



ECOBUZZ

A BUZZ TO THE GREEN FUTURE!!

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Green Greetings,

The year 2022 is the year of action in the field of environment as the world shall witness the completion of fifty years of Stockholm Declaration. In the past fifty years, the world has been sensitized to the catastrophe of climate change.

In the recent COP26 Conference in 2021, nations pledged to reduce the average temperature of the world by 1.5 degree Celsius. Further, adaptation, mitigation and strengthening finance to fight climate change will be undertaken with renewed vigour. Reaffirming India's commitments, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi pledged to reduce the total carbon emissions by one billion tons by 2030 and meet the zero carbon emissions by 2070.

Besides climate change, certain environmental concerns deserve due attention from all. Thus, our work will continue on hitherto issues such as acid rain, air pollution, urban sprawling, waste disposal, ozone layer depletion, water table depletion and near-to-extinct species etc. Given this backdrop, the quarterly issue of Ecobuzz will now be published every month. Further, our efforts will continue to undertake massive awareness and extend activities on all such issues. Reiterating our commitments, we shall remain dedicated to the cause of the environment and work towards achieving a green and clean earth.

Save Environment, Save Earth.

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National Updates

Hon'ble Prime minister Shri Narendra Modi recently announced that India would aim for net zero carbon emissions by 2070.

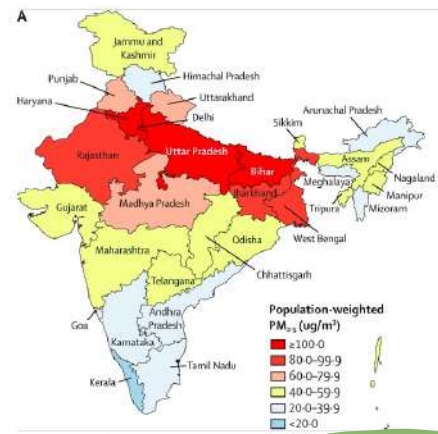
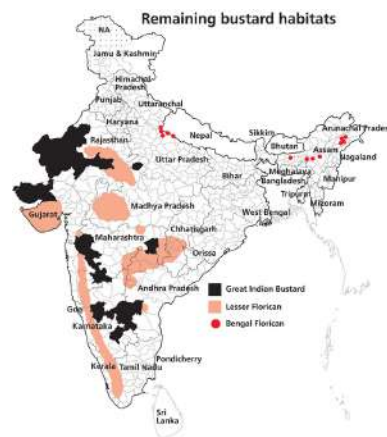
In a recent meeting of COP26 at Glasgow, where world leaders meet to combat carbon emissions and move towards target of sustainable development goals India announces its target of net zero emission by 2070. The announcement was backed by country solar achievements since 2015.

Longest migration route within the Indian boundaries tracked.

Migration is one of the most important and common activity of creatures. In this aspect the longest route of migration within the country is found of lesser floricans (endangered bird) from Rajasthan to Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra covering 1000 km. The experiment was conducted through satellite transmitters with solar powered batteries.

Early signs of worsening air quality in areas of northeast India.

The air quality index in north east part of India is worsening (still better than other states) which is a serious issue. The source found includes Urbanization ,Industries and Vehicles. Though the exact data is not available due to less number of air quality monitors in these areas.



State Updates

Gujarat high court gave closure order for Arvind unit:

The court stated “your Arvind trade effluent should not go into drains till you make necessary arrangements perhaps we may permit you with strict conditions that you adhere to parameters, you will have to come with a plan”. The court asked authorities not to pass any order about Naroda unit of Arvind and hosted hearing.

Lodhva village of Gir Somnath is restricted from mining work as per the verdict of supreme court;

Ambuja company along with Gujarat Government got notice from Supreme court Ambuja company located in Codinar was permitted by Gujarat Government to do mining work of 591 hectare land. Villagers opposed for the same and filed an appeal in Supreme Court. In which a state government and Ambuja company received notice to stop work. The notice became the reason for happiness among the farmers and villagers.

Sabarmati river pollution, high court warns all Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) to closure.

To bring down pollution levels in Sabarmati, the Gujarat High Court focused on effluents discharge and ordered for efficient functioning of CETP warning that if situation does not improve in three months, it would order closure of all seven CETPs.

