



# GREEN ALERT

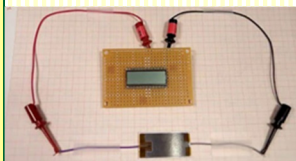


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The focus of Environment information System (ENVIS) is to disseminate environmental information to decision makers, policy planners, scientists and researchers across the world.

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

## Generate energy with cardboard, tape and a pencil



A small device made from everyday materials can generate enough energy to power several diodes. A team from EPFL (Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne) in Switzerland, working with researchers from the University of Tokyo, used these materials to make an 8 cm<sup>2</sup> device that can generate a considerable power. This is a simple, eco-friendly and inexpensive system that can operate a remote micro- sensor or system. This type of system is quite promising since it can be constructed with everyday items. The system relies on static electricity to generate power. It can be used in portable electronics at a low cost, eliminating the need for conventional batteries. It can also be useful in medical technology. It does not generate waste and can decompose naturally; the system has the potential to replace batteries down the line.

<http://actu.epfl.ch/news/producing-electrical-power-with-cardboard-tape-and/>

## Eco product of the month

## Green issue

## 21 issues for the 21st century

### 21 Issues for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Results of the UNEP Foresight Process on Emerging Environmental Issues



The world today is confronted with many different emerging environmental issues including new problems to solve and new solutions to evaluate and possibly implement. Which emerging issues are most important? Which requires our attention? These are the questions dealt with the UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme) Foresight Report. It contains a description of the 21 emerging environmental issues identified through the UNEP Foresight Process. The process resulted in a list of 21 emerging environmental issues covering the major themes of the global environment including food, land, freshwater, marine, biodiversity, climate change, energy, waste, and technology; as well important cross-cutting issues ranging from the need for better environmental governance, to the need for human behavioral change towards the environment.

After reviewing and analysing emerging issues, the Foresight Process concluded that the most pressing one is the need to align governance to the challenges of global sustainability. The second most pressing issue identified is the need to transform human capacities for the 21st century, and to move towards a green economy. The third most pressing issue is the need to ensure food safety and security for nine billion people.

Other issues highlighted include the need to: reconnect science and policy; catalyze rapid and transformative changes in human behavior towards the environment; develop new insights on water-land interactions; accelerate the implementation of environmentally-friendly renewable energy; integrate biodiversity across the environmental and economic agendas; manage the unintended consequences of climate change mitigation and adaptation; and develop a new approach to minimizing risks of novel technologies and chemicals.

[http://www.unep.org/pdf/Foresight\\_Report-21\\_Issues\\_for\\_the\\_21st\\_Century.pdf](http://www.unep.org/pdf/Foresight_Report-21_Issues_for_the_21st_Century.pdf)

## Eco news

### Eco-Friendly buses can curb vehicular pollution

A new line of buses is likely to change the face of public transport. These buses need just 15 seconds of charge to run a whole 2 km. Geneva's public transport operator TGP has developed these buses. TOSA is the acronym of the new bus system. It stands for Trolleybus Optimisation Systeme Alimentation. These buses look like the regular electric trolley buses. These buses instead of trolley poles - that connect to overhead lines - there is a moving arm on the bus that connects to an overhead receptacle, which is in turn integrated with a bus terminal. This technology will help India to reduce a whopping 3.7 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions. <http://www.indiatimes.com/news/world/these-eco-friendly-buses-could-curb-vehicular-pollution-in-india-262969.html>



### India's step towards climate solution

India's ratification of the Paris climate agreement may help reduce the impact of climate change and is a positive move for the nation's sustainable growth, according to environmentalists. By ratifying the agreement, which was formulated in Paris last December, India has agreed to reduce carbon emissions believed to cause climate change. The nation also plans to produce at least 40% of its electricity from non-fossil resources by 2030. The agreement has so far been ratified by 62 countries, including India, and will come into force when 55 countries that produce at least 55% of the greenhouse gas emissions ratify it. Progress on the agreement goals will be evaluated every five years. The first evaluation will be in 2023.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/india-rolls-out-process-to-ratify-paris-agreement-for-tackling-climate-change/articleshow/53045515.cms>



## Go Green with eBills

From your phone bill to your credit card statement can be viewed online. Receive and pay your bills electronically and save paper.

## Eco tip of the month

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

### Consumer Education and Research Centre

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