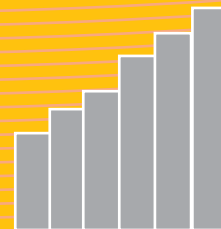


April – June 2011

Green Voice



Quarterly Newsletter

CMS ENVIS

Newsletter on
Environment
& Media

Theme
Environmental
Health

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Environmental health addresses all the physical, chemical, and biological factors external to a person, and all the related factors impacting behaviours. It encompasses the assessment and control of those environmental factors that can potentially affect health. It is targeted towards preventing disease and creating health-supportive environments. This definition excludes behaviour not related to environment, as well as behaviour related to the social and cultural environment, and genetics.



Source: <http://www.who.int>

Compiled & Edited by
Alka Tomar and Rohit Singh



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COMPETITIVE

Environment & Wildlife Film Festival and Forum 2011

Every Shade of Green under the Sun

Date

Dec 6-10, 2011 (Tue-Sat)

Venue

Convention Centre, Jai Singh Road
(Opp Jantar Mantar), New Delhi

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and Climate Change | Best of World Conservation
Cinema | Asian Conservation Filmmakers Summit
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In Black and White

NIH-led Research Group Links Climate Changes, Human Health Impact

April 26, 2011, Janice Simmons

A National Institutes of Health working group has highlighted 11 key categories of diseases and other health consequences that are occurring, or are expected to occur soon, due to climate change.

In a new report, *A Human Health Perspective on Climate Change*, the group said that environmental consequences of climate change—such as sea level rise, changes in precipitation resulting in flooding and drought, heat waves, more intense hurricanes and storms, and degraded air quality—will affect human health both directly and indirectly and the way their healthcare is provided.

The study “articulates, in a concrete way, that human beings are vulnerable in many ways to the health effects of climate change,” said Linda Birnbaum, PhD, director of NIH’s National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and the National Toxicology Program, whose institute led the interagency effort. “It lays out both what we know and what we need to know about these effects in a way that will allow the health research community to bring its collective knowledge to bear on solving these problems.”

The study highlights the state of the science on the human health consequences of climate change on: Asthma, respiratory allergies.

Climate change will affect air quality through several pathways including aeroallergens such as pollen and mold spores and increases in regional ambient concentrations of ozone, fine particles, and dust. Some of these pollutants can directly cause respiratory disease or exacerbate respiratory disease in susceptible individuals.

Mental health and stress related disorders. Many mental health disorders can also lead to other chronic diseases and even death. Stress related disorders derive from abnormal responses to acute or prolonged anxiety, and include diseases such as obsessive compulsive disorder and post traumatic stress disorder.

Cancer. One possible direct impact of climate change on cancer may be through increases in exposure to toxic chemicals that are known or suspected to cause cancer following heavy rainfall. In the case of heavy rainfall or flooding, there may be an increase in leaching of toxic chemicals and heavy metals from storage sites and increased contamination of water with runoff containing persistent chemicals that are already in the environment.

Neurological diseases and disorders. Onset of diseases such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson Disease are occurring at earlier ages across the population, the study noted. Environmental factors are suspected of playing a large role in both the onset and severity of these conditions—although there is a gap in our understanding of this role.

Cardiovascular disease and stroke. Cardiovascular mortality associated with heat has been declining over time—presumably the result of increased air conditioning use. However, mortality associated with extreme cold has remained constant. Cardiovascular hospital admissions increase with heat.

Waterborne diseases. A recent shift has been seen in waterborne disease outbreaks from gastrointestinal toward respiratory infections such as that caused by Legionella, which lives in cooling ponds and is transmitted through air conditioning systems. In addition to diarrheal disease, waterborne pathogens are implicated in other illnesses with immunologic, neurologic, hematologic, metabolic, pulmonary, ocular, renal and nutritional complications.

Foodborne diseases and nutrition. Drought has been shown to encourage crop pests such as aphids, locusts, and whiteflies, as well as the spread of the mold *Aspergillus flavus* that produces aflatoxin, a substance that may contribute to the development of liver cancer in people who eat contaminated corn and nuts.

Weather related morbidity and mortality. A changing climate, coupled with changing

demographics, is expected to magnify the already significant adverse effects of extreme weather on public health. For example, the intensity and frequency of precipitation events in the United States have increased over the past 100 years in many locations.

Heat related morbidity and mortality. Factors such as age and the burden of other serious illnesses such as heart disease and diabetes that might exacerbate heat related problems are critical. In the U.S., the number of individuals 65 years of age and older—who are more susceptible to heat effects—is expected to increase from 12.4% in 2000 to 20% in 2060.

Vectorborne and zoonotic diseases. This includes diseases, such as malaria, which can be transmitted from animals to humans. A “severe degradation” of rural and urban climate and sanitation conditions could bring malaria, epidemic typhus, plague, and yellow fever “to their former prominence.”

Human developmental effects. The environment can be a “potent modifier” of normal development and behavior, according to the report. Environmental effects on development include subtle changes such as small reductions in IQ from exposure to lead, changes in onset of puberty from exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals, and birth defects such as cleft palate due to dioxin like compounds.

SOURCE : <http://www.healthleadersmedia.com>

Prenatal Exposure to Air Pollution Linked to Behavioral Problems in Children

March 24, 2011, Dr. Trupti Shirole

A new study has found that when pregnant mothers are exposed to pollutants, created by the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels and other organic material, it could lead to behavioural problems in their children.

Researchers monitored 215 children from birth, and found that those with high levels of a pollution exposure marker in their cord blood had more symptoms of attention problems and anxiety/depression at ages 5 and 7 than did children with lower exposure.

The researchers measured a biologic marker or “fingerprint” of exposure to polycyclic aromatic

hydrocarbons (PAH) and other combustion-related pollutants in newborns' cord blood. When inhaled by the mother during pregnancy, these pollutants can be transferred across the placenta and bind to the DNA of the fetus, forming "adducts" in blood and other tissues and providing a biologic measure of pollutant exposure.

In urban air, traffic emissions are a dominant source of the pollutants measured in the study. The authors accounted for other sources such as environmental tobacco smoke and diet in their analyses. None of the mothers in the study were smokers. The study by researchers at the Columbia Centre for Children's Environmental Health (CCCEH) and the Institute of Cancer Research in England is the first to examine the behavioural effects of prenatal exposure to these air pollutants in children using a biologic marker.

"The results are of potential concern since attention problems and anxiety and depression may affect subsequent academic performance as well as peer relationships and other aspects of societal functioning," Dr Frederica Perera, the study's lead author and Centre director, said.

"Fortunately, it is possible to reduce these air pollutants through currently available pollution controls, energy efficiency, and alternative energy sources," she stated.

The study, 'PAH/Aromatic DNA Adducts in Cord Blood and Behaviour Scores in New York City Children', has been published online in Environmental Health Perspectives, and is to be released in an upcoming print issue.

SOURCE: <http://www.dnaindia.com>

Toilet trouble: Time for India to clean up its act

Jun 5, 2011, Bindeshwar Pathak

One of the greatest failures of the last 50 years has been the failure to lay the foundation stones of public health in the developing world — hygiene, sanitation and water supply. It is a failure that today deprives millions not only of health but of productivity. It undermines the normal mental and physical growth of rising generations, pollutes fresh water resources with faecal matter, and condemns over a billion people to live with a daily environmental crisis of squalor, smell, and disease. It is a failure

that holds back development of people and of nations.

