



NEWS BULLETIN

Plants and Pollution

ENVIS RP-NBRI

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Vol. 06, June 2021

World Environment Day 2021: Reimagine, Recreate, Restore

CSIR-NATIONAL BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, LUCKNOW

World Environment Day 2021: The real oximeter

Down to Earth, 04 June 2021

Celebrating World Environment Day in the time of an ongoing horrific health pandemic is difficult to contemplate. In this time of immense human grief and loss, what does the environment even count for? But take a moment to reflect.

The most important element that we gasped for in the past month was oxygen. Think of the hours and days we spent finding oxygen for our loved ones; how we saw patients collapse and die because hospitals did not have oxygen in the tanks; how the courts stepped in to regulate the transportation of oxygen from industries across the country; how we learnt about the business of oxygen concentrator — a machine that sucks in air and gives us oxygen on demand.

Our desperation cannot be recounted without pain. We saw the gasp for each breath — and just how precious it is. This then is what we must remember this World Environment Day. The oxygen that we get from nature is about increasing green cover and ensuring that our air — our every breath — is not polluted. Something we talk glibly about and yet discount with our next move.

The theme of this year's World Environment Day, celebrated every year on June 5, is ecosystem restoration. Increasing the tree density and repairing the ecosystem health means the world will sequester carbon dioxide — that is filling up our atmosphere and leading the world to an inexorable downward spiral of climate change impacts — and release oxygen. It's a win-win. But what we need to understand is that planting trees or restoring ecosystems will require us to first restore our relationship with nature and society.

The fact is trees are about land — who owns it; who protects and regenerates it, and who has the rights over the produce. In India, the forest department has the “ownership” of vast areas of common forest land. But countries like India do not have “wilderness”. Instead, we have habitats where people coexist with wild animals in forests.

These are the same forest districts classified as the most backward and poorest. It is also a fact that using all the legal and administrative, and sometimes,..... [Read More....](#)

A look at the government schemes for promoting green initiatives in India

Money Control, 05 June 2021

National Clean Air Programme

Launched in 2019, the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) aimed at a long-term, time-bound, national-level strategy to tackle the air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner with targets to achieve a 20 percent to 30 percent reduction in particulate matter concentrations by 2024, keeping 2017 as the base year.

Under NCAP, 122 non-attainment cities have been identified across the country based on the air quality data from 2014-2018.

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

For urban areas, the scheme is looked over by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs while the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation is responsible for rural areas.

Nearly 26,563 Swachh Bharat activities have been concluded with over 51,326 active participants. Phase I of the mission was completed in October 2019 while Phase II of the mission will last till 2024-25.

Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP)

Launched under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the GSDP offers vocational training programmes focusing on soft or ‘green’ skills. Green skills contribute to preserving or restoring environmental quality for a sustainable future and include jobs that protect ecosystems and biodiversity, reduce energy and minimize waste and pollution.

The programme endeavours to develop green skilled workers having technical knowledge and commitment to sustainable development, which will help in the attainment of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs),..... [Read More...](#)



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Ministers And Celebs Urge Their Followers To Restore The Ecosystem

NDTV, 05 June 2021

Several Ministers, as well as Bollywood celebrities, took to social media to celebrate World Environment Day which is observed on June 5, every year. From the Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar, President Ram Nath Kovind, to the relentless environment activist and Actor Dia Mirza, everyone shared special posts about the power of mother nature and urged their followers to work towards preserving the environment and adopt sustainable living. They further highlighted the importance of 'Ecosystem Restoration', which is the theme for World Environment Day, this year.

President Ram Nath Kovind said that living in harmony with nature has been at the centre of Indian ethos.

"Living in harmony with nature and protecting biodiversity has been at the centre of Indian ethos and culture. On #WorldEnvironmentDay, as humanity fights against COVID-19, we reaffirm our commitment to work with global community for a sustainable future, President Kovind tweeted.

Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar shared a series of tweets where he talked about India's initiatives towards 'India's Green Future'

"India is home to rich wildlife & biodiversity with 70% of Global Tiger, 70% of Asiatic Lions & 60% of Leopard population.

Substantial increase in population of BIG Cats in last 7 yrs reflects Govt's commitment towards conservation of our wildlife & environment #WorldEnvironmentDay

"To facilitate and enhance electric mobility in India, and generate demand for electrical vehicles, the phase 2 of the FAME INDIA scheme is being implemented with huge budgetary support of Rs. 10,000 crore..... [Read More...](#)

Follow the 3Rs and protect the environment

Pink Villa, 06 June 2021

We all are well-versed with the 3Rs Rule. The 3Rs of ecology are Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. On the occasion of World Environment Day, let us follow this rule to the t and do our bit to protect, nurture and save the environment. We can do our bit by reducing waste generation, reusing and repurpose items and recycle products.

This year's theme for World Environment Day is 'Reimagine. Recreate. Restore.' as this year marks the beginning of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. This year, the focus is on resetting relations with nature. Keeping this theme in mind, we can apply the 3R Rule to participate in preserving and protecting the environment. Here's how you can apply this rule in your homes.

Reduce

Reduce the use of over-packaged goods and disposable items like paper cups, napkins, etc. Try to buy durable goods that will last longer and will not need to be replaced frequently.

Reuse

There are many products like grocery bags, containers, paper, etc. that can be reused often. Take your own bags to stores instead of taking a fresh one every time you shop and try to reuse and repurpose items in different ways.

Recycle

Recycle plastic bags, bottles, foil, etc. to minimise waste generation. You can also recycle appliances by getting them fixed or donating them to charities. Similarly, you can collect rainwater and use it for various purposes and also try and buy second-hand furniture or donate [Read More...](#)