



The Environmental Information System at Eco-Auditing Laboratory, National Botanical Research Institute is focussed on "Plants & Pollution". This is the E-mail Publication that Feature News, Information and Events Related to Plants & Pollution.

The Focus of ENVIS has been on Providing Environmental Information to Decision Makers, Policy Planners, Scientists and Engineers, Research Workers, etc. all over the World.

Eco-Auditing Group is Involved in R & D on Eco-Monitoring, Environmental Impact Assessment, Eco-Friendly Models that are Technologically and Economically Feasible for Phytoremediation of Polluted Lands and Polluted Waters etc.

News

Hindu devotees in India go green with biodegradable idols

The 10-day Ganesha Chaturthi culminates with the immersion of Ganesha idols into the sea and rivers, and to prevent water pollution, people have been turning to eco-friendly solutions over the past few years. NEW DELHI: Hindus across India are celebrating a festival marking the birth of the elephant-headed deity Lord Ganesha. Spectacular exhibits, also known as 'pandals' have been installed at various places across the country to celebrate the annual festival of Ganesha Chaturthi. People are thronging markets to buy the big and small figurines of Ganesha, which are immersed in water bodies to mark the end of the 10-day festival. But environmentalists have cautioned that the immersion of these idols, commonly made up of plaster and coloured chemicals, is endangering marine life and threatening the environment. "It should all be banned," said Vimlendu Jha, executive director of Sweccha. "Rather than looking at asking people not to put their idols into the river, one solution should be to ask why those idols should be produced. Do not make toxic gods at all. [Readmore...](#)

Date: 17 September, 2015

Source: <http://www.channelnewsasia.com>

When It Comes To Climate Change, This Is A Lesson Indian Govt. Needs To Learn Fast And Now

When we talk about climate change, it is important that we must understand that not only will long term policies pave the way out of this difficult situation, but short term goals are equally important. At this year's Sustainable Innovation Forum (SIF) at COP21 in Paris, those drafts will become a major hit which will contain a long-term vision with a short-term goal and India needs to prove itself this time that it is thinking for some real, achievable targets. India is one of those countries which is vulnerable to climate change and is already witnessing the effects of global warming. Scorching heat with dangerous heat waves, floods and famines in different regions, fast melting of the Himalayan belt causing landslides and increase in water levels in the low line areas, are to name a few. Climate change has come up as the biggest threat to the health of the people. [Readmore...](#)

Date: 18 September, 2015

Source: <http://www.youthkiawaaz.com>

Under new norms, 36 industries may not need environmental clearance

The government is set to hack away a great deal of red tape with a new classification of industries that uses colour codes to denote environmental impact, a move that means 36 industries may need no green clearance at all. The national pollution watchdog's proposal also increases the minimum duration of environmental consent while trimming the list of most-polluting businesses in an attempt to boost flagging economic growth. The new mechanism also replaces a host of unwieldy state rules—which have different time-frames for renewal of approvals for different regions—with a uniform national system that will promote more efficient environmental monitoring. "The new rules will bring uniformity in the period for which consent to operate is given to industries," a senior official of the Central Pollution Control Board said. For the first time, the classification was based on "scientific parameters" decided by a committee of experts, he added. Senior officials said the government is likely to adopt and notify the same rules with minimal changes as the CPCB came up with the system after consultation with the states. [Read more...](#)

Date: 18 September, 2015

Source: <http://www.hindustantimes.com>

The Ganges River Is Dying Under the Weight of Modern India

One day in January 2015, black crows began to fill the gray sky like wild brushstrokes, so a group of villagers decided to investigate. The birds were circling something, and as the villagers approached they heard the guttural growl of dogs, all teeth and rib cage, scrapping for the last tug of tendon. That's when they found a floating mass grave of more than 100 corpses washed up in a canal that connects to the Ganges River. The macabre event lent itself well to sensationalization; each headline that came out in the week following ferried me back to June 2013, when Raghvendra "Nandan" Upadhyay, a local journalist and tour guide, greeted me before leading me through his hometown by saying: "Welcome to the city of learning and burning, of light and death. Welcome to Varanasi." Situated on the west bank of the Ganges River—referred to in Hindi as Ma Ganga (Mother Ganga), or simply Ganga—in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, Varanasi is India's oldest city and thought to be one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. Mark Twain, upon visiting in the 1890s, quipped that it's "older than history, older than tradition, older even than legend, and looks twice as old as all of them put together!" [Read more...](#)

Date: 23 September, 2015

Source: <http://pulitzercenter.org>

China wants to clear the air with a market-based approach to pollution

DOING something about global climate change seems to be one of the very few things that the Chinese and American governments can agree upon. Earlier this year they announced a series of environmental measures which would, in practice, bring their carbon emissions per head to roughly the same level by 2030. Now, at a time of arguments over cyber-security, the South China Sea and much else, they have done it again, with President Xi Jinping due to announce, during a summit meeting with Barack Obama in Washington, that China plans to set up a national carbon-emissions trading market in 2017. When up and running, it should be the largest in the world. China already has seven pilot emissions-trading schemes in individual cities and provinces. The government always said that, assuming they worked, it would create a national market, too. [Read more...](#)

Date: 24 September, 2015

Source: <http://www.economist.com>

Hollande: Global Warming Deal Needed Before It's Too Late

French President Francois Hollande is warning that December's global warming conference in Paris could be the last chance to save the Earth. "In Paris, we will be asking one question," he told the U.N. General Assembly Monday. "Is humankind capable of deciding if we will preserve life on this planet? If we don't make this decision in Paris... it will be too late for the world." Delegates in Paris will seek agreement on how much to cut greenhouse gas emissions blamed for causing the global climate to get dangerously warmer [Read more...](#)

Date: 28 September, 2015

Source: <http://www.voanews.com>

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