



## News

**India's National Green Tribunal Upheld Environmental Protections in 2016**

The year 2016 was a tumultuous one in terms of the environment across the world and India was no exception to this rule, having spent the final month of the year tackling a devastating cyclone in the country's south and unbearable pollution levels in the national capital New Delhi up north. In this context, while going green is increasingly an important prerogative for Indian leaders, it is important to understand the role of India's National Green Tribunal (NGT) and its work in 2016. Under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010, the NGT was set up with the specific mandate of handling environmental disputes, particularly multi-stakeholder scenarios. In 2016, it passed impactful verdicts on issues including control of pollution, forest clearance, and wildlife conservation. In terms of pollution control, when the air quality in Delhi began to deteriorate in early November, culminating in what ultimately was termed an environmental emergency, the NGT's role was critical in the efforts to restore normalcy. The NGT supported the phased deregistration of 15-year-old diesel vehicles in Delhi, placed strict rules on incineration plants, constituted a committee to inspect gas stations, and even pioneered a ban on disposable plastics, in effect from January 2017...[Read more...](#)

**Date:** 03 January 2017

**Source:** <http://thediplomat.com>

**India leads the world in two amazing clean energy projects**

Climate change is as scary as it's real. Earth's carbon dioxide levels are irreversible now and the sea levels are rising even as you read this. Environmentalists across the world are trying to create awareness for the importance of renewable energy resources in our day-to-day lives and try and curb the ill effects our excesses have caused to our planet. India has managed to spearhead two major clean energy projects. The world's first large-scale unsubsidized CO2 conversion unit and the largest solar energy plant in the world are situated in Tamil Nadu. An industrial plant situated in Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu, is converting the CO2 emissions from the coal-powered plant into baking soda that is used in manufacturing processes of glass, detergents, sweeteners and paper products. The plant can save up to 60,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions every year in the atmosphere. The technology, developed by Carbon Clean Solutions, has managed to achieve this without any subsidy from the government and is a first in the world. While the developers of the technology admit that this won't save the planet single handedly, they report that it will serve to reduce 5-10% of world's emissions from coal .[Read more...](#)

**Date:** 04 January 2017

**Source:** <http://elle.in/culture>

**“Adopt eco-friendly dyeing technologies for clean and green environment”**

Ms A Sharada Devi, Emeritus Scientist, College of Home Science, Agriculture University, Hyderabad, has called upon the textile industries to adopt eco-friendly dyeing technologies for clean and green environment. Addressing the two-day national conference on ‘Emerging strategies in green textiles and sustainable fashion’ organised by the Alagappa Institute of Skill Development here on Tuesday, she said as the country was confronted with pollution issues, it has become imperative for textile industries to adopt strategies for using eco-dyeing technologies. She expressed concern that the consequences of environmental pollution owing to artificial dyeing colours was on the rise. “Use of eco-friendly products such as natural dye and eco-fabrics would go a long way in addressing the pollution issues,” she said. Presiding over the conference, Prof S Subbiah, Vice Chancellor, Alagappa University, said gone were the days when the European countries dominated the textile sector. A century ago, European countries monopolised the textile sector but now, most of the Asian countries have become hubs of textile industries,” he said ...[Read more..](#)

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**Source:** : <http://www.thebetterindia.com>

**How Three Startups Are Using Innovative Methods to Clean and Restore River Ganga**

The river Ganga originates in the Himalayas, roughly three hundred miles north of Delhi and five miles south of India's border with Tibet, where it emerges from an ice shrouded cave called Gaumukh and is known as the Bhagirathi. Eleven miles downstream, gray-blue with glacial silt, it reaches the small temple town of Gangotri. Below Gangotri, the river's path is one of increasing degradation. As Ganga enters the plains at the ancient pilgrimage city of Haridwar, it picks up the effluent from sugar refineries, distilleries, pulp and paper mills, and tanneries, as well as the chemical contaminated agricultural runoff from fields. By the time the river reaches the Bay of Bengal, more than fifteen hundred miles from its source, it has passed through Allahabad, Varanasi, Patna, Kolkata, a hundred smaller towns and cities, and thousands of riverside villages—all lacking sanitation. Consequentially, Ganga absorbs more than a billion gallons of waste each day, three-quarters of it raw sewage and domestic waste while the rest industrial effluent, making it one of the ten most polluted rivers in the world. As such, cleaning India's national river is no simple task and has been the objective of many activists, environmentalists and politicians, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi... [Read more...](#)

**Date:** 12 January 2017

**Source:** <http://www.thebetterindia.com>

**'How Will You Clean Up The Mess?' NGT Pulls Up Centre, Delhi Govt Over Garbage Crisis**

NEW DELHI -- Irked over the garbage menace in Delhi due to East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) sanitation workers' strike, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) on Thursday pulled up Delhi government, civic bodies and the Centre. The Tribunal has sought an explanation for the menace and asked the government and civic bodies of their plans to deal with solid waste. "In a tussle between government and corporations, you have made the general public suffer," NGT Chairperson Justice Swatanter Kumar said. Over the matter of pending salaries of the East DMC employees -- the cause of their strike, the Tribunal sought explanation from all municipal corporations, the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and the Delhi government . [Read more...](#)

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