



PLANET SYMPHONY FOR ENVIRONMENT

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, MANDI



A 24-hour Non-Stop International Art - Science - Business Climate Confluence

By the people - For the people

Date: 17-18 August 2024
(Bharat Mandapam) New Delhi, India



Vision: A Safer & Smarter Planet by 2030

**Mission: Inspire 1 Billion people worldwide to make
Lifestyle Changes for Environment**

Cultural Partner: Sangeet Natak Akademi (Govt of India)

DIGNITARIES & SPECIAL INVITEES

The following have already been and/or are being invited from various parts of the world:

- The H'ble President of India
- The H'ble Prime Minister
- The H'ble Vice President of India
- Central & State Ministers and Policy Makers
- Scientists, Scholars, Students and Environmental Action Champions
- Classical & Popular musicians, dancers, poets and authors
- Film and Sports Celebrities
- Business Leaders, Philanthropists, NGOs and Thought Leaders
- Leaders and Dignitaries of other Nations

Core Principal Investigators

Prof Veerabhadran Ramanathan

Blue Planet Prize Awardee & United Nation's Champion of the Earth Laureate; Science Advisor to Pope Francis' delegation to the Paris Summit. UC San Diego & Cornell

Dr Raghunanth Ananth Mashelkar

Padma Vibhushan Awardee, Fellow, World Academy of Sciences and Fellow, Royal Society, London

Dr Laxmidhar Behera

Director, IIT Mandi, Himachal Pradesh

Prof Suresh Subramani

Global Director & Senior Adviser of Tata Institute for Genetics and Society

Dr Sonal Mansingh

MP, Rajya Sabha, Padma Vibhushan Award-winning dance icon

Dr Soumya Swaminathan

Former Deputy Director and Chief Scientist, WHO; Chairperson MSSRF

Chitravina N Ravikiran

Founder, Planet Symphony for Environment

Governing and Steering committee

Dr Jyoti Parikh

Contributor to Award of the Nobel Peace Prize to IPCC in 2007 & Exec Director, IRADe

Prof Pankaj S Joshi

Director, International Center for Space & Cosmology, Ahmedabad University

Dr Sekhar Raghavan

Founder, Rain Center and a pioneer of Rainwater Harvesting in India

Rameesh Kailasam

President and CEO, IndiaTech.org & Columnist

Rajesh Mehta

International strategist, Entrepreneur & Columnist

T S Vishwanath

Policy Advisor, Founder VeKommunicate & PAFI

Naila Chowdhury

Member, UNESCO Steering Committee, philanthropist and transformational Leader

Subramanian Ramakrishnan

Pioneer of Sports Mechanics and analysis in India

Executive Coordinators

Dr Kala Venkata Uday

Associate Professor, School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, IIT Mandi

N Ramshankar

Vice President, Rain Center & Environmental activist

ARTS & SPORTS AS BROADCASTERS OF CLIMATE SCIENCE

The fusion of art and science enriches our understanding of the world.



Art and science share the same objective of comprehending and portraying the world, as highlighted in literature on the subject*.

They can inspire behavioral changes in society and offer channels of inquiry and communication, impacting diverse audiences by creating multiple compelling narratives**

Art, in its many and varied forms, has the liberty and ability to generate shifts in social perceptions and behaviors in ways that science and data alone currently do not, providing a complementary pathway for engagement***. Arts and Sports Celebrities are best placed to be Climate Ambassadors in today's society and inspire Citizen participation in implementing Climate Solutions like Roof Greening and Rainwater Management.



BUSINESSES AS FACILITATORS OF CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

In today's society, businesses are best placed to not only be catalysts of preemptive environmental action but also prime drivers of it.

- ❖ Large corporations can actively support Climate Action in underprivileged localities.
- ❖ Smaller businesses can influence social behaviour through powerful environmental messaging in their consumer outlets and websites.
- ❖ Corporations can also influence Collective Micro Climate Action Movement (CMCAM) among citizens by supporting Climate Literacy & Action Events and Short films.
- ❖ They can also influence policymakers and Government Leaders to incentivize Climate Action by themselves and citizens.

