

Green Issue

The focus of Environment Information System (ENVIS) is to disseminate environmental information to decision makers, policy planners, scientists and researchers across the world.

The CERC-ENVIS Resource Partner focuses on 'Environment Literacy - Eco-labelling and Eco-friendly Products' This bi-monthly e-bulletin features latest news, developments and innovations in the field.

Eco product

Bird-Friendly Building Design

Collision with glass claims the lives of hundreds of millions of birds each year across the world. Birds that have successfully flown thousands of miles on migration can die in seconds on a pane of glass; impacts kill fledglings before they can truly fly. Because glass is dangerous for strong, healthy, breeding adults, as well as sick or young birds, it can have a particularly serious impact on populations. Daniel Klem and his team was the first to publish a protocol for evaluating proposed solution of building construction. They assessed multiple risk factors associated with migratory bird deaths at glass in an urban landscape where increased strike rates have been previously recorded at windows reflecting nearby vegetation. The tunnel protocol is also a good tool for evaluating solutions.



Source: <https://bit.ly/31nu0gF>, <https://bit.ly/2BjPwbw>

Celebrate Biodiversity

India is rich in biodiversity; it is one of the seventeen mega diverse countries in the whole world. India is home to 7.6% of all mammalian, 12.6% of all avian, 6.2% of all reptilian, 4.4% of all amphibian, 11.7% of all fish, and 6.0% of all flowering plant species. The term biodiversity was coined as a contraction of biological diversity by E.O. Wilson in 1985. It may be defined as the variety and variability of living organisms and the ecological complexes in which they exist. There are three interrelated hierarchical levels namely, genetic diversity, species diversity and community or ecosystem diversity. Wild life Institute of India has divided the Biodiversity of India into ten biogeographical regions and twenty five biotic provinces.



Bio-geographical regions are:

(i) Trans Himalayas, (ii) Gangetic plain, (iii) Desert, (iv) Semi-arid zone; (v) Western Ghats; (vi) Deccan peninsula, (vii) North eastern zone, (viii) Coastal lands (ix) Himalayas, (x) Islands

Biodiversity conservation is important for economic growth and poverty reduction. It supports the continuity of various ecosystems globally. Its conservation also provides aesthetic value. Activities like visits to animal parks, bird watching, nature art, and cultural heritage are only made possible through its conservation.

The integrity of the ecology – the harmonious coexistence of organisms and their environment is preserved by biodiversity. Some of the main aspects are Carbon dioxide – Oxygen balance, Biochemical Cycles, Climate, Decomposition etc. The ethical value for every form of life in the environment deserves respect. The right suggests that every organism on earth, whether it is valuable to human or not, has an inherent right to exist.

By the increase in demand of the rapid population growth biodiversity is gradually depleting. Few factors responsible are Habitat destruction and its fragmentation, Pollution, Over Exploitation, Introduction of Exotic Species, Diseases, Shifting or Jhum Cultivation, Poaching of Wild life etc.

Biodiversity Conservation could be done by different methods like protecting against degradation and destruction of natural ecosystems, by maintaining, restoring and increasing ecological systems, by Identifying and protecting endangered species and by establishing buffer zones to prevent any alteration in the natural ecosystems.

Source: <https://bit.ly/2YztGA>, <https://bit.ly/31jZDb2>

Eco news

Cleaner air during lockdown relieves asthma for millions

Two million people in the UK with respiratory conditions like asthma have experienced reduced symptoms during the lockdown, according to the British Lung Foundation. According to Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) of India people are breathing better as road and air traffic are at a standstill in the wake of the ongoing nationwide lockdown. There is a remarkable decrease in PM2.5 levels of metro cities of India. Air is usually harmful due to higher levels of PM10 and PM2.5. Covid-19 has delivered unusual environmental benefits like cleaner air, lower carbon emissions, and a respite for wildlife. The resilience of nature is temporary, and will last only as long as the lockdown is enforced. It leads to improved human wellbeing, not to human or economic suffering.

Source: <https://bit.ly/2Zor4RR>, <https://bit.ly/387B8z2>



Health of river Ganga improves during lockdown

As per real time water monitoring data of the CPCB, out of the 36 monitoring units placed at various points of the river, the water quality around 27 points was suitable for bathing and propagation of wildlife and fisheries. The parameters monitored that the monitoring stations monitor online are dissolved oxygen (more than 6 mg/litre), biochemical oxygen demand (less than 2 mg/litre), total coliform levels (5000 per 100 ml) and pH (range between 6.5 and 8.5) to assess the health of the river. Earlier, the river water was found to be unfit for bathing the whole way except few stretches of Uttarakhand and UP till it drains into the Bay of Bengal in West Bengal. The water quality has improved because of shut down of industrial clusters.

Source: <https://bit.ly/2CFdbU9>



Think about the Environment

It is 'Time for Nature'. Take care of biodiversity while taking care of yourself.

Eco tip

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