



GREEN ALERT



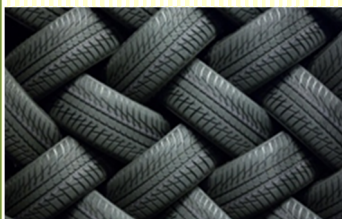
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The focus of Environment Information System (ENVIS) is to disseminate environmental information to decision makers, policy planners, scientists and researchers across the world.

The CERC-ENVIS Centre focuses on 'Eco-labelling and Promotion of Eco-friendly Products.' This bi-monthly e-bulletin features latest news, developments and innovations in the field.

Eco-friendly rubber could make the tire industry cleaner



A team of researchers at the University of Minnesota has invented a new technology to produce automobile tires from trees and grasses in a process that could shift the tire production industry toward using renewable resources found right in the backyards. Conventional car tires are viewed as environmentally unfriendly because they are predominately made from fossil fuels. The car tires produced from biomass that includes trees and grasses would be identical to existing car tires with the same chemical makeup, colour, shape and performance. Paul Dauenhauer a lead researcher of the study said, "This research could have a major impact on the multi-billion dollar automobile tires industry." It is published in the journal *ACS Catalysis*.

Source: <https://phys.org/news/2017-02-renewable-car-trees-grass.html>

Eco product of the month

'Greening the Blue' and become more sustainable by 2020

The UN (United Nations) system has been working to measure and reduce its environmental footprint over the past decade, with a focus on climate change, as a result of the UN's 2007 Climate Neutral Strategy. In recent years, the efforts made by UN agencies have expanded from measuring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions and waste to include other environmental impacts.

The UN system is committed to undertaking efforts to systematically manage and reduce the UN's environmental impacts. 28 UN system entities reported having a systematic approach to reducing their environmental footprint by implementing an environmental management system and green building management practices. A total of 32 entities were climate neutral for 2015 as a result of emission reductions and the purchase of carbon credits.

In 2015 Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon set an ambition for all UN organisations to be climate neutral by 2020. To reach climate neutral by 2020 each UN entity is facilitating the implementation of the UN Climate Neutral Strategy-from environmental management systems to campaign on waste, and their role in greening the blue is vital. This work is complemented by spontaneous initiatives undertaken by hundreds of volunteering Green Champions, including cycle-to-work schemes, World Environment Day events, and the creation of food gardens. All of these achievements are celebrated through the Greening the Blue campaign on a daily basis. Good practice and sustainability initiatives are shared across the UN through the communication work carried out by the Greening the Blue campaign. Stories of greening efforts have been published on the web portal www.greeningtheblue.org and have been shared on social media platforms, illustrating the scale and scope of the efforts to embed sustainability across the UN.

UN Environment and UNFCCC are fully committed to continue collaborating to assist UN organisations in their process towards climate neutrality by 2020. The Sustainable Development Goals provide a strong impetus to the work of greening the blue.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stated "By working together, we can build a safer, healthier, more prosperous and resilient world for all people while protecting our planet – our only home".

Source: http://www.greeningtheblue.org/sites/default/files/movingtoward_digi_broch-2.pdf

Green issue



Eco news

Sustainable Lifestyle and Climate Change



Mr. Anil Madhav Dave, Minister, MoEF & CC, has underlined the need for completing Pre-2020 actions and adoption of a holistic approach towards climate change, including an emphasis on sustainable consumption and lifestyles. During a meeting with UK Secretary of State for Business & Energy and Industrial Strategy, Mr. Greg Clark, the Minister emphasised the collaboration between India and UK at the sub-State level on climate resilience. He also emphasised the need for countries to complete their climate action pledges taken for the pre-2020 period. UK Secretary emphasised the possibility of future collaboration on tidal energy and technology issues. Both countries expressed the hope that their cooperation and exchange of experiences, knowledge and technologies will continue in future also.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=160681>

Green issues in telecom infrastructure



Telecom regulator TRAI is looking to bring out a consultation paper that would review issues related to reduction in carbon footprint for telecom infrastructure, including mobile towers. The consultation paper will take off from the regulator's previous recommendations of 2011 on the subject. "Trai had given recommendations to government on reduction in carbon footprint by mobile operators in 2011, which was accepted by the Government, and the latter had issued directions with regard to targets fixed on reduction in carbon footprint through use of green technologies," sources said. It also sought views on issues - non-grid power supply to towers in rural areas through renewable sources of energy in India and suitable metric for certifying a product green.

Source: <http://www.livemint.com/Industry/DSfBAsdatbARZSrttioNqO/Trai-to-initiate-consultation-on-green-issues-in-telecom-inf.html>

Clean planet

Do not trash empty cans, juice cartons and/or plastic bottles on the road. It causes an unhygienic environment and filthy surroundings.

Eco tip of the month

Visit CERC-ENVIS website www.cercenvis.nic.in and <https://www.facebook.com/EcoProductsEcoLabeling> to know more about our activities.

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