These are the reasons why this Climate Confluence has been planned in a unique manner to create game-changing interactions between Science, Arts, Sports, Business and Government as well as Thought Leaders to create the best possible outcome and prevent an Environmental Meltdown.

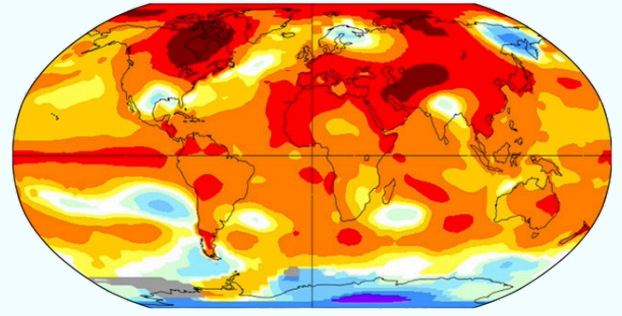
*Sleigh, C., & Craske, S. (2017). Art and science in the UK: a brief history and critical reflection. *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews*, 42(4), 313–330.

** Burke, Miriam & Ockwell, David & Whitmarsh, Lorraine. (2018). Participatory arts and affective engagement with climate change: The missing link in achieving climate compatible behaviour change?. *Global Environmental Change*. 49. 95-105.

***Peterson SK, Le Tissier M, Whyte H, Robinson LB, Thielking K, Ingram M and McCord J (2020) Examining the Potential of Art-Science Collaborations in the Anthropocene: A Case Study of Catching a Wave. *Front. Mar. Sci.* 7:340

EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE CLIMATE CONFLUENCE

A set of Climate Action Recommendations (CAR) will be created with all participants as co-signatories. This document, to be fashioned along the lines of the Montreal Protocol, will provide the guidelines for making everyone climate resilient. The protocol will be submitted to UNFCCC to take it forward to all nations. When the global warming crosses the 1.5°C threshold by 2030, the protocol can be amended to include more stringent regulations to bend the emissions curve drastically and increase spending on adaptation measures.



The other major expected outcome is that this Art-Science-Business Confluence acts as a wake up call to global citizens and galvanizes at least 1 Billion people to Micro Climate Action and adopt measures like increasing green cover, harvesting more rain water and inspires large and small businesses, NGOs and Charities as well as Philanthropists to contribute towards Climate Protection to vulnerable populations and fellow species.

BOTTOMLINE: *Disaster Prevention can save Billions in Disaster Management.*

CLIMATE CRISIS: BACKGROUND

OUR PLANET recorded the highest temperatures in 100,000 years in terms of global averages in July 2023. Thus, the Climate catastrophe is no longer a future possibility but an ongoing reality



with extreme weather events in several countries on a regular basis.

THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC COST of doing nothing about this will exceed US\$ 175 Trillion** in net present value terms by 2070. By 2050, it is estimated that an additional US\$ 33 Trillion on top of existing spending plans (US\$ 98 Trillion) is needed to stay below the 1.5°C goal.

TOP CLIMATE SCIENTISTS* project that it will impact every household starting about 2030, just as the Covid pandemic did, and will get a lot worse over the next few decades.

NEED OF THE HOUR: Citizens & Students Collective Micro climate Action Movement (CMCAM) to supplement macro efforts of Governments, corporations and NGOs. Climate Activism must graduate to Climate Action to reduce emissions, provide adaptation measures and foster Climate Resilience.

* Yangyang Xu, Veerabhadran Ramanathan and David G. Victor in <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-018-07586-5>

**<https://www.deloitte.com/global/en/issues/climate/gx-transform-to-react-climate-policy-new-world-order.html>; 07 Jun 2022
Transform to React: Climate Policy in the New World Order

CLIMATE ISSUES AND ADAPTATION

Global warming has significantly increased the frequency and intensity of severe weather events like:

- Heavy precipitation & Flooding
- Wildfires
- Air Pollution
- Soaring temperatures & heat waves
- Water Scarcity
- Shrinking snow cover and Polar Ice
- Sea level rises
- Drought

- The good news is that adaptation, done right, will lead to better growth and development.
- It will save lives, protect nature, reduce inequalities, and create opportunities.
- Adaptation can provide a triple dividend: it avoids economic losses, brings positive gains and delivers additional social and environmental benefits.

