India has achieved 200 Gigawatts of renewable energy: PM
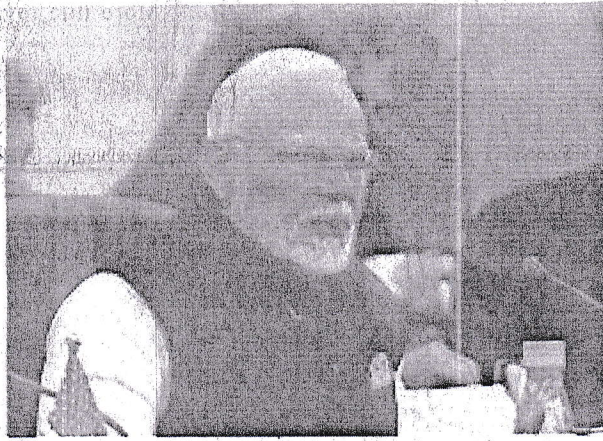
STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
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Speaking at the G-20 Summit on Sustainable Development and Energy Transition in Rio, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said that India has achieved 200 Gigawatts of renewable energy out of the target of 500 Gigawatts by 2030.

"We believe that taking care of nature is our moral and fundamental duty. India is the first G-20 country to have fulfilled the commitments it made under the Paris agreement, ahead of time," he told the gathering of the world's top leaders.

The PM recalled that during the New Delhi G-20 summit in September last year, India had adopted the Varanasi Action plan to accelerate achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

"We had resolved to triple renewable energy production, and to double the energy efficiency rate by 2030 Under Brazil's presidency, priority has been accorded to the implementation of these goals, and we welcome this," he added.

Emphasising India's commitments and efforts to achieve the sustainable development agenda, Mr Modi said that over the last one decade, India has built homes for more than 40 million families. Over the last 5 years, clean water supply has been ensured for 120 million homes.

More than 100 million families have been provided with clean cooking fuel And toilets have been made for over 115 million families.

He said India's efforts are based on traditional Indian thought which is both progressive and balanced.

A belief system in which the earth is considered mother, rivers, Givers of life, and trees are considered godlike.

The PM said India has made the Green transition a people's movement.

PM arrives in Guyana after attending G20 Summit

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Guyana from Brazil on Wednesday on the last leg of his three-nation tour. This is the first visit by an Indian PM to Guyana in 56 years.

As a special gesture, on arrival at the Georgetown airport, he was warmly received by the President of Guyana Mohamed Irfaan Ali, along with Prime Minister Brigadier (Ret'd) Mark Anthony Phillips and was accorded a ceremonial welcome. More than a dozen Cabinet Ministers of the Government of Guyana were also present at the ceremony.

On his arrival at the hotel, he was welcomed by President Ali along with other leaders. In addition, he received a rousing and colourful welcome from the Indian community and the Indo-Guyanese diaspora.

Between the welcome at the airport and the hotel, the entire Guyanese government Cabinet was present. As a testament to the close India-Guyana friendship, the Mayor of Georgetown handed over the "Key to the City of Georgetown" to Mr Modi.