



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

To Curb Pollution, Government Promoting Environment-Friendly Ways for Cremation

New Delhi: Government is promoting environment -friendly alternatives for cremation as burning of corpses in traditional ways causes air and other pollution, Lok Sabha was informed on Tuesday."To reduce air pollution at cremation grounds due to burning of corpses, government and other agencies concerned are promoting environment -friendly alternatives for cremation like electric cremation."Government is also promoting use of CNG/PNG for cremation to reduce pollution and creating awareness to change the mindset of people for adopting environment-friendly practices," Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar said in a written reply. National Green Tribunal has also directed various agencies including Delhi government, local bodies, municipal corporations and Delhi Cantonment Board to initiate programmes for providing alternative modes of cremation, he said. [Read more...](#)

Date: 04 May 2016

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

Environment Min pulled up for poor show in controlling pollution

The Environment Ministry has been pulled up for "poor" performance in controlling pollution and use of funds by a parliamentary panel, which asked it to take necessary measures to ensure targets are met in the future and money optimally utilised. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forest in its 283rd report of Demands for Grants (2016-17) of the Environment Ministry said the ministry also could not achieve the physical targets relating to Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations and new noise monitoring stations. The committee, chaired by Ashwani Kumar, said that whether it was air, water or noise pollution, it has gone beyond permissible limits during the last few years and has serious consequences for health and well-being of the citizens. "The committee finds that the performance of the ministry and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in a scheme relating to providing assistance for abatement of pollution is not impressive at all. [Read more...](#)

Date: 10 May 2016

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

UP pollution control board directs industries to switch to natural gas in four months

The Uttar Pradesh pollution control board (UPPCB) on Monday directed 20 polluting industrial units to shift from solid fuel to piped natural gas (PNG) in four months, else face action. These units, located in Noida's Phase-I, II and III areas, are mostly engaged in dyeing of garments and making carton boxes. They use coal for operations, which causes pollution. "We have issued a fresh notice to these units, giving them 120 days time to switch to PNG from solid fuel, which produces toxic gases. If they do not shift to PNG within 120 days, we will take legal action against them for causing pollution," Dr BB Awasthi, regional officer of UPPCB for Noida, said. According to the UPPCB, there are around 800 industrial units in Noida that use diesel to run machinery. However, UPPCB has not issued notice to them. "We want owners of these 800 units to switch from diesel to PNG voluntarily. We do not want to force them to convert to non-polluting fuel. We have issued notice to 20 units because these are highly polluting in nature," Awasthi said. In the last five months, 325 industrial units have switched from diesel to PNG. "We want to convince owners of industrial units to switch to non-polluting fuel. We are organising workshops to motivate them," an official said. UPPCB, in association with Indrapratha Gas Limited (IGL), is organising a workshop on the importance of non-polluting fuel in Sector 27 for industrialists on May 10. UPPCB has also written to the Noida authority to take strict action against builders and developers causing air pollution through construction activities. [Read more..](#)

Date: 10 May 2016

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

Environment ministry pulled up for unsatisfactory performance

New Delhi, May 11 (IANS) A parliamentary panel has pulled up the environment ministry for unsatisfactory performance and low utilisation of allocated funds, saying that it should prepare long term plans and ensure that targets are achieved. Raising concern over pollution, the panel described the ministry as an under-achiever in terms of controlling pollution in the rivers and air. "Air pollution has assumed gigantic proportions in the country. The measures taken by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for prevention and control of pollution and maintaining ecological balance have not been commensurate with the magnitude of the problem," the panel said. "The Committee finds that more and more rivers and water bodies are getting polluted and the level of their pollution is increasing day-by-day. In such scenario, not allocating the required funds even for the ongoing works show a self-defeating approach." The Standing Committee of Parliament attached to the Environment & Forests Ministry said the ministry utilised Rs.37.35 crore out of the allocated Rs.66.73 crore up to December 2015. The panel also said that the budgetary allocations for the 12th plan period was low compared to projections made by the ministry. "The ministry is not even able to utilize the funds which are made available to it and also falls short on achieving the physical targets." [Read more...](#)

Date: 11 May 2016

Source: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com>

Industrial waste flowing into Ganga down by 35%: Javadekar

NEW DELHI: New norms for abatement of pollution and stringent action against the violators helped bring down wastes from industrial units flowing into the Ganga by nearly 35 per cent over the past one year, the government said on Sunday. Environment minister Prakash Javadekar told PTI his ministry "concentrated" on 764 "grossly polluting" industries along the river and strict action, including closures as well, was taken against them. He said a report regarding this has been submitted to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) as well. The minister said effluent norms for distilleries and sugar factories were changed which is why 'black liquor' and 'spent wash' no longer flows in the Ganga and this helped bring down the pollution levels. [Read more...](#)

Date: 12 May 2016

Source: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com>

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