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ADAPTING BY 2050

- Without adaptation, climate change may depress growth in global agriculture yields by up to 30%.
- Over 500 million small farms around the world will be most affected.
- The number of people who may lack sufficient water, for at least one month per year will soar from 3.6 billion today to more than 5 billion.
- Rising seas and greater storm surges could force hundreds of millions of people in coastal cities from their homes, with a total cost to coastal urban areas of more than \$1 Trillion each year by 2050.

HEALTH IMPACT OF CLIMATE CRISIS

"Climate-resilient health systems must become a high priority" - WHO

Climate Crisis poses grave threats to health of people and ecosystems and it is the single biggest threat to human health (WHO-2023).

Fossil fuel alone kills over 6 million people every year and causes US\$ 2.9 Trillion in health and economic costs (Perera, 2017)



In the recent COP-28 summit in December 2023 the delegates declared:

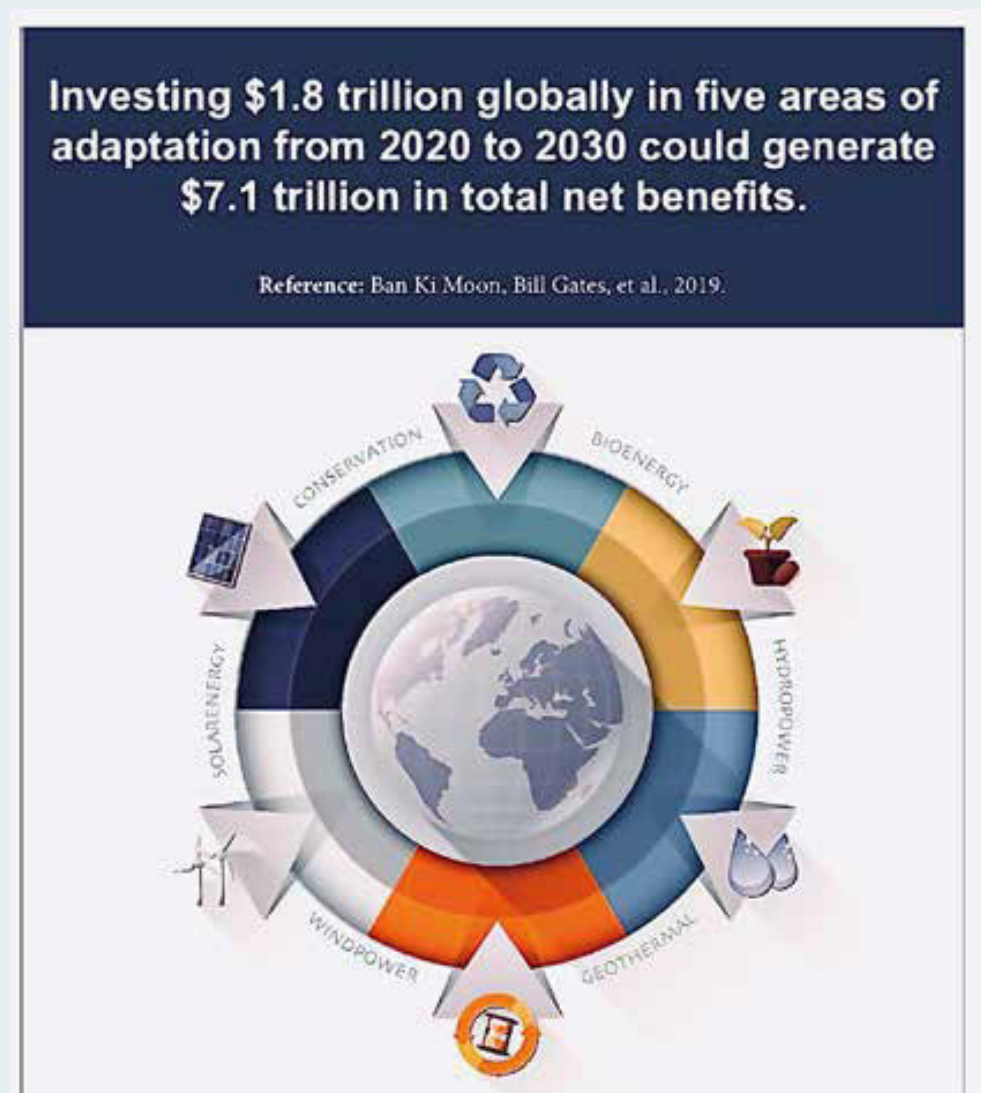
"We stress the importance of addressing the interactions between climate change and human health and wellbeing in the context of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, as the primary international, intergovernmental fora for the global response to climate change."

