



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

NGT slams Centre, UP government over pollution in river Ganga

The National Green Tribunal on Monday slammed the Centre and UP government over pollution in river Ganga in Varanasi and said their slogans are contrary to actions. "It is really very unfortunate that such things are going on. Why don't you do something about this? Your slogans are very contrary to your actions," a bench headed by NGT Chairperson Swatanter Kumar said. The green panel pulled up the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Water Resources and UP government while asking them to look into the matter and deal with it expeditiously. The observation came after advocate Gaurav Kumar Bansal mentioned before the bench that bodies of humans and animals were being dumped in river Ganga and the authorities were allegedly not taking any action on the same. On January 15, the bench had directed Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand government to identify seriously polluting industries located on the banks of Ganga and apprise it about "quantity and quality" of discharge generated by them in the river. [Readmore...](#)

Date: 18 January, 2016

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

Air pollution in China abates, but winter a problem: Greenpeace

Air pollution levels fell in most cities in China last year, environmental group Greenpeace said on Wednesday, but a humid and windless winter shrouded swaths of the country in choking smog, slowing improvement in the second half. Beijing hoisted its first ever "red alerts" on air pollution in December, when a blanket of humid, still air trapped haze over the capital. The episode followed heavy criticism of the government for inaction during a prior bout of hazardous smog. "Despite Beijing's choking winter of red alerts, data from 2015 clearly shows a continued positive trend in Beijing and across the country," said Greenpeace climate and energy campaigner Dong Liansai. "However, air quality across China is still a major health hazard." average levels of PM2.5 - particulate matter of 2.5 micrometers in diameter that can penetrate deep into the lungs - dropped by 10.3 percent last year compared with 2014, Greenpeace said in a report published on Wednesday, citing official data from 189 cities. In the first half of the year, PM2.5 concentrations were down 16 percent from the corresponding 2014 period, the group had reported. Decades of growth-at-all-costs economic development in China has spawned massive problems of air, water and soil pollution that the ruling Communist Party has only in recent years begun to tackle. [Readmore...](#)

Date: 20 January, 2016

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

Stokes residents say Duke Energy pollution harms health, not just environment

Walnut cove — Clean air and water help keep bodies healthy. It's no wonder, then, that many people who have lived near the Duke Energy power plant in Belews Creek have either gotten sick, known someone who has gotten sick or has died, residents and conservation activists said Wednesday during a news conference highlighting the dangers of coal ash. There are no conclusive studies showing a cause-and-effect connection between the power plant and what residents say are higher-than-average rates of illnesses, including cancer, respiratory problems and heart disease. The same people might have gotten ill even if the power plant had not been built there in the early 1970s. And there are other possible culprits — industrial operations — in Stokes County. But residents don't seem to need such studies. They remember the days before power plants, when water and air were clean and fresh. They say they know, based on experience, that the power plant has made them or their friends or their relatives sick. Its smokestacks have polluted the air they breathe, and the 350-acre coal ash basin has polluted the water they drink.

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Date: 21 January, 2016

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

Environment body hails involvement of inspection organization in air pollution

TEHRAN – The Iranian Department of Environment issued a statement on Thursday, welcoming the General Inspection Organization's participation to tackle air pollution in large cities. The General Inspection Organization in Iran is in-charge for regular controlling and supervising executive bodies, military and disciplinary forces, state-run institutions and companies, municipalities and their subsidiaries, public notary chambers, foundations of public utility, revolutionary organs, and institutions whose financial resources totally or partially belong to the government. Last week, Naser Seraj director of the General Inspection Organization of Iran, issued a decree in which he assigned his deputy Naser Shekarbeigi to take immediate measures to review the performance of different organizations in reducing air pollution and update him with the results as soon as possible, IRNA reported on Wednesday. It is understood that dealing with air pollution is not limited to the government but all the other bodies are responsible as well, the statement reads. [Read more...](#)

Date: 23 January, 2016

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

Dire state of fisheries and worsening air pollution, revealed by Environmental performance index

This index is produced biennially by researchers at Yale and Columbia universities, in collaboration with the World Economic Forum and with support from the Samuel Family Foundation and the McCall MacBain Foundation. The report highlights increased access to water and sanitation stand out as a major success story. In this sense, concerted efforts to develop clean drinking water and sewage infrastructure have significantly reduced deaths from water-borne diseases. The number of people who lack access to clean water has been cut nearly in half since 2000, though at 550 million, or around 8 percent of the world's population, there is still much room for improvement. The world's nations also show strong commitments to habitat protection, and countries are now within striking distance of international targets for terrestrial and marine habitat protection. [Read more..](#)

Date: 26 January, 2016

Source: <http://en.mercopress.com>

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