Despite significant progress in the last two decades, the demographic and environmental health scenario continues to be a cause of serious concern. The traditional problems of water and air-borne infections combine with malnutrition and poor environmental sanitation to form a vicious cycle which is increasing the burden of diseases beyond the capacity of the existing health infrastructure.

Worldwide, approximately 1.8 million deaths and 61.9 million disability-adjusted-life years (DALYs) are attributable to unsafe water, sanitation and hygiene.

In India diarrheal diseases alone cause more than 0.6 million deaths annually. Study has shown that in slum areas of major cities, diarrheal incidence as high as 10.5 episodes per child per year occur on regular basis. Diseases caused by faeco-orally transmitted enteric pathogens account for 10% of total disease burden in India. Statistics indicate that intestinal group of diseases claim 5 million lives and about 50 million people suffer from these diseases every year.

It is our collective failure during the last three decades that today 2.6 billion people lack access to improved sanitation which represented 42% of the world's population.

Unless we do something radically different, this huge burden of diseases would continue to jeopardize the productivity and well being of the people. Sulabh International Social Service Organization has played a pioneering role in developing low cost technology for the community and social mobilization for their effective utilization. Today Sulabh toilets are used in more than a million homes all over the country. If targets for sanitation, hygiene and safe water are achieved, the savings to the health sector could range up to \$ 6.3 billion. The health sector's stake is of critical importance and as such capacity building at the grassroot level and NGO sector should receive the priority that they deserve. (Founder, Sulabh International Social Service Organization)

SOURCE: <http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com>

Feature

Can Global Warming Give You Kidney Stones?

Kate Sheppard

The 1995 Chicago heat wave was one of the most brutal weather events the United States has ever experienced. On July 13, the thermostat hit 106 degrees. Many of the city's poor and elderly residents had no air conditioning; many of those who did lost power as blackouts swept the city. Soon, thousands were suffering from dehydration, kidney failure, and respiratory distress. The hospitals were overloaded; the city couldn't cope with the flood of 911 calls. Over the following days, more than 600 people died from heat-related illnesses, with hundreds of bodies temporarily stored in refrigerated meat trucks because the city morgues were full.

The Chicago disaster was the worst heat wave in recent US memory. But if greenhouse gas emissions continue on their current path, health experts say catastrophic heat waves are likely to become far more common. Heat-related deaths in Chicago are expected to quadruple by 2050, up from the current annual average of 182, according to the US Global Change Research Program, a government study. Rising temperatures and accompanying atmospheric changes will alter disease patterns and aggravate all manners of medical conditions, from asthma to respiratory diseases to—believe it or not—kidney stones. In May 2009, the medical journal The Lancet and University College London's Institute for Global Health issued a major report concluding that climate change is the "biggest global health threat of the 21st century."

All of this means new costs for the US health care system—which will almost certainly be passed on to consumers in the form of higher insurance premiums. What is the insurance industry doing to prepare?

So far, not much. In 2008, the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, the

group representing state government regulators of property, health, and life insurers, announced that all such companies would be required to report both the risks and opportunities that climate change poses to their businesses. Some were eager to get started. Property insurers, says Joel Ario, chair of NAIC's climate task force, "are probably the only people I know who are more worried about climate change than the environmentalists."

But the health insurers have been resistant. In a survey by NAIC, America's Health Insurance Plans, the industry's powerful lobby group, responded that it "has not adopted specific practices to identify climate change-related risks." It added, "While we continue to monitor climate change as it pertains to the global health care situation there is no conclusive information currently available to address the effects of climate change on health care." The American Council of Life Insurers argued in a letter that "knowledge in this area is not sufficiently developed to warrant an immediate, significant, costly, and possibly damaging change to the content and nature of annual statement reporting." After pushback from the broader insurance industry, NAIC made disclosure voluntary on a state-by-state basis. (Some states intend to move forward with the mandatory disclosure policies as planned.)

It's true that there are many unanswered questions about exactly how rising temperatures will affect human health. But there's mounting evidence that the impact will be significant, according to major research efforts from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the World Health Organization, the National Institutes of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control. The American Journal of Preventative Medicine calls climate change "an environmental health hazard of unprecedented scale and complexity."

Climate change, it turns out, has a few side effects. High temperatures make it harder for the body to cool itself, which can cause heat cramps, exhaustion, and stroke--a particular concern for people with heart conditions. Heat also affects air quality, as stagnant air leads to higher smog concentrations, which in turn places stress on those with respiratory conditions like asthma. Higher levels of carbon

dioxide will likely cause pollens to proliferate, while increased humidity will nurture fungal growth--two major aggravators of asthma and allergies. Hotter weather will also lead to the spread of disease. Mosquitoes carrying diseases like malaria, West Nile virus, and dengue fever will migrate into new areas of the US. So will ticks bearing Lyme disease. Water- and food-borne pathogens also thrive in balmy climates.

In some places, winters will be warmer--but that creates problems, too. Increased precipitation is expected to trigger heavier snowfalls and more ice storms, leading to more accidents and falls, says Paul Epstein of the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard Medical School. A 2009 report from the US Global Change Research Program found that any decrease in hypothermia-related deaths thanks to warmer winters "will be substantially less than the increase in deaths due to summertime heat extremes."

The US health care community is so far behind on the issue of global warming that it's only starting to calculate the cost of these changes. But what little research exists suggests the bill could be big. Lyme disease already costs more than \$2.5 billion a year in medical expenses and lost work time--and climate models predict that the area where Lyme-carrying ticks can survive will more than double over the next 70 years. Any increase in asthma would likewise boost the condition's massive price tag--currently \$18 billion annually. A study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences found that kidney stones could increase by 30 percent or more in some areas of the US, due to dehydration. That would cost the US health care system more than \$1 billion per year.

These are just a few of the anticipated health effects--accumulated, they could pose a major liability for insurers. It's a "time bomb," says Michael Gresty, managing principal of the sustainability consultancy Altanova, which works with corporate clients to reduce risks in this area. "When the industry is not prepared for a sudden shock like this, they either have to dig into their reserves, or they have to increase their premiums to cover the increased costs of providing care."

On the bright side, one underappreciated benefit of tackling climate change is that it

could yield major health care savings. The European Environment Agency has found that the European Union's plans to reduce carbon emissions 20 percent by 2020 would cut health costs by \$44 billion dollars annually. No equivalent analysis has been done for the US. But a study by the Clean Air Task Force found that shuttering dirty coal plants could save more than twice as many lives as seat belts do each year. Programs to reduce emissions, like providing better public transportation, could also result in indirect health care savings by way of lower obesity rates and fewer respiratory and heart problems. And a January study from the University of Wisconsin found that the benefits of improved air quality that would come from weaning the country off fossil fuels would likely outweigh the short-term costs.