मधु वाता ऋतायते मधु क्षरन्ति सिन्धवः
माध्वीर्नः सन्तोषधीः ॥

Environment provides bliss to people leading their life perfectly. Rivers bliss us with sacred water and provide us health, night, morning, vegetation. Sun bliss us with peaceful life. Our cows provide us milk. (Rigveda, 1/90/6)

GREEN JUSTICE

A. K. Malik V. Delhi Development Authority- Original Application No. 139/2021

The order of the Delhi High Court prohibiting use of parks for social, cultural, commercial, marriage or other functions and the directions of DPCC dated 13.12.2019 under the Water, Air and EP Acts that no park can be used for social, cultural, commercial, marriage or other functions and the Executive Engineer (Horticulture) of DDA and the MCD will be accountable for the violations. This needs to be strictly enforced by the Horticulture Department of DDA and MCD. The DPCC may also modify its directions accordingly and strictly enforce the prohibitions as per orders of Delhi High Court.

Compassion Unlimited Plus Action, Bengaluru V. State of Karnataka (9 February 2021, AIR Online 2021 Kar 466)

Sri Harish K.B., an Animal Welfare Activist, filed a complaint at Puttenahalli Police Station, of the offences relating to animal cruelty. The accused was an unlicensed dog breeder, who was into commercial activity of dogs breeding. In his custody many female dogs and puppies were being subjected to cruelty by confining them in an unsanitary kennel without being provided with adequate food, water and veterinary care, thereby subjecting them to pain and sufferings with immediate medical care and attention. The petitioner filed an application seeking maintenance and custody to the petitioner. The learned Magistrate dismissed the application and ordered interim custody of dogs to the accused. Instant petition was filed and submitted that the custody was given to the wrong person along with focusing on Article 21, 51(A), of the Constitution and freedom from hunger, thirst and malnutrition; freedom from fear and distress; freedom from physical and thermal discomfort; freedom from pain, injury and disease; and freedom to express normal patterns of behavior. Therefore, the impugned order was set aside.

Shantilal Jagubhai Deshmukh vs State Of Gujarat on 18 November, 2021

Court Heard learned advocate Mr. Viral V. Dave for the applicant and learned advocate Ms. Moxa Thakkar for the Respondent - State. On 15.10.2021 the complainant has lodged an FIR against one Santubhai, who is the owner of the tempo for the offences punishable under the Cruelty to Animals Act and under the Animal Care Act and under IPC and under the Gujarat Police Act as well as the Gujarat Motor Vehicle Act with the Dharampur Police Station District - Valsad. The complainant stated in the complaint that the wanted driver Santu took three cows worth Rs.15,000/- total muddamal of Rs.4,15,000/- in his tempo from Gujarat to Maharashtra without any pass or permit. When the driver saw the cow protector, he parked his tempo on the road side and ran away from there, therefore the present FIR came to be lodged. It is clarified that the applicant, even if remanded to police custody, upon completion of such period of police remand, shall be set free immediately, subject to other conditions of this anticipatory bail order. At the trial, the concerned trial court shall not be influenced by the prima facie observations made by this Court in the present order

RG Residency Apartment Owner Association V. State of Uttar Pradesh & Ors. -Original Application No. 193/2021 (I.A. No. 171/2021)

Order- The grievance is against non-functioning of sewage treatment system at Group Housing complex, R.G. Residency, Sector 120, Noida resulting in untreated sewage being discharged unscientifically to the detriment of the environment. The case is that there is a housing complex, having 1540 dwelling units. The Noida Authority granted occupancy certificate for the same on 09.09.2015. The Project Proponent (PP) failed to comply with the environmental norms. The Noida Authority, found several deficiencies and issued direction on 18.10.2019 requiring the PP to take necessary measures for waste management, green areas management, maintenance of underground water tank manholes, exit gates, providing swimming pool, gym, Club House, etc., making STP functional, making fire control system functional, preventing flooding, stopping seepage at expansion joint in basement, maintaining the lifts and electricity towers. The said directions have not been still complied with in spite of applicant writing several letters. In view of non compliance, environmental compensation recommended against the project.

