the attendees at the conference.

One billion trees needed, says Kalam

BY PALLAVI SMART

“Climate change is not only a problem, but an integral part of the energy policy. At the summit in Copenhagen, they need to understand it. Several factors causing it and solutions to it have to be discussed,” said Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, former president and Environment Ambassador for India.

Kalam was in Mumbai to inaugurate a three-day international conference ‘Vishwa 2009’, which commenced on Friday at the Ravindra Natya Mandir.

Vishwa 2009 is an international conference, exhibition, and workshop that will promote eco-friendly business solutions

and seek sustainable solutions for a greener and cleaner tomorrow. The event, which is promoted by the Institute for studies in Vedic Sciences, is going to be taken forward by eminent speakers as they discuss various topics such as spirituality, environment, technology, media and education.

Dr. Purushottam Rajimwale, Director, ISVS believes that, “the collective psyche and conscience of the world needs to shift towards the green revolution. In fact, this could save the day and secure the future of our children.” Kalam gave an informative and encouraging speech on Sustainability: a national mission.

One billion trees needed: Kalam

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“While taking efforts towards making India an economically developed country, we have to take care of sustainability too; by learning from our past. We need to add quality and quantity to our environment by planting trees, water conservation, etc. to make it a better place to live. We need to plant one billion trees,” said Kalam.

He also stated, “At the same time energy independence is also very important. We have the 70 per cent of world’s population but only 10 per cent of world’s production of biogas. We are buying CO2 while buying conventional fuels from other nations and harming our en-

vironment. Energy independence is really important thing for us and by 2011-12, we should be able to achieve it. Production of renewable energy, nuclear energy and bio-fuel energy are the three ways to achieve energy independence. We need to have a portfolio of action for it.”

The conference even discusses many other issues related to environment like energy solution for growing economy, climate change, green hotels, using waste effectively and animal rights and many more. The conference which includes an exhibition and a workshop, will continue at Ravindra Natya Mandir till Sunday, December 20.

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