



L to R: Ananda Sudarshan, Co-chair, FICCI Karnataka State Council; M N Vidyashankar, Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Commerce & Industries Department, Government of Karnataka; Ramanath Rai, Ministry of Forests, Environment and Ecology, Government of Karnataka; Ayi Vaman Acharya, Chairman, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board; Dr. Sanjeevan Bajaj, CEO, FICCI Quality Forum and Dr. Sonia Valdivia, Programme Officer, United Nations Environment Programme.

Life Cycle Management for sustainable consumption & production



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FICCI Quality Forum organised the second edition of the Indian Conference on Life Cycle Assessment & Management (ILCM 2013) on September 26-27, 2013 in Bengaluru in association with the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India and the Department of Public Enterprises, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Government of India. The conference was supported by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) Life Cycle Initiative.

Inaugurating ILCM 2013, B Ramanath Rai, Minister of Forests, Environment & Ecology, Government of Karnataka, said, "The key challenge is to strike a balance between development and sustainable use of natural resources. We are framing a new policy to ensure that socio-

economic development will not be at the cost of environment and the fragile ecosystem."

M N Vidya Shankar, Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Commerce & Industries Department, Government of Karnataka, stressed the need to align development with sustainable practices. Ayi Vaman Acharya, Chairman, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, emphasised the need for sustainable waste management, which is a massive challenge in India.

Attended by over 90 delegates from 14 countries, the conference showcased several interesting case studies from across the globe. The key international speakers included Dr. Donna Jefferies, Scientist - Environmental Sustainability, Unilever, the UK; Dr. Nydia Suppen, Director General, Center for Life Cycle Assessment and Sustainable Design, Mexico & Convener, ISO Working Group on Water

Footprinting; Dr. Sonia Valdivia, Programme Officer, United Nations Environment Programme, France; Timothy Francis Grant, Director, Life Cycle Strategies Pty Ltd, Australia; Dr. Guido Sonnemann, Professor at University of Bordeaux, France and Clare Broadbent, Manager-Life Cycle Assessment, World Steel Association, Belgium.

The need for greater awareness, training, capacity building and technical assistance on LCA were clearly identified as key components of future LCA development in India. The inclusion of social parameters in LCA was also discussed.

FICCI is playing an instrumental role in mainstreaming Life Cycle Thinking in India. As compared to 2012, this year's conference had much higher participation from the industry and government/government undertakings. ■