

NATURE'S NARRATIVE

Monthly newsletter of Greener Things

IN THIS EDITION OF NATURE'S NARRATIVE :

- 1) *About Us*1
- 2) *Enviro-Snippets*2
- 3) *Greenography*6
- 4) *Harmonious Co-Habitation* ..7
- 6) *Humans For Nature*8

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ABOUT US

Nature's Narrative is a literary step towards fulfilling our goal of spreading environmental awareness! An inter-artistic platform which portrays how we humans embrace and protect nature in our own native innovative way through art forms and protest movements! Let's say its nature's narration through humans!!

Greener Things is an initiative driven by the common world concern of making this earth a better inhabitable place for all of us but approaches it in an interdisciplinary and innovative way to showcase how every activity in this 21st century either harms our earth or heals it in its minuscule possible way!

ENVIRO-SNIPPETS

Enviro-Snippets is a segment in our newsletter where we bring to you daily happenings related to nature from around the nation.

Indian Government's Green Update

1) Addressing the nation on Independence Day, 2020, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced a series of plans to protect the environment and biodiversity. These ranged from saving Gangetic dolphins and Asiatic lions as carried out successfully by Project Tiger to making Ladakh carbon neutral and reducing pollution in 100 cities. He also spoke on renewable energy and the need to maintain a balance between development and the environment. This comes in the wake of environmentalists calling for refocused environmental strategies, especially after the pandemic.

2) State pollution control boards (SPCB) / pollution control committees (PCC) must ensure the Indian Railways comply with environmental norms, including waste management, said a National Green Tribunal (NGT) bench, comprising Justices Adarsh Kumar Goel and Sonam Phintso Wangdi. An expert committee of the CPCB categorised the railway stations into red, orange and green categories. The report gave an overview of the 'Environmental Performance Assessment of Railway Stations'. These assessments were conducted keeping the requirements of the Water Act, 1974, the Air Act, 1981 and the Environment Protection (EP) Act, 1986.

3) The Center is considering postponing the two-year deadline for thermal power plants to comply with air pollution mitigation requirements by 2022 due to the economic downturn linked to the Covid-19 pandemic and restrictions on imports from China in supply systems that help regulate the emissions of toxic sulphur dioxide (SO₂). The Supreme Court ordered an extension, as well. In an order on a case concerning the introduction of the National Clean Air Program, the National Green Tribunal said that 175 air quality monitoring stations must be completed within the next six months.

To Know more about these snippets, [click here](#).

Indian Forest Update

1) Project Lion will cover habitat development, technologies in lion management & address the issue of diseases among lions and its associated species through advanced world-class research and veterinary care. According to a report by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change earlier this year, there was a 29% increase in the population of the Asiatic lions that live in Gujarat's Gir forest, taking the number from 523 in 2015 to 674 in 2020. According to the 2018 census, India's wild tiger population has increased by more than 30 per cent in four years. The country now has 2,967 tigers, up from 2,226 in 2014, it said.

2) CAMPA is the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority. The Minister has directed 80% of CAMPA funds towards afforestation and plantation drives. During the meeting the following initiatives of the Ministry were highlighted:

- > Plantation Drives

- > Promoting Urban forestry under Nagar Van Scheme

- > Treatment of 13 major rivers

- > LIDAR based survey of degraded forest areas

- > National Transit Portal to facilitate movement of forest produce

Union Minister Prakash Javadekar held a meeting with 24 state forest ministers and announced that the CAMPA funds shall be used only for plantation drives and afforestation. Also, the forest-based devolution funds are to be increased from 7% to 10%.

To know more about these snippets, [click here](#).

Indian Disaster Management Update

1) A national plan was already in place since 2019, supplemented by various orders and measures taken by competent authorities under the Disaster Management Act; 2005, the apex court ruled over an application filed by non-profit Centre for Public Interest Litigation. The writ petition — filed as public interest litigation — sought direction to the Union of India to prepare, notify and implement a national plan to deal with COVID-19. The Supreme Court said the Union of India was not obliged to prepare, notify and implement a

fresh National Disaster Management Plan for the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

To know more about these snippets, [click here](#).

Interesting Trivia - The Sentinelese is an endangered hunter-gatherer tribe living on the North Sentinel Island of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. They are considered as the most isolated Palaeolithic tribes of the world.

Indian Enviro-Education Update

1) AICTE has released its Environment Policy 2020. The policy of AICTE is to conserve the natural environment, develop sustainable solutions, innovations and startups, promote rural technologies and control energy consumption in order. AICTE Model Curriculum will include subjects which enhance Environment Management and Conservation awareness and knowledge. Students Induction Programs will also include awareness activities on Environment including visit to nearby villages.

To know more about these snippets, [click here](#).