Some insurance firms are beginning to acknowledge that climate change may affect their businesses. In a 2008 submission to the Carbon Disclosure Project--a voluntary program that helps major businesses assess climate change-related risks--Prudential said it had teams examining the implications of increased infectious disease and extreme weather events. The company is also "paying attention more" to markets like Mexico, India, and China, where diseases like malaria may spread, says Mary O'Malley, chair of Prudential's environmental task force. But, she says, Prudential is only starting to evaluate the risks and hasn't made substantial changes to its business model. Likewise, Aetna concluded in a submission to the disclosure project that global warming may lead to "higher health care costs for everyone." But it, too, is in the early stages of assessing the problem.

Smart insurers, says Gresty, should work to calculate climate-related risks and push for policy changes to reduce those risks. "That would be an investment in the future that would be protective of their business," he says. And given the industry's massive lobbying tab, policymakers might well listen. Says Harvard's Epstein, "Through their own policies as well as national policies, the insurers can have a huge voice."

Kate Sheppard is a staff reporter in Mother Jones' Washington bureau. She was previously the political reporter for Grist and a writing fellow at The American Prospect.

SOURCE: <http://www.motherjones.com>

Column

Not hot! Your sex life 'hit by global warming'

Chelsea Schilling

Global warming may make the world's inhabitants cranky and stressed, drive them crazy, give them cancer and even worsen their suffering from sexual dysfunction, according to a new government report on climate change – but the scientists say more money is needed before they can be certain.

What are the consequences of doing nothing?

In a nutshell: Humanity will suffer every imaginable illness, and the world will essentially end.

Government scientists from several taxpayer-funded agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institute of Environmental Health Science, the State Department and the Environmental Protection Agency, compiled an 80-page report titled, "A Human Health Perspective on Climate Change: A Report Outlining the Research Needs on the Human Health Effects of Climate Change."

It's time to shine some sunlight on the global warming scam! In 'Climategate,' a veteran meteorologist exposes the Marxists' junk science

The "ancient-forest friendly" report, printed with 100 percent recycled ink, is organized around the following 11 human health categories the scientists believed were likely to be affected by climate change:

- asthma, allergies and airway diseases
- cancer
- cardiovascular disease and stroke
- alterations in normal development
- heat-related morbidity and mortality
- mental health and stress disorders
- neurological diseases and disorders

- nutrition and food-borne illness
- vector-borne and zoonotic disease
- waterborne disease
- weather-related morbidity and mortality
- Asthma and allergies

The scientists concluded that respiratory allergies and diseases will become more prevalent because, they claim, growing seasons will be altered, increasing human exposure to pollen.

"Climate change will likely amplify existing environmental stimulation of asthma, respiratory allergies, and airway disease, resulting in more severe and frequent disease exacerbations and an increase in the overall burden of these conditions," the report states. "Thus, continued research on climate change's effect on alterations in the composition of aeroallergens and air pollutant mixtures and their consequent effects on health is essential."

Cancer in animals and humans

According to the report, climate change will also cause a worldwide increase in cancer in humans and animals, especially following heavy rainfall and "by increased volatilization of chemicals under conditions of increased temperature."

"In the case of heavy rainfall or flooding, there may be an increase in leaching of toxic chemicals and heavy metals from storage sites and increased contamination of water with runoff containing persistent chemicals that are already in the environment," it warns. "Marine animals, including mammals, also may suffer direct effects of cancer linked to sustained or chronic exposure to chemical contaminants in the marine environment, and thereby serve as indicators of similar risks to humans."

The report also warns that climate change will result in increased duration and intensity of ultraviolet radiation, raising the risk of skin cancers and cataracts.

Here's inside story on what 'climate change' is an issue now, is "Global Warming or Global Governance?"

Cardiovascular disease and stroke

The scientists also claim climate change will exacerbate existing cardiovascular disease "increasing heat stress, increasing the body burden of airborne particulates, and changing the distribution of zoonotic vectors that cause infectious diseases linked with cardiovascular disease."

According to the report, extreme cold and extreme heat can serve as "stressors in individuals with pre-existing cardiovascular disease." It also states that heat amplifies adverse impacts of ozone and particulates on cardiovascular disease.

"These pollutants are likely to be affected by climate-change mitigation activities, and thus, likely reduce rates of cardiovascular morbidity and mortality," it states.

The scientists also say increased use of wind, wave, solar and nuclear power is "likely to reduce cardiovascular risks by reducing particulate and other air pollution emissions."

Foodborne illness and nutrition

Climate change may cause food shortages, malnutrition and food contamination, the group warns. According to the report, extreme weather events and changes in temperature and precipitation patterns may annihilate crops, destroy food supplies and interrupt distribution of food. People may contract foodborne illnesses from food that is spoiled or contaminated with microbes, pesticides or other toxins.

The scientists also claim agricultural crops and fisheries may be threatened with contamination by metals, chemicals and other toxins released into the environment after extreme weather events, such as flooding, droughts and wildfires due to climate change.

Heat-related morbidity and mortality

"As a result of anthropogenic climate change, global mean temperatures are rising, and are expected to continue to increase, regardless of progress in reducing greenhouse emissions," the report warns. "Global average temperatures are projected to increase between 1.8 and 4.0 degrees Celsius by the end of this century."

The temperature increase is likely to result in heat waves, the scientists say. Prolonged heat exposure may result in heat exhaustion, heat cramps, heat stroke and death and “exacerbate preexisting chronic conditions such as various respiratory, cerebral, and cardiovascular disease, as well as increasing risk for patients taking psychotropic drug treatment for mental disorders ...”

While the group notes that air conditioning may reduce heat-related risk, it warns, “increased use of air conditioning may result in higher greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, to the extent that power grids become overburdened during excessive heat events, resulting in blackouts and brownouts could leave populations at increased risk of death.”

Genetic mutations, birth defects

According to the report, climate change may impact the health of future generations.

“Some changes to the environment resulting from climate change could alter normal human development both in the womb and later in life,” the report states. Pregnant women may suffer from malnutrition, resulting in low birth weight and developmental deficits. The scientists claim contaminants such as mercury and lead in fish and seafood may cause developmental effects.

“For example, certain commercial chemicals present in storage sites or hazardous waste sites can alter human development,” it explains. “Flooding from extreme weather events and sea-level rise are likely to result in the release of some of these chemicals and heavy metals, most likely affecting drinking and recreational waters. Some of these, including mercury and lead, have known developmental effects.”

The scientists also warn that access to prenatal care may be disrupted following extreme weather events, “increasing the risk of long-term consequences for mothers, children and society.”

Mental health and stress

“Psychological impacts of climate change, ranging from mild stress to chronic stress or other mental disorders, are generally indirect and have only recently been considered among the collection of health impacts of climate change,” the report warns. “Mental health concerns are among some of the most

potentially devastating effects in terms of human suffering, and among the most difficult to quantify and address.”

The scientists claim extreme weather events such as hurricanes, wildfires and flooding may cause anxiety and emotional stress and an increase in post-traumatic stress disorder, complicated grief, depression, poor concentration, sleep difficulties, sexual dysfunction, social avoidance, irritability and drug and alcohol abuse.

Other diseases and disorders

The report links climate change to a possible increase in neurological disease and disorders stemming from algae blooms, infectious disease such as malaria and avian flu and waterborne disease due to increases in microorganisms, biotoxins and contaminants in drinking water. It also warns of extreme weather-related events such as hurricanes, floods, blizzards and drought resulting in widespread death.

