



'SUN' Photo—Lakshman Gunatilleke

Prime Minister R. Premadasa, who delivered the keynote address at the first Governing Council meeting of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme at the BMICH yesterday, being greeted by Trade and Shipping Minister and Governing Council Chairman Lalith Athulathmudali and the Protom Director Dr. Leslie Herat.

PREMIER SEEKS...

Alternate model for development

By JENNIFER HENRICUS

Prime Minister R. Premadasa yesterday called on ministers and officials of the South Asian region to introduce policies and plans that would ensure environmental security and sustainable development in the region.

Delivering the keynote address at the first Governing Council meeting of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme at the BMICH yesterday, Mr. Premadasa said there was an urgent need in the region to search for alternative development models based on self reliance, popular participation and utilisation of local resources.

The overwhelming reality in the South Asian region, Mr. Premadasa said, was the density of population. This had necessitated "finely balanced" development to make the best possible use of limited resources.

In our attempts to achieve this objective of sustainable development we may have to abandon the imported development models," he said.

Addressing ministers and their representatives from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Iran and Nepal, Mr. Premadasa called for measures to successfully launch the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless throughout the region in 1987.

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