



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

Dirty air can kill you by raising your risk of stroke

Air pollution was fingered for the first time as a major contributor to death and disability caused by stroke, especially in developing nations, in a health review published recently. Air pollution, both inside from cooking fires and outside from traffic fumes, ranked among the top 10 causes of stroke, along with better known risks such as smoking, high blood pressure and obesity. An international research team analysed data from a swathe of other studies reports and official statistics to create a mathematical model estimating stroke risk for 188 countries from 1990 to 2013. "A striking finding of our study is the unexpectedly high proportion of stroke burden attributable to environmental air pollution, especially in developing countries," said study co-author Valery Feigin of New Zealand's Auckland University of Technology. The authors said theirs was the first study to quantify the world's stroke burden in terms of healthy years lost due to people becoming sick, disabled or dying because of stroke. About 15 million people worldwide suffer strokes every year, of whom nearly six million die and five million are left disabled – including loss of vision or speech, paralysis and confusion. [Read more...](#)

Date: 16 June 2016

Source: <http://www.star2.com>

L.A. heatwave could mean more pollution for communities of color

The Southwest is sweating through record-breaking temperatures, so demand for electricity to keep air conditioners running is exceptionally high. In preparation, Los Angeles's local air quality watchdog made the unusual decision to allow certain power plants to burn dirty diesel if necessary, in order to avoid blackouts. And guess what? All three authorized plants happen to be located in communities of color. Blackouts happen when people try to take more power from the grid than what's available. If demand is too high, the entire grid can collapse. While it's annoying not to be able to run your air conditioner or charge your phone, blackouts can cause much more serious trouble. A hospital without power is in real danger. If stoplights go out, major accidents can bring traffic to a stop. All that refrigerated food — not just in your fridge, but also in the grocer's fridge and the wholesaler's fridge — goes bad pretty quickly. And good luck if you happen to be in an elevator when a blackout hits. [Read more...](#)

Date: 20 June 2016

Source: <http://grist.org>

Patna's air pollution worse than Delhi

In 2016, the air in Bihar's capital, Patna, was classified the world's sixth-most polluted in a World Health Organisation (WHO) ranking of 3,000 cities in 103 countries. There are 10 Indian cities among 20 globally with the most polluted air. Now, data from #Breathe—IndiaSpend's network of air-quality sensors—reveal that Patna's air quality over the last month was five times above the air quality guidelines recommended by WHO. Data from our sensors recorded between 13 May and 14 June, 2016 revealed "very poor" air quality 28% of the time, meaning that possible health impacts were respiratory illness at prolonged exposure. Over the same period and time, Delhi's PM 2.5 levels were twice above the same WHO guidelines. PM 2.5 refers to particulate matter known to pose the greatest threat to human health, smaller than 2.5 micrometers, or roughly 1/30th the thickness of the human hair. These particles can be inhaled deep into the lungs, causing heart attacks and strokes, which account for three-quarters of 3.3 million deaths—including 645,000 in India—every year globally, according to this 2015 study from Harvard University. [Read more..](#)

Date: 21 June 2016

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

Scientist: Fossil fuels' two-way assault on children's health needs to stop

Fossil fuels represent a two-pronged attack on the health of children, a leading health scientist has warned. To foster health and well-being in future generations, society needs to dramatically decrease dependence on dirty energy. In a commentary released today summarizing the key science around fossil fuels and children's health, Frederica Perera, a professor and researcher at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health and the Columbia Center for Children's Environmental Health, argues the science clearly shows that both toxic air emission and climate change as a result of fossil fuel emissions pose grave dangers to children. The benefits to children's health and future economy from a reduction in fossil fuel use are enormous—\$230 billion per year, according to researchers—and must factor into any policy arguments. Beyond the scientific and economic arguments for reducing the burning of fossil fuels, there is a "strong moral imperative to protect our most vulnerable populations," Perera wrote in the commentary published today in Environmental Health Perspectives. Debate over energy use and regulation, she said in an interview, must "look at the full cost" of continued reliance on fossil fuels. [Read more...](#)

Date: 22 June 2016

Source: <http://www.environmentalhealthnews.org>

10 Indian cities among 20 World's 20 most polluted air

In 2016, the air in Bihar's capital, Patna, was classified the world's sixth-most polluted in a World Health Organisation (WHO) ranking of 3,000 cities in 103 countries. There are 10 Indian cities among 20 globally with the most polluted air. Now, data from #Breathe - IndiaSpend's network of air-quality sensors - reveal that Patna's air quality over the last month was five times above the air quality guidelines recommended by WHO. Data from our sensors recorded between May 13 and June 14, 2016 revealed "very poor" air quality 28 per cent of the time, meaning that possible health impacts were respiratory illness at prolonged exposure. Over the same period and time, Delhi's PM 2.5 levels were twice above the same WHO guidelines. PM 2.5 refers to particulate matter known to pose the greatest threat to human health, smaller than 2.5 micrometers, or roughly 1/30th the thickness of the human hair. These particles can be inhaled deep into the lungs, causing heart attacks and strokes, which account for three-quarters of 3.3 million deaths - including 645,000 in India - every year globally, according to a 2015 Harvard University study. [Read more...](#)

Date: 23 June 2016

Source: www.thehansindia.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.nbrienvnis.nic.in>

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

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