“Sea-level rise associated with climate change will amplify the threat from storm surge associated with extreme weather events in coastal areas,” the report states. “Other areas, such as the Southwest, are at risk for decreased agricultural productivity due to drought and possible compromise of potable water supplies due to flooding from heavy precipitation events.

The scientists call for more public funding to further study the potential impact of climate change, one of the “most visible environmental concerns of the 21st century.”

‘Global risks’ of climate change

“Some degree of climate change is unavoidable, and we must adapt to its associated health effects; however, aggressive mitigation actions can significantly blunt the worst of the expected exposures,” the scientists conclude “Still, there will be effects on the health of the people in the United States, some of which are probably already underway. As great as the domestic risks to U.S. public health are, the global risks are even greater.”

Chelsea Schilling is a commentary editor and staff writer for WND, an editor of Jerome Corsi's Red Alert. In addition to WND, Schilling has worked as a news producer at USA Radio Network.

SOURCE : <http://www.wnd.com>

NGO Vignettes

Toxics Link



www.toxicslink.org

Toxics Link is an environmental organization, engaged in disseminating information to help strengthen campaigns against toxic pollution, provide cleaner alternatives and bring together groups and people concerned with, and affected by, this problem.

Toxics Link also engages in on-the-ground work especially in areas of municipal, hazardous and medical waste management and food safety among others.

Working in networks, utilising community outreach and education, policy analysis, research, training and program development, Toxics Link works at the state and central levels to help create solutions, which are driven by the needs of people. The organization is also involved in a wider range of environmental issues in Delhi and outside as part of a coalition of non-governmental organizations.

Toxics Link has a unique expertise in the areas of hazardous, medical and municipal wastes, as well as in specific issues such as the international waste trade, and the emerging issues of pesticides and POPs. Now its focus is on e-waste and has already done assessment studies of e-waste scenarios in major metros in India.

Talk Over

Arif Shafi Wani



Meet **Arif Shafi Wani** reporter with Greater Kashmir, a leading news daily of Jammu and Kashmir. His extensive coverage on the world famous Dal Lake has brought international attention and acclaim to him. Here he speaks with Rohit Singh about his passion and commitment for environmental journalism.

How did you take up environment to be your forum for journalism?

I live close to the world famous Dal Lake and Zabarwan range of the forests. So nature has been an inspiration for me. Besides, my schooling also played an important role. Tyndale Biscoe School, one of the oldest and reputed educational institutions in the Valley, used to organize boat race in the Dal Lake, and camps were held every year in the famed hill-stations like Gulmarg and Pahalgam. Gradually, I got attracted towards the water-bodies and forests. After my masters in mass communication and journalism from the Kashmir University, I joined Valley's ace newspaper the Greater Kashmir. Fortunately, I was assigned two beats of my choice, environment and tourism. One fine day, I was strolling on the banks of Dal Lake when I saw it turning murky. I boarded a boat and tried to find the reason. However, I was shocked to find that a big drain carrying tons of sewage of the Dal's adjoining areas, was emptying into it. Further inquiry revealed that there were numerous such drains. Ironically, all built by

the government itself. I immediately filed a story substantiated by the photographs. The next day, the authorities closed the drain. However, after a few days, it was reopened. I pondered that the Almighty has bestowed us with a beautiful lake in the shape of Dal. Some unscrupulous people in connivance of the authorities over the decades extensively polluted and encroached the lake. Now it has squeezed from 22 sq.kms to less than 10 sq.kms. Although crores of rupees have been spent in the name of Dal conservation, there is no improvement. Tourists come with lot of expectations to see the lake but the authorities are acting as mute spectators to its destruction. Same is the case with other lakes of the Valley like, Wular, Manasbal, Aanchar, Khushalsar and Gilsar. Adding to the destruction, the rich forest wealth of Kashmir is being vandalized on full swing but all goes unchecked. I took a vow to highlight the problems confronting the lakes and the forests till measures are not initiated to restore their glory. And my mission is yet to reach its logical conclusion.

Are there any specific issues you feel drawn to while looking for stories?

Whenever I work on a story on environmental beat, I always try to go to the spot, assess the situation and talk extensively to the people. However, my curiosity has always been about the reaction of the Government towards the issues of environmental concern. Last year, I went to Rafiabab village in north Kashmir's Varmul district and saw the locals, smugglers and troops engaged in wanton loot of the forests. The unending stretch of the tree stumps on the mountains seemed like epitaphs in a graveyard. When the story about the illegal tree felling was published, I expected the government to act. But it is still in deep slumber while thousands of trees are daily being chopped unchecked across the Valley.

Environment journalism has not yet found its right place in world. What is your opinion about the issue?

There is no place in the world that is not confronted by problems other than the environment. At some places, people are fighting for right to live with dignity and freedom. At other places, people are being killed for attaining dominance of the world.

Despite all this, the perception about the environment reporting seems to be gradually changing. The issues like global warming and its consequences, which the media has been highlighting over the years, has finally attracted global attention. People want to know the reasons for natural calamities like drought, flood or earthquake and how to prevent or have its minimum.

However, it is only an alert environmental reporter who with the help of experts can inform the people about the environmental disasters and precautions.

Do you feel that there is often more pressure on environmental journalists to accommodate with respect to space and coverage with the other news?

The political and spot news are bound to get prominence in almost all the newspapers. At times, environmental journalists can feel frustrated by not getting the proper space, but this is not always the case. Besides, the placement of any story including environment depends on its merit and also the editorial policy of a particular newspaper. As you are aware that Kashmir has been a news hub for past 19 years due to frequent gunfights between the militants and troops subsequent human right violations, the question is how to get a space amidst the "hot" news?

Luckily, Greater Kashmir has been treating the environment reports par to any news. Fortunately, my stories on environment have been getting prominent space on the front page and this has encouraged me to carry forward my endeavor with dedication and honesty.

Any interesting experience while covering some of your stories?

Experience are many but some are worth sharing. Covering environment is considered to be safe but sometimes it is too risky rather scary. While covering a demolition drive in Saida Kadal, a part of the Dal lake, I was caught in stone pelting between the lake dwellers and the policemen. I alongwith some cops took shelter behind a make shift tea stall, however hundreds of lake dwellers assembled on the spot and pelted stones on the cops, forcing them to flee. When I saw

the mob approaching towards the tea stall, I ran as fast as I could. In the meantime, another group of people confronted us from the front side and they caught hold of the cops and gave them a sound thrashing. As the mob approached towards me, a police party reached there and fired tear smoke shells forcing them to disperse. For few nights, I saw scary dreams of the mob ripping me and the cops apart. But a few days later, I was back to normal life.

What is the difference between broadcast coverage and print coverage of environmental issues?

The communication mediums have their own advantages and disadvantages. If the environmental issues are broadcast on Radio, it will have lesser impact. You can't show the polluted lake or felled trees on Radio. Telecast coverage of environment can substantiate the issues with video footages, which can be used as evidence in the Court of law, in case of legal ramifications. However, the radio stations or TV channels cannot afford to continuously broadcast or telecast respectively any environmental issues repeatedly due to the fast changing political developments. Here the print media, due to vast space, has an advantage. It can do a story related to environment and do as many follow ups as it can. Printed word has more shelf life. You see a report on TV and after few days forget it unlike newspapers and magazines, which one can preserve for future reference. However, the documentaries on environmental problems is one of the best ways to reach educated section of the society by screening them in film festival, school or colleges.

