

Ms. (Dr.) Sunita Narain

Director, Centre for Science and Environment

Sunita Narain, born in 1961, has been with the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) from 1982. She is currently the director of the Centre and the director of the Society for Environmental Communications and publisher of the fortnightly magazine, Down To Earth.

She is a writer and environmentalist, conducts research with forensic rigour and passion, so that knowledge can lead to change. In 2005 and again in 2008 and 2009 she was included by US journal Foreign Policy as one of the world's 100 public intellectuals. In 2005 she was awarded the Padma Shri by the Indian government. She has also received the World Water Prize for work on rainwater harvesting and for its policy influence in building paradigms for community based water management. In 2005, she also chaired the Tiger Task Force at the direction of the Prime Minister, to evolve an action plan for conservation in the country after the loss of tigers in Sariska. She advocated solutions to build a coexistence agenda with local communities so that benefits of conservation could be shared and the future secured. She is a member of the Prime Minister's Council for Climate Change. As well as the National Ganga River Basin Authority, chaired by the Prime Minister, set up to implement strategies for cleaning the river.

She has co-edited publications on the State of India's Environment, conducted in-depth research on the governance and management of the country's environment and directed campaigns on air pollution control, community water management and pesticide regulation.

Education

- Graduated from University of Delhi (1983), India.
- Doctor of Science (Honorary) Honoris Causa, Cranfield University, UK.
- D.Sc. Degree (Honorary) University of Calcutta, India