



Press Note



Dr Farooq Abdullah announces new initiatives to bring clean cooking technologies to rural India during the India Clean Cookstove Forum 2013

New Delhi, November 26, 2013: With the vision of enhancing the use of improved cookstove technologies, envisaged under the National Biomass Cookstove Programme (NBCP), **Dr Farooq Abdullah, Minister of New and Renewable Energy** inaugurated the India Clean Cookstove Forum 2013 organised jointly by the Ministry and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH operating on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Speaking on the occasion, **Dr Farooq Abdullah** said *“increased use of clean and efficient cookstoves is crucial to reduce the burden of disease from indoor air pollution as well to avoid the overuse of biomass resources.”*

During the Forum, the Minister launched a new initiative on biomass cookstoves developed under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of the United Nations Frameworks Convention on Climate Change to reduce the cost of improved stove technologies to rural customers through the sale of carbon credits.

With more than 150 participants, the forum was the largest national event on clean cooking solutions that has ever been organised in India. During the event all relevant stakeholders in the Indian cookstove sector discussed potential solutions to the most significant challenges hindering the large-scale adoption of improved cookstoves.



Following up on the results of the discussions, the Indo-German Energy Programme Renewable Energy Component (IGEN-RE), a cooperation project between MNRE and GIZ on behalf of BMZ will develop marketing and awareness campaigns, as well as pilot innovative mechanisms for end-user financing. Furthermore the development of a web-based platform will be initiated to support manufacturers and distributors of improved cookstoves in creating an open space for knowledge sharing among each other.