Environment is often labeled as a drab subject. How do you make your stories interesting and attractive?

I put people, their experience and suggestions into the story. Like, I had to do a story on the Nigeen lake (part of Dal lake), which is marred by pollution. I wondered why would people be interested in reading a story about deterioration to the lake. I talked to elders about its past glory and put their anecdotes in the story. I quoted an old houseboat owner who said the Nigeen lake was so clean that the first Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal

Nehru, swam with his counterpart, Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah, on September 4, 1950.

I have done nearly 300 stories on environment, most of them on the water bodies. In every story, I have tried to approach differently. Sometimes when I stop writing on the Dal, people approach our office and ask about my welfare. This shows people are interested in environment stories in Kashmir at least and it puts more responsibility on my shoulders.

Do you feel a change in newspaper reports on environmental issues? How about the quality of news content?

Definitely change is there. The newspapers can ignore the environmental issues but not neglect it. A few years ago, the newspapers only gave prominence to political reports for obvious reasons. The National newspapers are these days flooded with reports on environment and its related issues. Some of the prominent newspapers have been publishing series of stories on the threats caused by the pollution to the Yamuna and Ganga rivers. There is now a section of people who are interested in crime or political stories.

What should be done to make environment everyone's business and not just the agenda of round table conferences?

Debates, seminars or round table conference can only help to form policies for protecting environment. However, for the implementation on the ground, support of people is imperative. One of the problems confronting restoration of the Dal Lake is lack of coordination between the government and the lake dwellers. The government sees demolition of illegal structures as a measure to conserve Dal while the lake dwellers are for stopping inflow of sewerage into the lake. They have been passing the buck of Dal's deterioration on each other. In the stalemate, the Dal's condition is deteriorating every second. So time is ripe for spreading awareness about the environmental issues at ground level. The government should make it mandatory for officials and students to dedicate some time towards preservation of environment. This will definitely inculcate a sense of responsibility among the people towards environment protection

Do you think with the focus on politics and crime, environmental report will get space in newspapers?

As I have already commented on the issue, still I want to tell that newspapers can't ignore the reports on environment. One thing I want to tell the newspaper owners that if there are no trees, there will no newsprint? So the choice is theirs. Preserve environment or perish!

There is a tendency in media to forget the issue once the initial hype about it is over. How far has it been a setback to environment advocacy in India?

There is a trend in media in India that it leaves an environmental issue half-way and takes up another issue. Like the media vigorously highlighted the suicide by farmers in Karnataka and other states due to drought. But later the issue was toned down for unknown reasons. It is unfortunate that there is no strong lobby in India, which could stress upon the government to take environmental issues on priority. According to estimates 60 percent of cultivate land is affected by soil erosion in India. The forest cover is decreasing across the Country due to encroachments by way of expansion of agricultural, industrial and other activities. The NGOs and environmental groups have been voicing their concern over environmental issues, but they have only met with deaf ears.

India so far has been lacking an environment lobby. How have forums like 'forum for environment journalists' been helpful?

Groups like Forum For Environment Journalists (FEJ) and CMS have been doing a wonderful and meaningful job to spread awareness on the issues of environmental importance. To encourage the environment reporters who have done exemplary investigative and inspired reporting, the FEJ and CMS last year instituted first-of-its-kind awards. The FEJ and CMS have been organizing seminars, debates and, film bazaars and film festival on various aspects of environment, including wildlife. Last year, the CMS organised an international summit on climatic change. Endeavors like these ultimately help to understand the problems confronting environmental minutely and develop strategies to tackle them effectively.

You can reach Arif at: arifscribe@yahoo.com

View Point

Take me to the river... So I can drop the talking heads in the water

News talk shows and how the news media aren't what it used to be

Does "news" really stand for North, East, West, and South? Or maybe it stands for nothing else worth showing? OK, OK, we're not anti-news at all—we like to get plenty of it, and we watch our share of TV news and news talk shows, as long as one of the 12 daily reruns of "Seinfeld" isn't on. And our favorite newscaster of all time?

News talk shows — empty talking heads

News helps shape people's political opinions, including the way they view environmental issues. The news sources we choose—which newspaper or network, which reporters, which news anchors, which cable news talk shows—all have an impact on what information we get and how the stories are portrayed. All of these news entities put their own spin on the stories, sometimes intentionally, sometimes out of ignorance. Regardless, their presentation of the news and their opinions influence our own views and opinions.

Over the last decade, corporate media has come to increasingly dominate the airwaves, resulting in a watered-down version of news that is chock-full of droning newsreaders and bickering blowhards but mostly devoid of quality journalism. No phenomenon better represents this trend than the rise in popularity of news talk shows.

Some "news pundits" are open about their political leanings, but most disguise them or claim political neutrality. We know intuitively that all members of this news "chattering class"—the hosts of news-talk shows and their guests—have their biases. After all, these shows are largely about the hosts and guests giving us their opinions. Some talking heads lean to the left; some lean to the right—though observation says that right-wingers like Limbaugh, Hannity, and O'Reilly dominate the news-talk-show landscape, reinforcing status-quo-think and serving the government-

corporate plutocracy that has replaced our democratic republic.

News talk shows and the safe-spin zone

Whatever their failings, news talk shows are popular. Many people are now not only viewing news-talk shows as a source of entertaining political banter but also as a primary source of news. But there are several dangers in relying on these shows for news:

1. The hosts rarely have moderate political views, so the "facts" are usually presented through a highly biased looking glass. Even on shows with "dueling hosts," the hosts are usually so polarized that each frames issues in simple black and white, leaving out the important complexities found in the grays.
2. The shows rarely give you much background information on an issue or delve into the nuances of the subject; rather, the discussions focus on factoids, debating points, and zingers.
3. Most importantly, just like the "news" found on corporate media outlets, mainstream news talk shows usually only cover "safe" topics—those that don't ruffle the feathers of those in the governmental and corporate ruling class.

This last point is worth expanding upon. When is the last time you heard a news talk show discuss any of the following?

1. The ongoing disinformation campaign being waged by Exxon-Mobil, the coal industry, and other fossil-fuel interests to confuse the public about the indisputable realities and mounting dangers of global warming.
2. The loads of circumstantial evidence that some members of the US government had prior knowledge of—and perhaps were even complicit in—the events of 9/11, including the fact that multiple war games based on "planes crashing into buildings" just happen to have been planned and executed that very day, thus confusing and rendering impotent any air-defense response that might have prevented the tragedies.
3. The high level of "body burden" of chemicals that all Americans carry because of the billions of pounds of toxic chemicals unleashed on us every year; and, in spite of the incontrovertible evidence of this, the lack of investigative reporting on the collusion between chemical manufacturers and the US government to leave chemical regulations largely unchanged.