WHY CLIMATE RESILIENCE

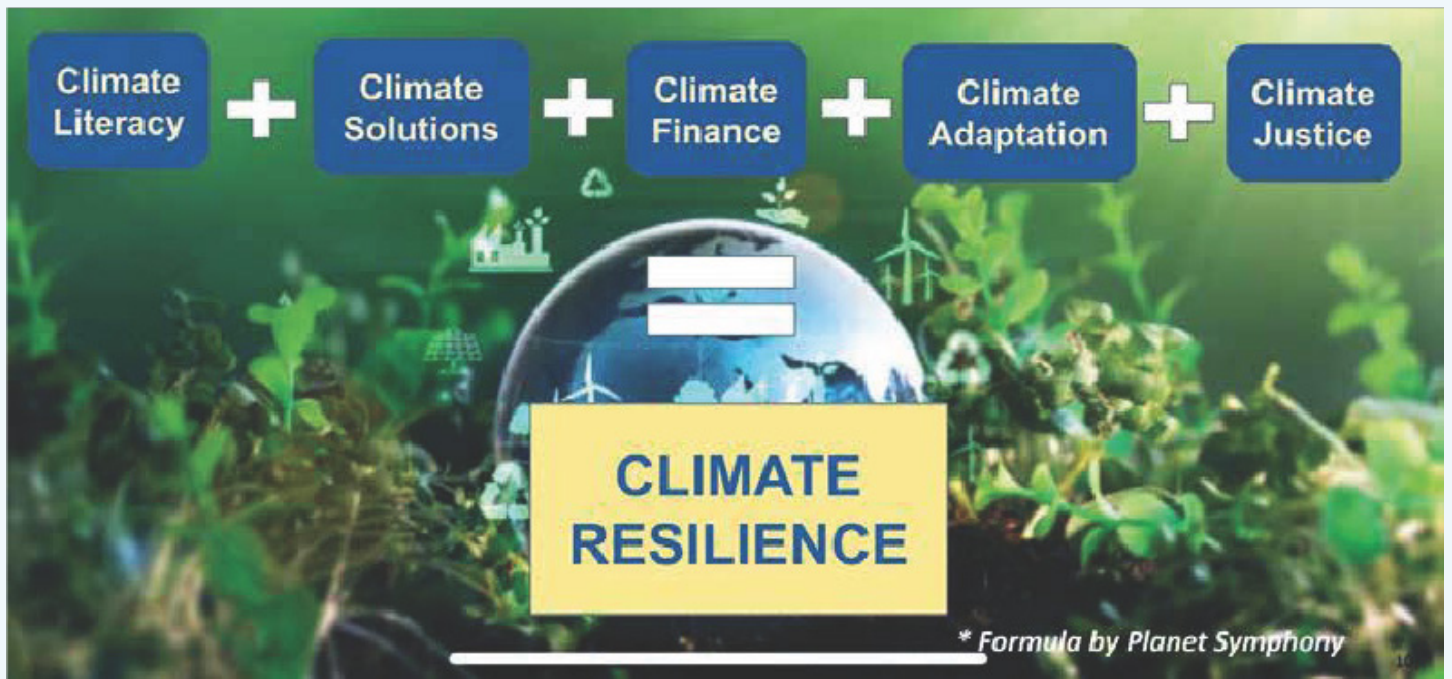
- The Climate Crisis is likely to get much worse over the next few decades as the planetary heating eclipses 1.5°C by 2030 (give or take three years) [Ref: Xu, Ramanathan, Victor, Nature, 2018].
- We expect this to be the COVID moment when the climate crisis moves to all our living rooms. We have about seven years to prepare Californians to become climate resilient.
- The rising warming curve can bend downwards only after the 2060s, assuming global-scale actions such as phasing out fossil fuels are taken now to reduce emissions of the heat-trapping pollutants drastically.

