SDGs must for human well being, says experts

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Singapore - Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) must be high on priority of the international community to achieve human wellbeing, social equity and reducing environmental risk, experts said here Thursday.

A group of experts, including scientists and members from social organizations, said discussions on a roadmap to SDGs on the lines of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that came to an end in 2015. Organised by the Asian-Europe Environment Forum (E4Forum), the seminar “Sustainable Development Assessment: Towards Measurable Goals” was conducted in the Asian and European perspective to address issues under SDGs.

“The main aim of the seminar was to initiate the Post-20 discussion (Earth Summit held in June) on SDGs and their indicators under the Asia-Europe Environment Forum (AEEF). The programme will empower countries to lead towards a better world approach consultation,” said Theiri Schwan, AEEF director for intellectual exchange.

Members from the Asian countries expressed their apprehensions about the aims and emphasised that their rights to development and poverty alleviation should be the core of any discussions.

“SDGs must for human well being, social equity and reducing environmental risk. The conference in Brazil in June this year saw countries arriving at a consensus on SDGs to address the issue of sustainable development and environment conservation. It is important to hold discussions on SDGs to ensure that reservations and concerns of developing countries like India are heard. We have to ensure that sustainable goals should not hamper our growth and development,” said Richa Sharma from The Energy Research Institute (TERI).

By Richa Sharma