

India-Finland sign MoU on biodiversity conservation

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India and Finland today signed a MOU for developing cooperation between two countries in the field of Environment protection and biodiversity conservation.

The MoU was signed virtually by Shri Prakash Javadekar, Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change from the Indian side and Ms Krista Mikkonen, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, Government of Finland from the Finnish side.

Key Highlights

- The MoU is a platform to further advance Indian and Finnish partnership and support, exchange best practices in areas like prevention of Air and water pollution; Waste management; Promotion of circular economy, low-carbon solutions and sustainable management of natural resources including forests; Climate change; Conservation of Marine and Coastal Resources; etc.
- As part of its Nationally Determined Contributions submitted under the Paris Agreement, India has taken three quantitative climate change goals viz. reduction in the emissions intensity of Gross Domestic Product by 33 to 35 percent by 2030 from 2005 level, achieving about 40 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by 2030 and creating an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.
- The MoU will strengthen technological, scientific and management capabilities and

develop bilateral cooperation in the field of environmental protection and biodiversity conservation on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit with due respect to promotion of sustainable development.

- Speaking at the event Shri Javadekar said that the MoU also provides the possibility to have joint projects in areas of mutual interest. “This MOU will definitely commit us to work together more closely on the fulfilment of commitments made under Paris Agreement.”, said the Environment Minister.

SOURCE: *Hindustan Times*