In short, the climate crisis will be with us for at least the next three decades. In order to survive this phase, all of us need to be extremely committed to work towards Climate Resilience. Climate Finance is one of the keys to accomplishing this.

AREAS AND SECTORS OF RESILIENCE



CLIMATE RESILIENCE ESSENTIALS



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Adaptation is an action or set of actions that reduce physical climate risk.
- Resilience describes a state of readiness to face climate risks.
- Make climate risks visible, incorporate these risks into all decisions.
- Failing to lead and act on adaptation will result in a huge economic and human toll.

CLIMATE RESILIENCE PRIORITIES

- Strengthen Protections for Climate Vulnerable Communities
- Bolster Public Health and Safety to Protect Against Increasing Climate Risks
- Make Decisions Based on the Best Available Climate Science
- Build a Climate Resilient Economy
- Accelerate Nature-Based Climate Solutions and Strengthen Climate Resilience of Natural Systems
- Partner and Collaborate to Leverage Resources
- Become Climate-Resilient

VISION FOR A SMART PLANET BY 2030



Planet Symphony first convened a Smart Planet Conference in Chennai, India in 2019 and its goals include the following:

- **GLOBALISE** the concept of *Lifestyle Changes for the Environment*
- **INSPIRE** one billion high- and mid-income citizens and businesses to initiate simple but scientifically validated solutions like Roof and Land Greening and Rainwater Management in their premises, besides making conscious, sustainable consumption choices
- **EXPLORE** and initiate cross-disciplinary partnerships among researchers, engineers and businesses and trans-disciplinary partnerships between science, art, thought and faith leaders, policymakers, NGOs and the public
- **CREATE** a *Climate Literacy & Action Drive (CLAD) Fund* to increase awareness and support underprivileged communities
- **INCREASE** Climate Literacy through short films, productions, events for the environment and engagement with mainstream and social media
- **ENCOURAGE** technological and organic climate solutions to tackle macro issues, such as reducing over 40 Trillion Tonnes of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere
- **FORMULATE** a series of recommendations to be shared in COP and other appropriate forums
- **HIGHLIGHT** the contributions and innovations climate champions and student climate innovators

APPENDICES

TIMELINES & OVERALL FORMAT

Inaugural Event: 10–11 AM Sat Aug 17, 2024

Valedictory Event: 9–10 AM Sun Aug 18, 2024

Most Sessions will be in 2-hour modules and consist of multiple parts such as:

- Panel Discussions by environmental, business & thought leaders and policymakers
- Music, dance and other cultural programs
- Inspirational talks by celebrities and social influencers
- Short films/documentaries, skits, paintings, sculpture, poetry etc.
- Environmental exhibitions
- Climate Q&As
- Pitching of ideas by Environmental Start-ups
- Student presentations and distribution of Prizes for PSE-IIT Climate Action Competitions

ABOUT PLANET SYMPHONY

Planet Symphony for Environment (www.planetsymphony.org) is a unique coming together of artists, scientists, businesses, philanthropists, sportspersons, spiritual and thought leaders, policymakers and institutions to inspire a massive and Collective Micro Climate Action Movement (CMCAM) by billions of Citizens and Students, even as we are battling a disaster of global scale threatening Life as we know it.

PSE is privileged to partner with two premier institutions in the 24 Hour non-stop Art-Science-Business Climate Confluence - IIT Mandi and the Government of India's Sangeet Natak Akademi.

On World Environment Day, a music symphony towards climate solutions

Team News Bureau



FIGHTING A CAUSE: Multi-production 'Climate Symphony' has been initiated by Chitravina N Ravikiran.

