



Dr. Rajendra Pachauri, Chairman, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) & Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

Introduction of Dr. Rajendra Pachauri by Mr. Bharat Doshi on the occasion of the fourteenth Lalit Doshi Memorial Lecture held on 29th September 2008

Dr. Rajendra Kumar Pachauri, Mr. Arun Bongirwar, Mr. Sahni, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I consider it a privilege and an honour to introduce Dr. Rajendra Pachauri. It was in October 2007 that the Norwegian Nobel committee awarded the Nobel Peace Prize to be shared in equal parts to Mr. Al Gore and the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which was chaired by Dr. Pachauri. This was for their efforts to build and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change.

It was a proud day for us as the Nobel Prize Committee had recognized the role of IPCC. Dr. Pachauri has been the Chairman of IPCC since April 2002 and has headed and steered the panel which was not only awarded the Nobel Prize but which has been successful in spreading knowledge of the disastrous effects of global warming.

I understand, Sir, that the IPCC Reports and recommendations have to be literally approved word by word by 130-odd governments. We can very well visualize the task for the Chairman of such a Committee, which has to ensure consensus amongst 130 countries.

With the extensive work he has been doing, while leading the IPCC, it came as no surprise to anyone when earlier this month at the 29th Plenary Session of IPCC he was reelected with acclamation as the Chairman of the Committee again.

We consider ourselves fortunate, because when on behalf of the Foundation Mr. Arun Bongirwar approached Dr. Pachauri for delivering this year's Lalit Doshi Memorial Lecture, he very readily agreed *in spite* of his highly demanding travel schedule.

It is very interesting that during the last few months while interacting with Dr. Pachauri and his office, I realized how extensively he had to travel. I recollect that in a very short span of time, he had to be in Scandinavia, Greenland, Kolkatta and Japan. He definitely has found the secret for handling climate change for himself.

Friends, I do not intend to read out Dr. Pachauri's detailed CV, but I will give some highlights:

Dr.Pachauri obtained his Masters Degree in Industrial Engineering and followed by a PhD in Industrial Engineering from the North Carolina State University in Raleigh U.S.A. And then being influenced by a professor, he realized that there is something missing and therefore he proceeded to complete his PhD in Economics too.

Armed with double doctorate, he returned to India at a time when going to USA was only a one way street. And when he was asked in an interview, a recent interview, as to what made him return to India, and his answer was very simple, just two lines. He said “he belongs here and that he wanted to make a difference to his country”.

He assumed his current responsibility as Head, TERI in 1981 and was re-designated as Director General in April 2001.

He has contributed to many committees, notably Economic Advisory Council to the PM of India; he has also been on various energy committees globally and locally.

In January 2008 the Government of India conferred on Dr. Pachauri the *Padma Vibhushan*, the *second highest civilian honour*. Earlier in 2006 he was awarded “Officer De La Legion D’Honneur” by the Government of France. I need not mention but earlier than that he had already been awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2001.

While Dr.Pachauri has authored several books, papers and articles in his professional field, it may be interesting to learn that he writes poetry in English in his free time.

Also it was interesting to learn that he opened bowling in cricket tournaments. Very interesting hobbies for a person of his eminence and reflect his versatility.

Friends, it is not an easy task, not only to educate the governments around the globe but also to *convince* them about the implications of climate change. It requires not just scientific and technical skills, but requires diplomatic skills. One can describe Dr. Pachauri as a *Techno Diplomat*.

Sir, we are fortunate to have you with us today to speak on “Implications of Climate Change for Indian Society”. We look forward to your lecture later this evening. Thank you very much.