



## News

**Real estate sector needs just one clearance from green panel**

After the government ended multiple green approvals for the high "air pollution contributor" real estate sector, it now needs only clearance from a state environment authority, mostly headed by a retired bureaucrat. The sector has been exempted from appraisal under the Air and Water laws. The government move is part of its initiative to ease norms for business and reviving the demonetisation-hit sector. A 2015 report by the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, has termed the sector as the second biggest contributor to air pollution in the plains of India as environment-friendly dust trapping measures are not installed....[Read more...](#)

Date: 08 February 2017

Source: : <http://www.hindustantimes.com>**China is building 'Vertical Forest' to combat increasing pollution**

Today, pollution has become a major global issue. All over the world, countries are trying to come up with solutions to fight this problem. And the concern is all the bigger for countries with larger populations. China is taking the 'Green Environment, Clean Environment' thought to a whole other level with the construction of the 'Vertical Forest'. Two towers, called the Nanjing Green Towers, are being constructed next to each other with 1,100 trees and 2,500 cascading plants and shrubs. The trees, plants and shrubs will cover 65,000 square feet of the buildings' area. The Green Towers are expected to absorb 25 tons of carbon dioxide every year and produce approximately 60 kg of oxygen every day. The towers, one of 200 meters in height and the other 108 meters, are expected to be built by 2018. The taller tower, with 35 floors, will host offices, a museum and a school for green architecture. The smaller of the two towers will be the Hyatt hotel, with 247 rooms. There will also be a club on the former's rooftop and a swimming pool on the latter's . . .[Read more...](#)

Date: 08 February 2017

Source: <https://yourstory.com>**Haryana government decides to install Smog-eating towers in NCR to curb smog**

Smog-level-ncr-beijing-model/1/881292.html. In its fight against the looming winter smog over the NCR, the Haryana government has decided to follow the Beijing model. The state is in talks with a Holland-based company to set up smogfree towers in Gurugram and Faridabad, the two districts adjoining the national Capital that contribute to nearly one-fifth of air pollution in the region. A smog-free tower is a sevenmetre-high air purifier, the largest in the world, which takes in polluted air particles and expels cleaner air. Beijing, often dubbed as the Asia's smogchimney, installed several such units in October last year to handle the worsening air condition in the city....[Read more..](#)

Date: 12 February 2017

Source: <http://indiatoday.intoday.in>**Despite the evidence, India's environment minister underplays the health effects of air pollution**

In 1952 in London, the onset of a severe air pollution event that is referred to as the Great Smog caused an estimated 12,000 deaths. In recent memory, there has been one other event when a major global economic and political centre has been blanketed with thick smog as a result of cold weather, an atmospheric temperature inversion, and an array of pollutants emitted from various sources. This happened in Delhi after Diwali last year, and continued in the subsequent weeks. London's Great Smog led to the implementation of the Clean Air Act and several changes in common practice around cooking, heating and transport in the UK. In Delhi, the severe smog resulted in widespread outrage by the public, but there was little meaningful action from the government. With the indignation over the air quality emergency dying down, the pressure on the political class to take action has also waned as was evident from Union Environment Minister Anil Madhav Dave's somewhat incoherent remarks in the Rajya Sabha earlier this week. In a written reply to a question in the Upper House, Dave said that, "There is no conclusive data available in the country to establish direct correlation [sic] of death exclusively with air pollution" ... [Read more...](#)

Date: 13 February 2017

Source: <https://scroll.in>**India's Air Pollution Rivals China's as World's Deadlies**

New delhi — India's rapidly worsening air pollution is causing about 1.1 million people to die prematurely each year and is now surpassing China's as the deadliest in the world, a new study of global air pollution shows. The number of premature deaths in China caused by dangerous air particles, known as PM2.5, has stabilized globally in recent years but has risen sharply in India, according to the report, issued jointly on Tuesday by the Health Effects Institute, a Boston research institute focused on the health impacts of air pollution, and the Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation, a population health research center in Seattle. India has registered an alarming increase of nearly 50 percent in premature deaths from particulate matter between 1990 and 2015, the report says. "You can almost think of this as the perfect storm for India," said Michael Brauer, a professor of environment and health relationships at the University of British Columbia and an author of the study, in a telephone interview. He cited the confluence of rapid industrialization, population growth and an aging populace in India that is more susceptible to air pollution ... [Read more...](#)

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Source: <https://www.nytimes.com>

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