



Federal Minister Environment Hameedullah Jan Afridi, Naeem Qureshi President NFEH, Dr. Kaiser Waheed, Dr. Christian Brect Consul General of Germany, Dr. Sami-uz-Zaman, Shams-ul-Haq Memon, along with winners of 7th Annual Environment Excellence Awards-2010.

# Effluent treatment plants planned: Afridi

Federal Minister for Environment, Hameed ullah Jan Afridi identifying climatic change as the major challenge for the country has urged the private sector to support government and counter the associated threats.

Addressing the participants of the recently held 7th Annual Environment Excellence Awards (AEEA) - 2010 ceremony he said massive human and material loss during current spell of torrential rains and floods were consequent to global warming and massive climate change.

"We expect corporate sector and business to realize their responsibility not out of any fear of penalty but out of sheer sense of responsibility," said the minister.

He said during past two years government has introduced a series of policies including water conservation policy, environment protection policy, forest policy etc coupled with Environment Protection Council.

"As a policy matter we also kept involved all stake holders, including federation of commerce, business and industry in the deliberations related to these policies' formulation," he said.

Hameed ullah Jan Afridi with particular reference to solid waste management and industrial pollution management measures said massive concessions have been offered to the industries so that they may easily import or procure required gadgets.

"Government too is fully cognizant of its responsibility and has entered into an MoU with a Malaysian company for a solid waste management project in Karachi," said the minister.

"Similarly we are also contemplating to instal

Combined Effluent Treatment Plants in collaboration with different trade association at different industrial areas in the country," he added.

Reiterating that government was keen to keep involved all concerned stakeholder in the protection of the environment, the minister said his ministry has also approached Economic Coordination Committee to reduce duty on import of environment friendly gadgets.

"We have also despatched a summary to the ECC to announce tax holiday for sectors that have adopted clean and green emission policy," said Hameed ullah Jan Afridi.

The minister on the occasion also urged for a proactive approach among trade and business houses towards implementation of National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQS), introduced in the country in 1993.

"Its implementation is our legal and social responsibility. This, he said was prerequisite as it is closely linked to conservation of essentials for life as





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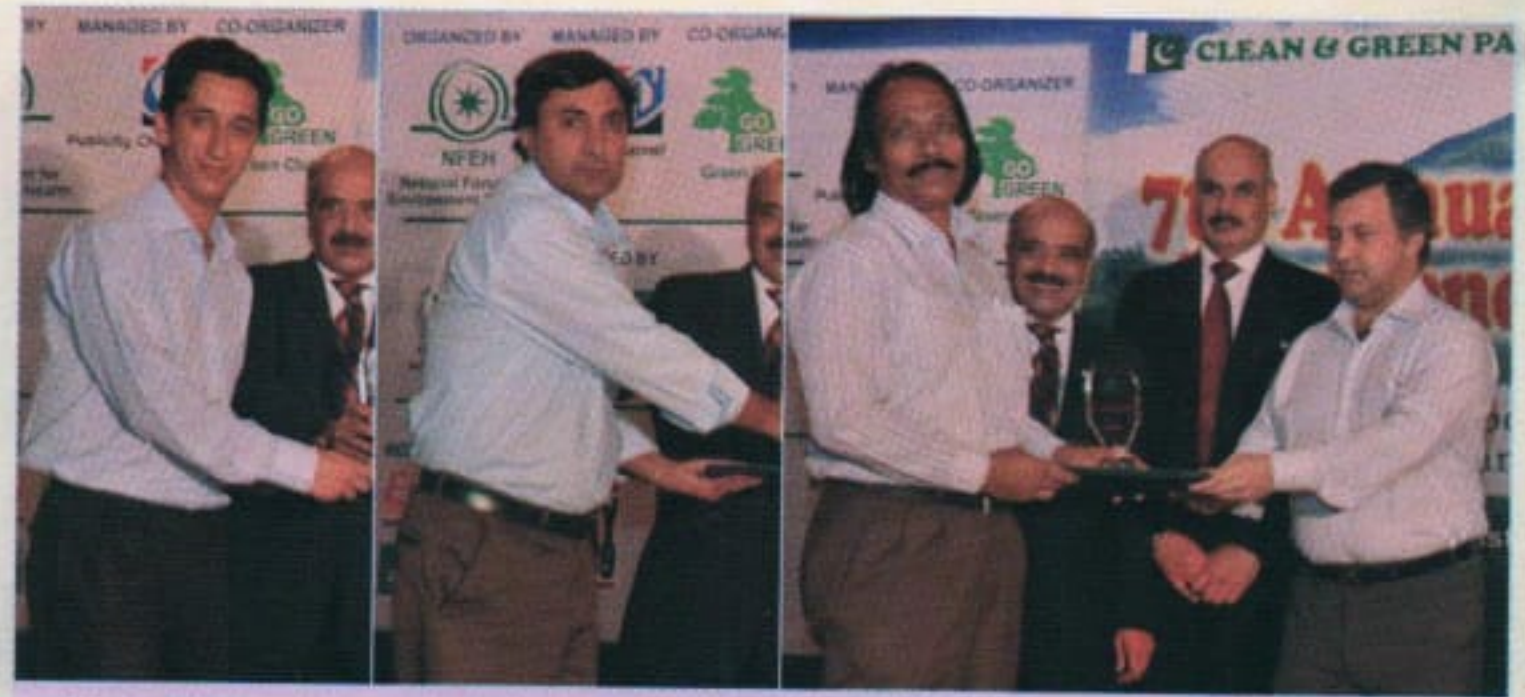
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water.

