

India will double investment in next 5 years in clean energy research ISNS correspondent

India will double its investment in the next five years in clean energy research, minister for science and technology Dr. Harsh Vardhan announced this at the Mission Innovation Ministerial at San Francisco on Thursday. Dr. Vardhan is leading an Indian delegation to the Mission.



Stating that India's current investment (\$72 million) would be doubled (\$145 million) in clean energy research by formally collaborating with the Mission Innovation countries the minister emphasized on India's commitment to pursue a green path to growth through research led innovations.

India has launched a number of collaborative R&D efforts to pursue research in solar energy, energy efficiency, advanced biofuels, electrical transmission and storage with US, UK, Australia, Norway, South Korean and many other countries, he said.

The minister also announced his plans on expanding India's collaboration with UK through setting up a Joint virtual Clean Energy Centre to address the challenges to intermittent solar energy and launching a new Research Track on Smart Energy Grids and Energy Storage under Indo-US PACE-R (Partnership to Advance Clean Energy-Research)

At the inaugural Mission Innovation (MI) Ministerial ministers from all Mission Innovation partner countries released their respective governments' plans to double clean energy research and development funding over five years.

The ministers also welcomed the European Commission on behalf of the European Union as the 21st partner.

MI was announced on November 30, 2015 by the leaders of 20 countries that have a shared desire to accelerate global clean energy innovation during COP 21 in Paris in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

India is a founding member of the Steering Committee and also a member of the two sub-groups: Joint research, Capacity Building and Private Sector Engagement. Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology is coordinating the national efforts towards Mission Innovation.