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Jairam, Boer back Pachauri

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Feb. 4: Embattled IPCC chief R.K. Pachauri on Thursday found support in UN's climate chief Yvo de Boer and Union minister of environment Jairam Ramesh, with both insisting him to not resign in the wake of the controversy regarding the melting of the Himalayan glaciers.

Union minister of environment Jairam Ramesh said, "The Indian government is supporting Pachauri to the hilt. There are no two opinions on this."

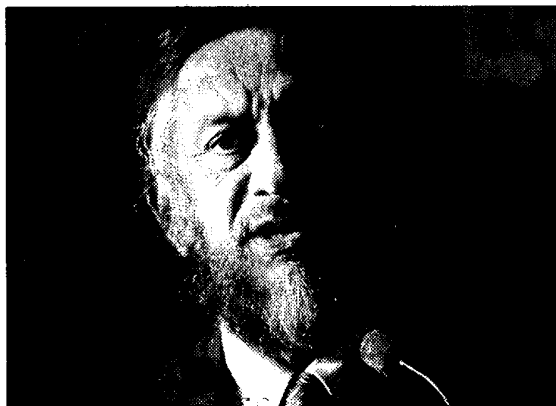
He went on to spell out that Prime Minister Manmohan Singh would be addressing the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit organised by TERI, on

Friday, which would be the first major gathering of world leaders and climate change experts post Copenhagen Summit.

Mr Ramesh, however, pointed out that he found it "bizarre" that India was not a member of the IPCC bureau, although as a nation it was most vulnerable to climate change.

Using a Dutch phrase to describe Mr Pachauri, Mr Boer, the executive secretary of the UN framework convention on climate change, said, "Tall tree which collects a lot of wind .. well he is a tall tree".

Mr Boer also described him as being a facilitator "who allows the process to function properly, but he is not taking the decisions. I hope he does not (resign)."



R.K. Pachauri at the World CEO Forum 2010 in New Delhi on Thursday. PHOTO: PTI