



## PRESS RELEASE

### **CEED organises 100% UP Campaign's Paaryavaran Chunavi Jan Samvad Yatra in Agra**

CEED urges all the political parties in UP to extend their support to include the Public Manifesto on Environment in their agendas in the upcoming UP election.

**Agra, Dec 8, 2016.** Centre for Environment and Energy Development (CEED) organised the a Paaryavaran Chunavi Jan Samvad Yatra in Agra on Thursday. The event was organised in collaboration with Amrita Vidhya – Education For Immortality Society. The campaign was launched last month that aims for sustainable development of the state with establishing renewable energy as main source of energy and setting sustainable action plan for clean air, clean water access and effective waste management.

Uncontrolled growth and unsustainable urbanization has created a havoc in Uttar Pradesh, the most populace state of India with four of it's cities listed as world's 20 most polluted cities. Climate change, the biggest socio-environmental crisis of modern era, has also hit the state hard because of its massive vulnerable and economically weaker population. The 2005 inventory suggest that UP is the highest CO2 emitting state in India with contribution of nearly 14% greenhouse gases. Further, 85 million people including 5 million in urban areas, of the state are still living without access to modern electricity. Lack of proper solid waste disposal system further adds to the crisis, causing significant adverse impact on quality of lives and public health as well as degrading natural resources like land, water and air.

Talking about the campaign, Mr. Abhishek Chanchal, Public Outreach Officer at CEED said that the 100% UP Campaign that UP has been rapidly developing in terms of economy and infrastructure, however, the environment has paid a heavy price. The aim of the 100% UP Campaign is to switch UP to the trajectory of a sustainable development where environmental issues are given equal priority as given to economic development. Mr. Chanchal further added that the motto of this campaign is to urge the political parties to support the Public Manifesto on Environment and include them in their respective agendas in the upcoming UP state assembly elections.

Mr. Anil Sharma from Amrita Vidhya – Education for Immortality society said that the pollution levels in Agra is so severe, that it has not just affected the well-being of the citizens here, but has also adversely affected the shine of the marbles of the Taj Mahal. The 100% UP Campaign amplifies the voices of the community and of the civil society groups who have been working towards reducing pollution levels in the city. This effort shall urge the government to implement aggressive policies to protect the environment, he concluded.

Mr. Satyendra Singh, the NSS chief of Agra urged all the civil society groups to extend their support to the 100% UP Campaign and reach out to more and more people to spread awareness about the issues the campaign is focusing upon.

The 100% UP Campaign started two months back and has since, moved around the state and hosted various events, open house discussions, workshops, parliamentary debates, street plays, and other media events. Through these events, the campaign has managed to engage with different civil society groups, youth communities, political leaders, media

personnels and the citizens of UP to support the campaign and urge their political parties to pay heed to their demands. The campaign recently released the Public Manifesto on Environment in Lucknow which was well attended and supported by the spokesperson from all the political parties in UP.

**Note to Editor:**

1. Copy of Manifesto <http://ceedindia.org/100-up-public-manifesto/>
2. WHO report  
[http://www.who.int/phe/health\\_topics/outdoorair/databases/cities/en/](http://www.who.int/phe/health_topics/outdoorair/databases/cities/en/)
3. 2005 inventory report  
[http://www.moef.gov.in/sites/default/files/SAPCC\\_UP\\_final\\_version\\_0.pdf](http://www.moef.gov.in/sites/default/files/SAPCC_UP_final_version_0.pdf)
4. Centre for Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)'s Energy Access Report 2015  
<http://ceew.in/pdf/CEEW-ACCESS-Report-29Sep15.pdf>

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