Source: <http://www.grinningplanet.com>

On Air

Citizens for Earth

Starting 3rd May, Saturday 7:30pm, Sunday 4:30pm on CNN-IBN



Forests in the northeast are getting depleted because of our growing energy needs, widespread contamination is affecting India's rivers, climate change and rising sea levels are upsetting people's lives. Rapid urbanization and global warming are affecting Mumbai and other metropolitan cities, Indian cold desert in Ladakh is melting at an alarming rate, Western Ghats – India's largest region of forests is facing risk because of uncontrolled mining—the ecological balance is in trouble across the country.

In spite of these facts we, humans are not concerned about our environment and have continued to degrade it ruthlessly. Numerous rounds of diplomatic talks have taken place in the last few years and many are in the pipeline, the noted one being the Rio+20 summit at the Brazilian capital Rio just a fortnight away. Any talk about sustainability, nuclear weapons reduction, use of clean energy etc haven't materialized as such into a substantial implementation programme and the world leaders should realize that it's important to implement them rather than only talking about them.

Greenery would look better in the surroundings than merely in artistic impressions of paper. "Citizens for Earth" is made to aware us and make us realize that the situation is grave and it needs immediate action. We cannot avoid it, if we want to live on earth and make it a better place for living, for us and for our future generation.

Open Windows

Theme: Environmental Health

As per WHO, thirteen million deaths annually are due to preventable environmental causes. Preventing environmental risk could save as many as four million lives a year, in children alone, mostly in developing countries. Peep into the open windows section for more information on health and environment issues.

CSE



<http://www.cseindia.org/health-index.htm>

Pesticides; nutrition; health, poverty & environment; health policy; air pollution; environment & disease; health briefs and much more can be found on the health section of CSE. The site also provides information about the various events happening across the country on the similar issues. Opinions, publications, articles, health briefs on how smoking causes cancer; herbal cure to cancer, gene arsenal, cholesterol remover, Infertility Kit, DDT legacy, migration malaria, AIDS: dangers other than virus, Diabetes cure, Leafy solution, health effects of laptops, Fluoride danger, fatal bearing and Food that kills are also important features of the website.

Children's Environmental Health Network



www.cehn.org

The website is one stop destination for protecting the fetus and the child from environmental hazards. This knowledge hub serves as a resource guide on children's environmental health and provides training manual on pediatric environmental health. Information on air quality, chemicals policy, childcare education, children's environmental health, ethics in research, global warming, lead, mercury and methyl mercury, national children's study, pesticides and water. Resource guide, publications and information material, fact sheet, conferences details are also available on the website.



<http://www.who.int/phe/en/>

The site covers the projects and programmes by WHO on public health and environment. It highlights various news items on the said topic; the multilingual site is low on graphics but high

on technical information and multimedia on health and environment. Information on global environmental change, environmental health impact assessment and healthy setting are also available. In focus are WHO publications on health and climate change (1990-2008); strengthening malaria control while reducing DDT; WHO position statement; health and environment lexicon; exposure to mercury; children and rabies; lead in toys. Browse the website for public health and environment fact sheets also.



As the name depicts the website has news coverage across the world on environmental health. **www.EnvironmentalHealthNews.org** is published daily by **Environmental Health Sciences**, to help increase public understanding of emerging scientific links between environmental exposures and human health. The front page contains three columns: new news, new science and new reports. The site aggregates links to articles in the world press about environmental health, with daily updates. Topics carried include a broad array of issues in environmental health, including: chemical contamination, water quantity and quality, air pollution, sewage, Mad Cow disease, and genetic engineering, etc. as well as climate change and biodiversity stories with a health dimension. Special effort are being done to find media coverage of new scientific findings related to these issues.

Know your environment

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|----|--|----|---|----|---|
| Q1 | Carbon produced by driving how many miles of a car can be absorbed by a tree in a year?
22000 miles
25000 miles
26000 miles
30000 miles | Q2 | what percentage of terrestrial species are covered by forests?
75%
80%
85%
90% | Q3 | what is the life of an average tree in a city?
6 years
8 years
10 years
12 years | Q4 | How much area needs to be planted with trees in order to cover up for the last decade loss?
100 million hectares
110 million hectares
120 million hectares
130 million hectares | Q5 | what percentage of the wood harvested from is used as fuel?
40%
50%
60%
70% |
|----|---|----|--|----|--|----|---|----|---|

ANSWERS
Q1. 26000 miles, Q2. 90%, Q3. 8 years, Q4 130 million hectare, Q5 60%

Media Analysis

Source: CMS Media Lab

Environment being an extremely gravitious and sensitive aspect, its adequate coverage becomes all the more mandatory. It is almost the backbone of our survival and consistent maintenance on earth. Electronic media needs to lend the required space and structure to the environment that it rightly holds. Its only then that a mature and palpable interaction will be made possible.

Undoubtedly society and electronic media are congenially intertwined. They have very symbiotic relationship and have extraneous influence on each other. However the need is to accommodate environment effectively so that the validity of its essence is comprehended and widespread understanding is generated.

Methodology:

CMS Media Lab has undertaken significant experimentation over the years to develop a robust and rigors method methodology. The content analysis broadly covers qualitative and quantitative aspects.

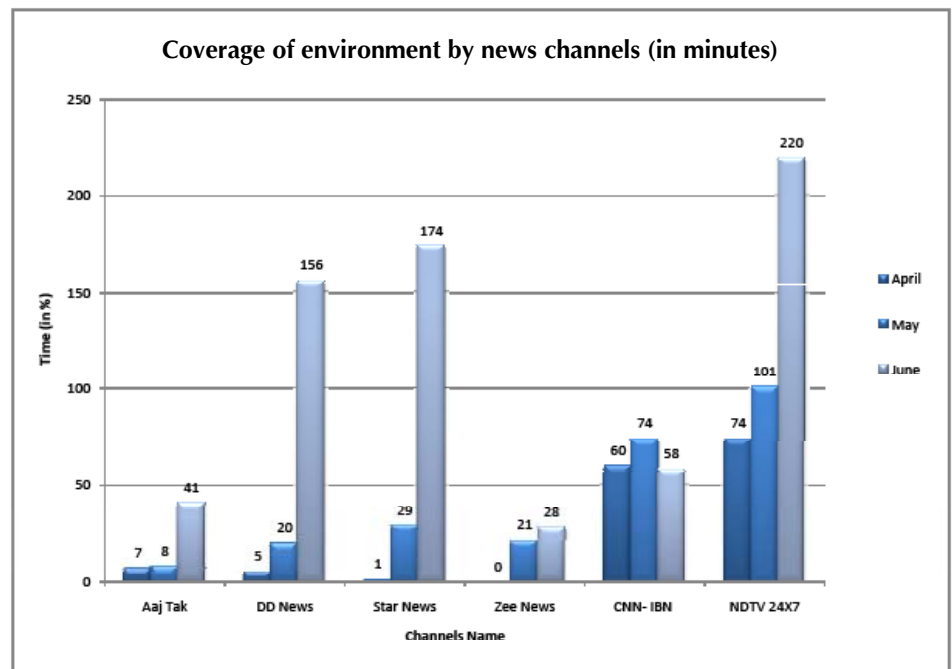
1. Prime time band of study. The prime programming is the industry benchmark in News television for all significant events and issues that are prominently covered on a particular day.
2. Six mainstream news channels were included. i.e. DD News Aaj Tak, CNN IBN, NDTV 24X7, Star News and Zee News.
3. The recorded tapes were then previewed and the news stories listed under various classifications and categories to generate quantitative data.
4. The news content on the above mentioned channels were listed and documented in the log sheets.
5. The stories were classified and separately coded (politics, business, sports, environmental news, crime etc.).
6. Environmental related stories are being separately reviewed.

