



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

Environment ministry proposes India's first tree census

New Delhi: The environment ministry proposes to conduct India's first tree census, a move aimed at taking stock of the country's biodiversity and ensuring protection of its green areas. The census is also aimed at encouraging community awareness of the need for tree conservation, regulating pruning and felling and increasing green cover with people's participation. "We have finalized our plans for this ambitious programme of a nationwide tree census. A national tree census would be for the first time in the country's history. It will be a huge effort and would take months," a ministry official said on condition of anonymity. Until now, efforts have been made at a local level on a small scale to count the number of trees. In 2014, some Delhi neighbourhoods undertook a tree census, and some 150 have so far completed the effort. The tree census is part of the ministry's forest protection endeavours. [Read more..](#)

Date: 03 February, 2015

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

Could planting trees help ease carbon budgets?

Planting forests, adding lime to oceans, and improved soil management techniques are among the so-called Negative Emissions Technologies (NETs) that could help buy the world extra time to tackle climate change. But it would be "foolish" to assume these measures can outweigh the climate impacts associated with continuing to burn fossil fuels, Oxford University researchers have today warned. The latest report from the university's Stranded Assets Programme details how deploying NETs could save around 120 GtCO₂ by 2050, extending by 11 to 13 per cent the nominal global carbon budget required to deliver a 50 to 80 per cent change of limiting average warming to 2C. The vast majority of the saving could come from afforestation, soil carbon improvements, and biochar processes, whereby wood is burnt at high temperatures with limited oxygen to produce a char that can be added to soils, effectively trapping carbon, the report states. [Readmore...](#)

Date: 03 February, 2015

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

Delhi World's Most Polluted City. But it is Not an Election Issue

Delhi may be the most polluted city in the world according to last year's report by the World Health Organisation, but that's not the top election issue this time. In fact, going by the manifestos of the BJP, Aam Aadmi Party and the Congress, it is not an issue at all. At Lodhi Gardens -- part of the prestigious New Delhi constituency -- the pollution levels show Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5 at a worrying level of 135 micrograms. The normal is 60 micrograms. The constituency is seeing a triangular contest between AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal, senior Congress leader Kiran Walia and BJP's fresh entry - Nupur Sharma. PM 2.5 is the component that causes respiratory diseases, lung cancer and heart attacks. It is the highest in winter mornings when a thick blanket of smog envelopes the city, and ironically, when many of Delhi's voters walk to stay fit. [Read more..](#)

Date: 06 February, 2015

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

Can we green the hood without gentrifying it?

Now that we have established that gentrification is a thing, at least for those impacted by it, it's worth noting that there are good and bad sides to it, and that includes when neighborhoods get environmental makeovers. Neighborhood improvements like upgraded sewage infrastructure, LEED-certified green buildings, and bike lanes are great, but, counterintuitively, they can freak out residents of under-resourced communities who fear that such projects might price them out. When that happens, you've got what Jennifer Wolch, a professor at the University of California, Berkeley, calls "environmental gentrification." The National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), a committee of non-government, community-based stakeholders that helps steer EPA policies, examined this phenom in its 2006 report, "The Unintended Impacts of Redevelopment and Revitalization Efforts in Five Environmental Justice Communities" [Read more...](#)

Date: 09 February, 2015

Source: <http://grist.org/cities>

Air Pollution: Exactly what are we breathing?

Take a deep breath. Then think about what you've just inhaled. The air now in your lungs has circulated the Earth many times, mostly from west to east in the northern hemisphere. Canada shares this half of the planet with the world's most polluted cities, 10 of which are found in India, 3 in Pakistan, 1 in Iran and 1 in Qatar (International Political Economy Zone website, 2014: <http://ipezone.blogspot.ca/2014/05/china-india-us-pol-eco-of-pollution.html>). Although China isn't listed, in its capital city, Beijing, many residents wear face masks when outside, and private schools have built huge domes containing filtered air for the children to play in. It makes you wonder how many other significantly polluted cities there are when Beijing doesn't even make the IPEZ top-10 list. And, of course, Ontario also receives a significant amount of U.S. [Read more...](#)

Date: 10 February, 2015

Source: <http://millstonenews.com>

Careful urban tree planting and pruning needed to reduce trapping of air pollution

Careful planting and pruning is needed to ensure that air pollution in tree-lined streets is minimised, new research suggests. While planting trees in urban areas can have many benefits, such as enhancing biodiversity, trees can trap particulate matter pollution, say the study's authors. Particulate matter (PM) air pollution is a component of vehicle exhaust emissions and PM_{2.5} (particles of up to 2.5 micrometres in size) is linked to respiratory and lung disease, and early death. In the EU, Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe sets PM_{2.5} limits and targets for reduction. In places where busy streets are lined by buildings on both sides, creating a 'street canyon', traffic emissions can build up. Anything that prevents pollution from escaping could increase the health risks faced by those living and commuting in the area. Therefore, even trees, which are usually planted for their cooling effects as well as benefits for biodiversity and wellbeing, can have a negative impact. [Read more...](#)

Date: 12 February, 2015

Source: <http://www.environmental-expert.com>

NEWSBULLETIN COMMITTEE

Executive Editor

Dr. Nandita Singh

n.singh@nbri.res.in

Compiled By

Dr. Shivani Srivastava, Yashpal Singh, Deepmala Yadav

NBRI ENVIS Node: <http://www.nbrienviis.nic.in>

NBRI Website: <http://www.nbri.res.in>

ENVIS Cell: <http://enviis.nic.in>

Ministry of Environment & Forests: <http://envfor.nic.in>