

ENVIS - NBR **ENVIS - NBRI**



Vol. 03, March 2016

NATIONAL BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, LUCKNOW

News

SBULLETI

Pollution killing half a million Britons, says Jeremy Corbyn

Jeremy Corbyn has said hundreds of thousands of people are dying as a result of poor air quality in the UK, as he attacked David Cameron's record on the environment. The Labour leader accused the prime minister of failing to tackle pollution in an unexpected set of questions on green issues, from dirty air to carbon emissions. Corbyn said the government's lack of compliance with international law on air quality would kill half a million people and cost the economy £20bn. "The government is now threatened with being to be taken to court for its failure to comply with international law. He is proposing to spend tens if not hundreds of thousands of pounds on defending the indefensible," Corbyn said at prime minister's questions. In response, Cameron said the government had brought in "clean air zones and emissions from cars coming down", while arguing that the plan to reduce carbon from electricity by more than 80% would create "one of the best green records anywhere in the world". He went on to reference laws introduced by a previous Conservative government. Readmore... original clean air Date: 16 March, 2016

Source: http://www.theguardian.com

Green cleaning supplies help the environment

Almost all commonly used cleaning and maintenance products contain chemicals that can cause serious health effects, including respiratory ailments, skin irritation, neurological disorders and even cancer. In addition to the human effects, many of these products or their byproducts can harm aquatic life and other species. Greener, non-toxic cleaners not only are better for your health, but they're better for the environment too. NHL facility operation teams are promoting environmentally friendly cleaning practices and procuring environmentally friendly products. Arenas are choosing non-toxic paints and cleaning supplies. NHL arenas, including Verizon Center in Washington, Air Canada Centre in Toronto and Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia, also are using a new device that effectively turns regular tap water into a highly efficient cleaner to scrub concourses and clean glass and mirrored surfaces using sodium-enriched water charged with electricity. This unique system allows these facilities to use fewer chemicalbased cleaning products. These improvements reduce the risk of health concern for facilities teams, NHL players and fans, and cut down on environmental pollution. Readmore Date: 17 March, 2016

Source: https://www.nhl.com

Tory inaction on emissions 'insults people dying from air pollution,' say green lawyers

Green campaigners are suing the government for failing to meet EU air pollution limits in British cities. Environmental law group ClientEarth issued a fresh legal challenge on Friday, after accusing the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) of delaying stricter pollution laws. The government is legally required to meet EU targets on the toxic gas NO2, which is thought to kill about 25,000 people in the UK each year. ClientEarth have asked the High Court to urgently review Defra's plans to tackle the gas, which is emitted from vehicles and industry.A lawyer for the group said the court could force the government to rewrite its policies to counter pollution. "The plan they came up with [in December 2015] was just not good enough. It was a plan for a plan. These are classic delaying tactics. Meanwhile, thousands of people are dying," ClientEarth lawyer Alan Andrews said. "Government has been delaying for years. This challenge will force a full legal examination of Defra's plans. "ClientEarth's case concerns 15 cities and regions across the UK, including London, Manchester, Birmingham and Glasgow. Scottish and Welsh ministers, the Mayor of London and Department for Transport will also be served with papers. Read more..

Date: 18 March, 2016 Source: https://www.rt.com

Can Apple's \$1.5bn green bond inspire more environmental investments?

On the surface, green bonds seem counter intuitive: why would a company willingly take on debt to finance environmental efforts? But Apple's recent decision to issue its first green bond suggests that this type of investment could play a key role in reining in global warming. Apple's \$1.5bn green bond, announced last month, will fund several initiatives, including the company's conversion to 100% renewable energy, installation of more energy efficient heating and cooling systems and an increase in the company's use of biodegradable materials. A green bond, like a typical bond, is simply a way to borrow money, but it's issued specifically to fund environmental projects. Apple's green bond reflects a growing corporate concern about the economic impact of climate change. Businesses are responsible for the majority of manmade greenhouse gas emissions, which are driving up average temperatures worldwide and affecting many companies' bottom lines. Some, including Apple, are realizing the need to invest in environmental resources, such as watersheds or forests, to protect the sources of their products. Read more... Date: 20 March, 2016

Source: http://www.theguardian.com

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 Monitoring, Environmental Impact issessment, Eco-Friendly Mod<u>els that</u> are Technologically and and Economically Feasible for Phytoremedia--tion of -tion of Polluted Lands and Polluted Waters etc.

China's Dual Economic and Environmental Crises Present an Opportunity for Green Growth

When reading the news and analysts' research over the past few months, one cannot escape the feeling that China is caught between two crises. The first one is economic. The popular view in the global media holds that the Chinese economy is facing significant hardships, further exacerbated by the stock market turmoil since the second half of 2015 and that it may experience a "hard landing" which could be the epicenter of a looming global recession. The second, more long-term one is environmental. In the wake of China's rapid industrialization and urban growth, observers have tended to focus on China's status as the world's largest greenhouse gas emitter, air pollution in its main cities and the impact all this has on public health. Concerns on these two issues should not be dismissed quickly. They should, however, not lead observers to underestimate the strengths on which the Chinese economy can rely. Admittedly, China's GDP growth is slowing down, after more than three decades of double-digit average annual expansion. Read more ..

Date: 23 March, 2016

Source: http://www.huffingtonpost.com

NEWSBULLETIN COMMITTEE

Executive Editor Dr. Nandita Singh **Compiled By** Dr. Shivani Srivastava, Yashpal Singh, Deepmala Yadav

n.singh@nbri.res.in

NBRI ENVIS Node: http://www.nbrienvis.nic.in NBRI Website: http://www.nbri.res.in ENVIS Cell: http://envis.nic.in Ministry of Environment & Forests: http://envfor.nic.in