Gram-Panchayat Kasarwadi V. Maharashtra State Vadar Samaj Sangh & Ors.- Original Application No. 60/2020(WZ)

Order- In view of undisputed factual position that the land in question is 'reserved forest', the stone mining in question was clearly illegal. In spite of acknowledged position, only action said to have been taken is levy of penalty of Rs.1,70,33,900/- and only for the period from September, 2019 to December, 2020. The mineral being vested in the State and mining in forest being illegal. As held in the said judgement, illegal mining not only violates the provisions of the Mines and Mineral Act, 1957 and Rules but being hazardous activity also involves violation of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Damage to the environment needs to be restored on 'Polluter Pays' principle at the cost of the law violators. Penalty imposed is only for about one year though mining is said to have been undertaken for more than ten years. No compensation has been assessed for violation of environmental norms and damage to the environment. The Chief Secretary, Maharashtra needs to look into the conduct of such officers, following due process. The State PCB needs to assess and recover compensation for damage to environment. Once the land was notified as reserved forest in 1953, mere inaction of the Revenue Authorities in reflecting such change in the revenue record did not change the legal position that no non-forest activity could be undertaken in the said forest land. Accordingly, NGT has directed the Chief Secretary to take further remedial action against the persons responsible for permitting mining illegally in the forest land. The joint Committee of PCCF (HoFF), Maharashtra, CPCB, State PCB, SEIAA Maharashtra and District Magistrate, Kohlapur needs to ascertain the extent of damage to the environment and plan a restoration plan and to recover the amount from the persons who have undertaken illegal mining.

तुलस्याः पल्लवं विष्णोः शिरस्यारोपितं कलौ ।
आरोपयति सर्वाणि श्रेयांसि वरमस्तके॥

Tulsi leaves were offered on the head of Shri Vishnu, that is, Tulsi is the best boon for the devotee by God. (Tulsi Strotam 8)

GREEN LAWS

GUJARAT STATE ELECTRONIC VEHICLE POLICY 2021

There is an imminent shift in the nature of transportation from internal combustion vehicles to electric vehicles. The shift to electric vehicles is being driven by a need to reduce air pollution, Reduction in India's oil import bill and to increase energy security of the country. The thrust for Electric vehicles go hand in hand with India's efforts to expand renewable energy capacities. In addition, Gujarat has the highest adoption of battery operated two wheelers in the country, which makes it an ideal proposition for industries to invest in EVs.

OBJECTIVES:

- (i) To transit the state's transportation sector towards electric mobility.
- (ii) To make Gujarat a manufacturing hub for electric vehicles and ancillary equipment.
- (iii) To encourage start-ups and investment in the field of electric mobility and associated support sectors such as data analytics and information technology.
- (iv) To improve the quality of the environment by reducing air pollution.

TARGETS AND ROADMAP:

(i) The State will target and support the deployment of the first two lakh electric vehicles either under individual use or commercial use for four years commencing from 1st July 2021. Vehicle segment target under policy period 2- wheelers 1,11,000 3- wheelers 70,000 4 - wheelers 20,000. Total 2,00,000 The policy starts from 2016, it first introduced in state of Bihar.

SCOPE AND ELIGIBILITY:

- (i) The Policy shall be applicable to all classes of electric vehicles that have taken subsidy. Under the Government of India's FAME II scheme dated 8th March 2019, F. No1(1)/2019-AEI and any amendments thereafter.
- (ii) The incentives for setting up a charging station shall be applicable to charging stations Meeting the guidelines and standards of the Ministry of Power circular, dated 1st October, 2019 and any amendments thereafter

AMENDMENTS IN ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT, 1986

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified Environment (Protection) Fourth Amendment Rules, 2021. The Rules shall come into force on July 1, 2022. The amendment amends the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 and provides new standards for discharge of Effluent from Tannery Industry. The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has prepared an amendment to the Environment Protection Act, 1986 to impose fines of up to Rs 1 crore on polluters without going through a lengthy judicial process prescribed in the law at present. The following amendment has been made: Rule 5(3)(d), which specifies the time duration for Central Government to consider objections and impose restrictions/prohibitions. "Provided that on account of COVID-19 pandemic, for the purpose of this clause, the period of validity of the notification expiring in the financial year 2020-2021 and 2021- 2022 shall be extended up to December 31, 2021 or six months from the end of the month when the relevant notification would have expired without any extension, whichever is later." The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has prepared an amendment to the Environment Protection Act, 1986 to impose fines of up to Rs 1 crore on polluters without going through a lengthy judicial process prescribed in the law at present. Currently, the maximum fine that can be imposed on a polluting industry or other entities is Rs 1 lakh along with a jail sentence of up to five years. This, too, requires the Government agencies to first file a complaint with a magistrate at the district level and secure a favorable order against the polluter.