Analysis of primetime coverage of stories (April-June 2011)

The primetime band on six prominent news channels during the month of April-June 2011 was dominated by the news of national politics, international affairs and crime. In the month of April there were a total of 771 stories on national politics, 633 on international affairs and 693 on crime occupying 30.05%, 24.67% and 27.01% of primetime respectively. On environment and wildlife the number of stories was a disappointing 42 stories taking barely 1.64% of primetime. In May, with 1255 stories, national politics once again led the pack followed by international affairs with 441 stories and film and entertainment with 331 stories. With 68 stories, environment and wildlife remained at the bottom of primetime coverage as it had a mere 2.90% of the total primetime coverage. In June 2011, national politics once again dominated the primetime coverage with 1164 stories while environment and wildlife remained the least favored genre with just 19 stories. In terms of primetime percentage national politics stories topped with 44.06% of the overall time, followed by film and entertainment stories (23.35%). International affairs occupied 19.5%, trailing it was crime with (11.77%) and Environment and wildlife with a miniscule 1.32% of primetime coverage.

Environment and wildlife stories on news channels

In the month of April NDTV 24*7 topped the charts for environment and wildlife coverage by dedicating the maximum time among the TV news channels. NDTV 24*7 had broadcast environment and wildlife stories worth 60 minutes, followed by Aaj Tak – 7 minutes and DD news – 5 minutes. Star News and CNN-IBN provided merely coverage of 1 minute each and ZEE News didn't cover the genre at all. In the month of May the total number of time increased from 74 minutes to 254 minutes. This includes 101 minutes of coverage on NDTV 24*7, followed by 74 minutes on CNN-IBN. Moreover, there was an increase in the time of environment coverage on all other channels, with Star news (29 mins), ZEE news (21 mins), DD news (20 mins) and Aaj Tak (8 mins). The month of June saw a major jump in the total time of coverage from 254 minutes to 678 minutes. There was a substantial increase in coverage time of environment stories telecast on almost all channels as is evident by NDTV 24*7 (220 mins), DD news (156 mins), Star news (174 mins), CNN-IBN (58 mins), Aaj Tak (41 mins) and Zee news (28 mins) reporting.



Source: CMS Media Lab

Latest Green Films

Environmental Health

Documentaries

The Way to Dusty Death

Syed Fayaz and Rajiv Mehrotra | English and Hindi with subtitles, 28 mins



Gujarat has played host to a thriving agate (Akki) industry for centuries, and for decades, to a killer disease Silicosis. Agate grinding and polishing, largely a hereditary profession has exclusively been functioning in Kambath and nearby villages of Gujarat. During the grinding of big stones to smaller pieces, which are then used for decorative items or ornaments, the workers are exposed to dangerous amounts of dust containing free Silica, which is known to produce the lung disease, Silicosis.

Changing Destiny - Best Practices

Chandromouli Basu | English, 25 mins



A film that focuses on three different areas of public concern-eco-development, health and information. Case studies from different parts of the country provide the maximum geographical variation. The film travels in the Himalayan foothills to Indore in Madhya Pradesh and onto rural Karnataka and illustrates how government's initiatives and people's participation can bring about a dramatic change in the quality of life. These initiatives are not merely textbook examples

meant to be debated and studied. They can be replicated in every village and town.

In God's Own Country

Rajani Mani & Nina Subramani | English, 28 mins



In rural India, children and teenagers still run out of their classrooms to look at planes flying above. For the children of Kasaragode district in Kerala, India it was even more exciting - a helicopter flew through their skies every year spraying a white mist over the cashew plantations.

This started 30 years ago. The white mist is Endosulfan. A deadly pesticide. A local doctor Dr. Mohanakumar noticed that his patients were falling mysteriously ill. There were too many cases of cancer and even more disturbing congenital birth defects. Narayana, a teacher at the local school realized that nearly one third of the school's students were impaired in some form or the other. The government decided to ban the pesticide temporarily. Who are the children of Kasaragode? What is their life like? **In God's Own Country** tells the story of a community that refuses to leave its ancestral home but instead stays to fight for it's basic right to pure air and water.

Can My Little Sister Grow Healthy

Aman Jaiswal | English, 3 mins 37 sec



The film is about a two year old Avni who is growing up in this world full of pollution. She takes the viewer through her present world reacting in her own special way. Avni is a perfect picture against an imperfect world. Avni speaks in her own voice, which was her actual reactions in the limited vocabulary of a two year old.

RO RO

Ashwini Kumar Pankaj | Hindi, 30 mins 16 secs



The issues of occupational health and hazardous waste management have received scant attention in Jharkhand, particularly in the mining sector. Asbestos is a hazardous mineral, known to cause fatal diseases like asbestosis and lung-cancer. This film depicts the continuing environmental and health hazards posed by the large mass of hazardous waste left by the abandoned Asbestos mine at Roroburu in Jharkhand, even after 20 years of its closure. The mine was closed down summarily in 1985, after allegations of ill health and deaths among workers surfaced. The documentary was made to highlight the issues of accountability of industry and governments towards miner's health, occupational health, environmental safety and health of village communities.

Arsenic Poisoning in Sahibganj

Kumar Karamvir | Hindi, 36 mins, 49 secs



The film is mainly focused on the arsenic poisoning in the ground water in different villages of Sahibganj district in Jharkhand state. Arsenic a deadly poisonous metal is well known for its toxicity to human. Arsenic gets absorbed through the lungs and skin resulting in several diseases. The country's greatest ecological disaster due to arsenic poisoning is shaping up in West Bengal where some districts are under threat of arsenic poisoning. Lakhs of people are getting disabled or dying. The WHO and the Kolkata based All India Institute of Public Health and Hygiene have signed for cooperating in a project to fight arsenic poisoning. The only sustainable and cost effective solution to the problem is to harvest Rain.

Date that matters World Health Day

April 7, 2011 | Protecting health from climate change



In 2011, World Health Day focuses on the need to protect health from the adverse effects of climate change. WHO selected this theme in recognition that climate change is posing ever-growing threats to global public health security.

Feature Films

The Best of Good, Green Fun Onscreen

By Marcus Ricci



Everybody loves a good movie night. In addition to being the preeminent form of pop cultural entertainment, movies also have the potential to influence millions of people. Which is why, when a filmmaker uses his or her influence to promote green causes, those of us who have an investment in this planet of ours tend to take notice. With that in mind, the following list has been compiled to highlight those films that have the most environmental significance – and are just plain enjoyable to watch.

1. An Inconvenient Truth



Pretty much the mother of all environmental films, *An Inconvenient Truth* was extremely effective at both introducing a mainstream audience to the severity of the global warming problem, and making Al Gore look like the greatest man alive.

2. The Day After Tomorrow



Sure, it may be a ridiculous and poorly written disaster movie, but it has two significant redeeming qualities: 1) The catastrophic weather patterns that cause the film's conflict are global warming-induced, and 2) Jake Gyllenhaal.

