



L to R: Dr. Llorenç Mila I Canals, Programme Officer, UNEP; Dr. Sanjeevan Bajaj, CEO, FICCI Quality Forum; A K Pavadia, Joint Secretary, Department of Public Enterprises and Dr. A Didar Singh, Secretary General, FICCI.

## New guidelines being framed for CPSEs on CSR and Sustainability

**F**ICCI Quality Forum (FOF) organised the third edition of Indian Conference on Life Cycle Management (ILCM 2014) on September 29-30, 2014 in New Delhi. ILCM is a flagship initiative of FICCI aimed at creating national awareness on relevance of life cycle thinking for sustainability in business. FOF is playing a leading role in building national capacity on Life Cycle Assessment & Management (LCA/M) through various programmes, technical services and support for pilot projects in India.

ILCM 2014 inaugural was addressed by A.K Pavadia, Joint Secretary, DPE, who said that DPE was in the process of issuing revised guidelines on CSR and sustainability for CPSEs with specific reference to life cycle based approaches. He mentioned that LCA studies in India are still in their infancy due to lack of knowledge, unorganised nature of several sectors, lack of India-specific case studies, and highlighted the need for capacity building on life cycle concept via case studies, pilot projects and reference literature relevant for developing countries.

The India LCA Directory was released during ILCM 2014. This is the first Indian publication

compiling Life Cycle Assessment/Management work being done by various organisations in the country. It will be a reference book demonstrating the experience gained from the application of life cycle based tools and approaches for sustainability. An India-specific Interactive Map was also launched to consolidate an online database of Indian professionals working in the Life Cycle Assessment/Management domain, and enable them to network with peers.

ILCM 2014 included a special session on 'Overview of Environmental Standards-Indian Perspective' by the Bureau of Indian Standards which served as a platform for industry to interact with the national standards making body and understand how industry participation in formulation of national and international standards can be strengthened. The series of events concluded with a session on 'Mainstreaming Life Cycle Thinking for Sustainable Consumption and Production' co-hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change and FICCI.

The conference also featured a unique meeting platform to highlight stark ground realities of

developing countries while not just focusing on sophisticated software-based quantification methodologies of LCA studies. This was done through a conversation with Time Magazine's 2008 Hero of the Environment Sant Balbir Singh Seechewal. In 2009, Seechewal took up the daunting task of cleaning a 99-mile-long river in Punjab which had been reduced to a filthy, stinking drain releasing toxins into water sources in the area spreading disease and misery. Today the Kali Bein River stands out as an example of what determined communities can do to help themselves, and also create pressure on agencies responsible for controlling ecological damage.

Attended by over 90 delegates from 13 countries, ILCM 2014 showcased LCA studies and projects from across the globe. Greater awareness and understanding about life cycle thinking with integrated policy initiatives were clearly identified as key components of the LCA roadmap for India. ■

*Interested in knowing more about how Life Cycle Thinking can benefit your business?*

*Drop a mail to FICCI Quality Forum at [ceo.fqf@ficci.com](mailto:ceo.fqf@ficci.com)*