Chennai, June 29: A team of artists from across the world will soon launch a global music production 'Climate Symphony' to raise awareness about climate change on June 5 - World Environment Day - in a series of music productions. The initiative, which is a part of global advocacy group Planet Symphony Orchestra, will be a series of music productions, which, according to its founder, is "a representation of people from different cultures, geographies, religions, languages, professions, and political leaders who will be working together to create a better world for ourselves and future generations."

The first edition, '2 parts and 2 veenas', is a collaboration between two artists from Chennai, India, and two artists from the United States. The second edition, '3 parts and 3 veenas', is a collaboration between three artists from Chennai, India, and three artists from the United States. The third edition, '4 parts and 4 veenas', is a collaboration between four artists from Chennai, India, and four artists from the United States.

The project is a global movement for a better world. It is a series of music productions, which are being launched on World Environment Day. The project is a collaboration between artists from different parts of the world. The project is a representation of people from different cultures, geographies, religions, languages, professions, and political leaders who will be working together to create a better world for ourselves and future generations.

Chennai, July 29: Planet Symphony unveiled the Scientific, Urban Roofscaping for Environment (SURE) initiative to save thousands of cities and towns from water shortage by attracting rain first and enabling citizens to harvest it much more effectively. Further, it can minimise flooding, purify air, lower indoor temperatures by at least 1°C (outdoor shade temperatures by several degrees more) and reduce strain on air-cons, lower energy bills and decrease greenhouse contributions.

Paraspara and The International Foundation for Carnatic Music's environmental wing, Planet Symphony will jointly present the maiden concert of young violinists, Smitha Hanuman as an Event for Environment (EIE) with celebrated Indian musicians Akkari Subbalakshmi & Sumalatha, Neyveli Narayanan and Ghatam Karthak at Shastri Hall, Mylapore, graced by eminent violinist V V Subrahmanyam and V V Sundaram, the brains behind the world-famous Cleveland Festival.

Chitravina N Ravikiran said, "Millions of citizens suffer because of rain-deficits or floods, barely breathable air, unreliable power supply and high tariffs but the SURE project can turn it all around for them. The best news is that its return on investment is exponential in enhancing the quality of life and also saving the planet from an Environmental Meltdown."

SURE is a 3-step process: (a) literally having 6-75% potted plants on terrace gardens to cover the roofs of any building away from or tall than the nearest trees (b) figuratively going green with solar panels and installing roof-rain water harvesting,

Planet Symphony launches SURE for rain water harvesting initiative

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Pho. 23 July 2019
trinitymirror.epaper.in/c/41368736

Symphony of people for the planet

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Need for immediate action
The first version of the piece is being launched online from different countries.

Planet Symphony Day
The city of Middleton, Wisconsin, USA has decided to proclaim June 22 as Planet Symphony Day in recognition of all artists, musicians, students, and supporters of the SURE.

An art-science initiative
With 2000 international and national award-winning artists, scientists, architects, environmentalists, business industrial leaders as well as students from 50 countries, the Planet Symphony Orchestra is the world's leading art-science initiative.

Music for an impact
This eight-act, 20-part, 70-scale Climate Symphony highlights the disconnecting reality with which our planet is facing global climate change, resulting in rampant and severe weather patterns all over the world. Hundreds of star performers and thousands of talented young musicians from the USA, UK, Brazil, India, Chi-

The big picture
At a broader level, the PSO is a symphony of climate scientists, artists, musicians, art producers, and other professionals, who aim to apply art to broad-based and complementary science to raise awareness about climate change and its far-reaching environmental impacts.

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INDIAN, Wed, 05 June 2019

CLIMATE CRISIS CALLS FOR A SMART PLANET

Express Features

Eight eminent speakers and other experts shared their views on 'Urban unlivability issues and solutions' at the Climate Crisis Conclave organised by Planet Symphony Global Environmental initiative in collaboration with Arkay Convention Center, recently, as part of Madras Day celebrations.

"We are replacing valuable green space or soil with concrete. Our rooftops are viable options for bringing in more greenery," said Anupama Mohanram, founder, Green Evolution. She said that if rooftop gardens are combined with vertical planting then the landscape can create a new and natural aesthetic facade.