3. I Heart Huckabee's



A zany meta-meditation on consumerism, corporate culture, and the American entrepreneurial outlook that is willing to destroy anything (including, but not limited to, the environment) to make a buck. Features a stellar cast including Dustin Hoffman, Lily Tomlin, Jude Law, Naomi Watts, Mark Wahlberg, and Jason Schwartzman.

4. Ferngully



A children's fable about the problem of

deforestation, featuring a cast of loveable cartoon animals. *Ferngully* was a big hit with the little ones, and decidedly forward-thinking for its 1992 release date.

5. Erin Brockovich



Erin Brockovich didn't just feature an Oscar-winning performance from a sassy, sultry Julia Roberts. It's also a captivating, based-on-a-true-story exposé about the effects of a major corporation knowingly releasing toxic waste into the environment.

6. Grizzly Man



Director Werner Herzog presents a compelling, disturbing documentary about one man's resignation from society in favor of a life in the Alaskan wilderness, living amongst grizzly bears.

7. Who Killed The Electric Car?



Released on the heels of *An Inconvenient Truth*, this film looks at the introduction and initial popularity of the EV1 electric car – and its sudden, mysterious disappearance from the automobile market.

Green Media: Daily Update on Environmental Reporting in Newspapers - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://cmsenvis.cmsindia.org/newsletter/enews/NewsLetter.asp?datefrom=22%2F05%2F2011&dateTo=22%2F

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Green Media

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING IN NEWSPAPERS

Friday, April 22, 2011

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CMS IS AN INDEPENDENT, NATIONAL LEVEL MULTI-DISCIPLINARY DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH AND FACILITATIVE BODY OF EMINENT PROFESSIONALS. THE CENTRE HAS BEEN SET UP WITH AN OBJECTIVE TO TAP AND INTEGRATE VARIOUS SOURCES OF INFORMATION, ANALYSIS AND INITIATE RESEARCH TOWARDS A MORE INFORMED DECISION.

VISION

RESEARCH IS NOT AN END IN ITSELF, RATHER IT IS A MEANS FOR CHANGE, FOR THE BETTERMENT OF SOCIETY AND TO PROMOTE EQUITY IN PEOPLE

Sri Sri Academy spreads 'green' message
The Economic Times
 KOLKATA: Sri Sri Academy on Tuesday celebrated its second Founder's Day by organizing the annual exhibition, Prithvi Prayas - II, which focused on environmental concern. Dr Nirupam Bajpai, director of Columbia Global Centers and senior development [more....](#)

NGOs to discuss massive green clearances to projects
The Economic Times
 NEW DELHI: Over 100 NGOs from across India will come together on one platform with government and industry representatives this week to discuss the issue of large number of environment and forest clearances issued in the last few years. Organised by [more....](#)

Forest officials have their way, set up panel to study court order on elephant corridor
The Economic Times
 NEW DELHI: The forest bureaucracy over-rode objections of the experts on the PM-led National Wildlife Board (NWB) and the environment minister to set up a committee to review the Madras High Court order to establish the Sigur elephant corridor in Ta [more....](#)

Wildlife security panels in sensitive districts
The Pioneer
 Following the seizure of four leopard pelts from Pithoragarh, the State now plans to establish wildlife security coordination committees in districts sensitive from the view point of wildlife crimes. The State Forest and Environment Advisory Commi [more....](#)

Need to expand Corbett 'buffer zone' in focus
The Pioneer
 The latest death of a tiger in a territorial fight has once again brought focus on the need for expanding the area under the purview of the Corbett Tiger Reserve. The Ministry of Environment and Forests had recommended that parts of the Ramnagar a [more....](#)

Leopard skins seized from Nepali national

Subscription

Feedback

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Be a part of this successful campaign and advertise your events, seminars, conferences, festivals or services, job requirements etc. "GREEN MEDIA" - unique E-newsletter DAILY reaches to more than 3000 environmentalists, wildlife experts, activists, filmmakers and media professionals. For Advertisement contact: cmsenvis@nic.in

Compilation of Electronic and Print Media Coverage on COP 17 / CMP 7, Durban

Coverage in Indian News Media

Environment calendar

January

- 4- Oil Conservation Week
- 15 – Oil Conservation Fortnight
- 30- National Cleanliness Day

February

- 2- World Wetlands Day
- 28- National Science Day

March

- 2-4 World Sustainable Day
- 21- World Forestry day
- 22 - World Water Day
- 23 -World Meteorological Day

April

- 5- National Maritime Day
- 7- World Health Day
- 22- World Earth Day
- 30- No Tobacco Day

May

- 11- International Migratory Day
- 22 - International Biodiversity Day
- 31 - World No Tobacco Day

June

- 5 - World Environment Day
- 8 - World Ocean Day
- 17 - World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought

July

- 11 – World Population Day
- 28- World Nature Conservation Day

August

- 6- Hiroshima Day
- 9 – Nagasaki Day
- 9 – International Day of the World Indigenous people

September

- 16- World Ozone Day
- 28 - Green Consumer Day

October

- 2-8 Wild Life Week
- 4 - World Animal welfare Day
- 5 - World Habitat Day
- 10 – International Day for Natural Reduction
- 16 – World Food Day

November

- 6- International Day for preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Arm Conflict
- 10 – World science Day
- 21 – World Television Day

December

- 2– Bhopal Tragedy day/ National Pollution Day
- 11 - International Mountain Day
- 14 National Energy Conservation Day



CMS Environment

Promoting Responsibility

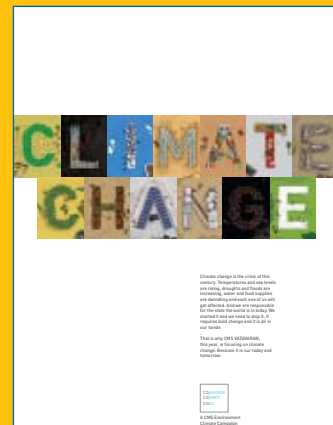
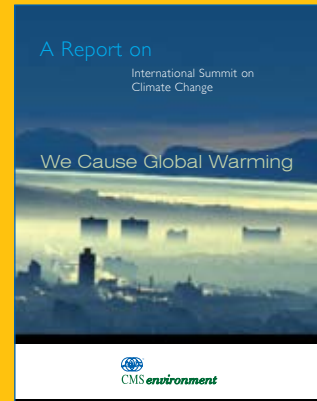
The CMS Environment team has been involved multifariously in policy research and programmes evaluation aimed at creating sustainable solutions for environment protection. India's premier film festival on wildlife and environment, CMS VATAVARAN is one of the many initiatives of the eclectic team.

Areas of Expertise

- Research and Evaluation
- Formulating Strategies
- Environmental Education
- Corporate Engagement
- Environment Information Resource Centre

Areas of Work

- Climate Change
- Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation
- Biodiversity
- Urban and Rural Environment
- Natural Resource Management (Watershed, Forestry and Livelihoods)
- Wildlife Conservation



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CMS ENVIS Centre, RESEARCH HOUSE, Saket Community Centre, New Delhi | 110 017

P: 91-11-2684 4020, 2685 1660, F: 91-11-2696 8282

www.cmsindia.org/cmsenvis; cms@envis.nic.in