Global warming, pollution and population explosion, he said has already led to a marked reduction in availability of drinking water, that till mid 1950s was 5600 cubic meter per person and 1100 cubic meter per person in 2006.

"This is feared to be slashed to 800 cubic meter per person in next few years," said Hameed ullah Jan.

The minister on the occasion appreciated National Forum for Environment and Health for organizing the ceremony for seventh consecutive year.



Mr. Abid Hassan  
Dawn TV

Mr. Nawaz Khuhro  
PPI

Mr. Mukhtar Alam  
Daily Dawn



Earlier, Consul General of Germany, Dr. Chirstian Brecht participating in an interactive dialogue on Environment Management said his county had made optimum use of alternative sources of energy.

"Despite scarce in sun light as compared to Pakistan we generate thousands of mega-watts of solar energy besides 20,622 megawatts electricity produced through wind mills," he said.

The Consul General mentioned that equal attention is also being paid towards bio gas technology so as to reduce dependence on fossil fuel and combat growing challenges posed in form of global warming.

Dr. Christian Brecht also referred to different joint schemes undertaken by his country and Pakistan in the field of environment.

Gulzar Firoze, a representative of FPCCI, Kalim Siddiqui (BYCO Chairman), Arif Allaudin (Ministry of Environment), Masood Alam Rizvi (EDO, Solid Waste Management, City District Government of Karachi), Dr. Sami u Zaman, Nadim Arif, Shamsul Haq Memon and others also made their brief presentations on the occasion.

Later national environment media awards were conferred on Mukhtar Alam of daily Dawn, Abid Hasan of Dawn News, Nawab Khuhro of Pakistan Press International and Dr. Ejaz Baig of daily Jang -Quetta for their contribution towards public awareness.

Different national and multi-national companies clinched the seventh Annual Environment Excellence Awards for best performance during 2009-2010.

NFEH Chairman Dr. Kaiser Waheed said the award has been instituted to recognize and promote the organizations that have made an outstanding contribution towards sustainable development.

He appreciated the winners, from all sectors of business in the country, for promoting policies, practices, processes and products that helped the country to achieve economic and social development without harming the environment and natural resources. ■