Ramshankar of Rain Centre presented the importance of rainwater harvesting and his organisation's objectives. "Rain is the predominant source of all freshwater on Earth," he said. He spoke about other Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) systems including the driveway and runoff rainwater harvesting systems. "Rooftop rainwater

harvesting isn't the only method," he said.

Chitravina N Ravikiran, hailed globally as the 'Mozart of Indian Music', shared his organisation's goals and ideologies for a smart planet. "The need of the hour is to be environmentally smart and not only electronically smart," he said. He shared that Planet Symphony's Scientific Urban Roofscaping for Environment (SURE) Project is the sure solution to mitigate the concrete problem, attract and harvest rain.

The presentations were followed by a panel discussion. The panel included Ajit Kumar Chordia, MD, Olympia; Keerthi, CREDAI; and Lalitha Balakrishnan, principal, MOP Vainyan as speakers. Vaidheeswaran, Ecoworks was the Moderator.

Balakrishnan announced that her college will be working closely with Planet Symphony and implement the 'One Student One Plant' scheme to make MOP college's roof an eco space. She said that the college will take a proactive role in converting buildings into Planet Symphony SURE Buildings.

PSO Aims at Combating Climate Change Through Music

By Anshu Pillay

Planet Symphony Orchestra (PSO) is a global movement for a better world. It is a series of music productions, which are being launched on World Environment Day. The project is a collaboration between artists from different parts of the world. The project is a representation of people from different cultures, geographies, religions, languages, professions, and political leaders who will be working together to create a better world for ourselves and future generations.

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Music to highlight environmental damage

A host of Carnatic artists join global music production, Planet Symphony Orchestra

Special Correspondent

Several celebrated Carnatic musicians, including TV Gopalakrishnan, Karakudi Mani, A. Jayaraman, Lalaji G.R. Krishnan and Vijayalakshmi Sankar, Chennai-based, Ghatam Karthak, M. Chandrasekhar, K. Sankaranarayanan and Akkari Subbalakshmi, have joined hands with hundreds of international artists to be part of the Planet Symphony Orchestra (PSO), an art-science production that will be released on World Environment Day, June 5, Chitravina N Ravikiran has composed the 12-



The line-up of stars in the recording to take the SURE project to the world, conducted by Michael Heumann.

part symphony, based on the 72 Melakartha, in which around 1000 artists from over 50 countries have taken part. "This will be an art-science production under the PSO. All musicians are well-versed in their art and are offering awareness to the world through their art. We are in the process of tying up with NGOs," Mr. Ra-

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This NGO teaches how to attract rains

KV Navya

While everyone is talking about rainwater harvesting and water conservation, Planet Symphony a non-profit organisation on Sunday launched a project that also looks into one of the most important aspects — how to attract rain. The Scientific Urban Roofscaping for Environment (SURE) project provides the residents of Chennai, a solution on three aspects — how to attract rain, how to harvest it and how not to repel rain.

"Instead of building rainproof houses, we have all built a rainproof city. So, a lot of areas are not getting rain at all. Even if they are getting, it is unpredictable and random. And when it does, there are storms and floods. So, our solution is simple — go back to basics," says Chitravina Ravikiran, founder, Planet Symphony.

"As long as the trees were higher than the buildings, rain patterns were fairly good. But the moment the scenario became vice versa, the city started attracting heat," he explains. "These

buildings attract, trap and radiate heat. To begin with, any building higher or farther from a tree has to be greener. An economical solution is to have 65-70 per cent of potted plants on the terrace. With plants even available at ₹100, this should not be an issue. One can also opt for terrace garden if he/she can afford. It is proven that this can control temperature and urban pollution."

For the second step, which is rainwater harvesting, Planet Symphony tied up with institutions like Rain Centre to help set up rainwater harvesting mechanisms at all the houses.

"The last step is not to repel rain and this can be achieved by installing solar panels on the roofs. It promotes greener and cleaner energy. All the three aspects we are addressing are interconnected and if we are looking for overnight transformation before the northeast monsoon, this can be it," said Ravikiran. "The expert advice on all the three steps is provided by Planet Symphony at free of cost. The public only needs to invest on the infrastructure.



Chitravina N Ravikiran, founder, Planet Symphony

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