Indian SDG Update

1) The Sustainable Urbanization Programme of the Government of India says that bricks, concrete, metal wastes from construction bodies are choking water bodies, public places and green areas. The National clean Air Programme says that the toxic dust particles are polluting the air while the cities have to reduce Particulate Matter pollution by 20%-30% by 2024. The Centre for Science and Environment recently released a report on construction waste, according to which, India recycles only 1% of its demolition and construction waste.

To know more about these snippets, [click here](#).

Interesting Trivia - Dugong, the gentle sea cow is the state animal of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Indian Climate Change Update

1) The Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES), Nainital is to conduct an International Conference on Climate Change and its Impact on Himalayan Region. The conference is to be held between September 14 and September 16, 2020. The conference is to focus on rapid increase in air pollution due to urbanisation, industrialisation and its impact on global air quality, cloud formation, visibility degradation, radiation budget, monsoon patterns, human health, water availability, and glaciology and Himalayan climate.

To know more about these snippets, [click here](#).

Indian Animals Update

1) On August 15, 2020, PM Modi launched Project Lion and Project Dolphin. Project Lion is to involve conservation of Asiatic Lions. It will focus on habitat development by engaging modern technologies. Also, the project is to address Human-Wildlife conflict. Project Dolphin was launched to conserve and protect the Dolphins in the rivers and oceans in the country. The project will conserve dolphins in aquatic habitat using modern technology especially in anti-poaching activities. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had approved the project for three years 2018-21. A budget of Rs 97.85 crores was allocated.

To know more about these snippets, [click here](#).

Indian Pollution Update

1) Until 2016, a seven-year study involving 5,300 adult residents from different parts of Delhi found that exposure to polluted air was related to increased systolic and diastolic blood pressure (BP) and increased risk of developing hypertension. The study reported in the AHA Hypertension journal found above-average systolic BP with higher exposure to PM 2.5.

To know more about these snippets, [click here](#).

GREENOGRAPHY

Greenography is a segment in our newsletter where we feature Photographs submitted by you. Nature is bountiful with great scenarios. We, at Greener Things relish nature and its eternal beauty. we look for pictures showcasing nature's beauty as well as the ill-impacts that human activities have had on nature.

PHOTOGRAPH BY

Hemal Prajapati



ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPH

This photo is of sparrows clicked on a Canon EOS 1300d, at Hemal's Home, Mehsana, Gujarat.

Interesting Trivia - If there is one person to thank for giving Conservation Photography a name and status within photography as an art and tool, it is Cristina Mittermeier. She is the founder of the International League of Conservation Photographers and has been president since 2005.

HARMONIOUS CO-HABITATION

A drawing by Rucha Ghalsasi



Rucha Ghalsasi is a College Student at Nirma University, Ahmedabad with keen interest in Art & Painting.

HUMANS FOR NATURE

We humans have been lucky enough to have humans around us who have been enthusiastic, rebellious at times, and generous always to fight for our mother nature. Humans for Nature is such a segment in our newsletter where we cover such personalities.



In this edition of Humans for Nature, we cover a power couple who have put their education to good use & made strides in field of sustainability. They are Priya Choksi & Samit Choksi.

They were a NRI couple who returned to India in 2015 to start their clean-tech startup, ThinkPhi.

Water use has grown tremendously, twice the rate of population increase in last century. Perhaps, it is estimated that by 2025, the water demand will surpass the supply. Water conservation is the need of the hour! With the similar mindset, Priya Choksi & Samit Choksi, a NRI couple travelled back to India in 2015 to set up a clean-tech startup, ThinkPhi which deals in susta-

inbly engineered products that help intelligently conserve water, energy and waste. One such invention by them is the Ultra Chatta, pictured right side which is system that smartly converges rainwater harvesting and renewable energy for open spaces. With solar accessories fit along with water holding structure, the system can harvest



upto 1,00,000 ltrs of water daily & capture energy with maximum peak power of 1.5 Kw. This is a innovative concept patented by the couple which has great potential for a sustainable future.



That's all folks!

Dear Reader,

For more such news & updates on environmental matters, head onto our website at www.greenerthingsgt.org.

Our Instagram handle - @ [_greenerthings_](https://www.instagram.com/greenerthings)

Our Twitter Handle - @ [thingsgreener](https://twitter.com/thingsgreener)

Our Facebook page - [The Greener Things](https://www.facebook.com/TheGreenerThings)

We would be very happy to receive your contributions for our next edition of Nature's Narrative. To submit entries for our next edition of Nature's Narrative, mail us at greenerthings.gt@gmail.com.

A Question before we conclude this edition of Nature's Narrative -

Whether this edition of Nature's Narrative is forwarded to you by someone?

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We value your suggestions, mail us your suggestions to greenerthings.gt@gmail.com.