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माध्वीर्नः सन्त्वोषधीः ॥

1 NO POVERTY



END POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS EVERYWHERE

POVERTY: THE COMPLEXITY IN ITS SUSTENANCE

United Nations adopted the 17 Sustainability Development Goals in 2015 with certain up to scratch agendas in order to entertain a universal call for action to end poverty, protect planet and to ensure that ALL PEOPLE ENJOY PEACE AND PROSPERITY BY 2030. The First Sustainability Development Goal is "NO POVERTY" and therefore, in order to move towards the fulfillment of this goal, it is important to see the clear sculpture of what is the actual shape of POVERTY TODAY.

POVERTY TODAY

Poverty has not just its limit extended to lack of income or access to resources but it is the biggest symptom of certain social diseases like Illiteracy, Discrimination and Backwardness.

The importance and concerns for the issue of Poverty has acquired a subsequent increase in attention in today's scenario because this is the first time that the world has seen such a set back in its journey to end poverty. All credits to the Novel Coronavirus that about 100 million additional people have been succumbed in the vicious cycle of poverty.

The decline in income has resulted into sharp increase in global poverty and the massive by-product of which are the extreme circumstances wherein about 97 million people have been living on less than \$1.90 a day.

THE COMPLEXITY

Poverty is completely driven in complexity because due to the current situation the inequality within countries have also witnessed subsequent worsening.

The previous world had to work on stabilizing poverty on the global level but in today's world the discrepancy within a single country has seen such an increase that talking about overall development seems to be a complete fantasy! One such trend that has been an emerging contribution to the inequality is the fact that the poorer households lost incomes and jobs at slightly higher rates than richer households.

Targets:

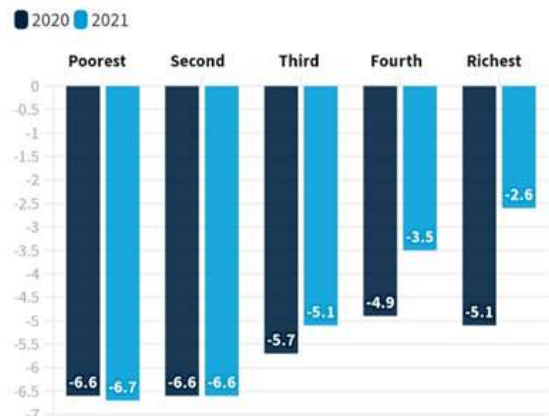
- 1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day
- 1.2 by 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions
- 1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Blurring the lines between implementation and execution of Policies. It is complex to forge implementation strategies that can rapidly and actively work onto improving the condition in terms of poverty on a national as well as global level.

"POVERTY GROWS AS AN HABBIT IF IT PERSISTS; THE NEED IS TO CURB BEFORE IT GROWS!"

Percent of income loss by global income quintile due to COVID-19



Source: Yonzan et al. (2021).
Compared to pre-pandemic projections.



Source: Department of Economic and Social Affairs Sustainable Development
<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal1>

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UPCOMING EVENTS

National

- Shri I.M. Nanavati Memorial National Moot Court Competition is one of the most prestigious moot court competition in the country for under graduate law students. It is going to be organized from 7th-9th January, 2022.
- National Conference on Advances in Science, Agriculture, Environmental & Biotechnology. NCASAEB -2022 will be held during March 8th, 2022 in Jabalpur, India . NCASAEB 2022, is to bring together innovative academics and industrial experts in the field of Science, Agriculture, Environmental & Biotechnology to a common forum.
- International Conference on Biological, Agricultural & Environmental Science (ICBAES) will be held on 5th January 2022.

International

- Special session – 40th anniversary of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean
- Fifth Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action (GPA)
- Middle East and North Africa Climate Week 2022
- Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (BRS MEAs)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fuana (CITES)

Then



Now



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Design: Bhakti Morzaria

मधु वाता ऋतायते मधु क्षरन्ति सिन्धवः
माध्वीर्नः सन्त्वोषधीः ॥