

January-March 2025

# HARIT KHABAR

Newsletter featuring Environment Action by HCLFoundation



REACH US ON THE EARTH  
Amrinda and Padiya goes to school after a rainy day and school is submerged with water.  
Haha! why this school is like a lake!

THE EARTH  
It is our fault  
This land where school is built used to be a lake.

नदी हुई साफ  
एक बार जेअमने पूपाके आस गॉवे भारत का गॉवे से ही टिया गॉवे से कफा टिया सेवेपानसे पुपा  
पुपा आभी जे कफा केसे ट  
पुपा पुपाकेसी लीग कपेकेसा केसे ट  
एक टुईने लीग गॉवे से भारत गॉवे गॉवे से कफा केसे ट  
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Scan here to share your feedback

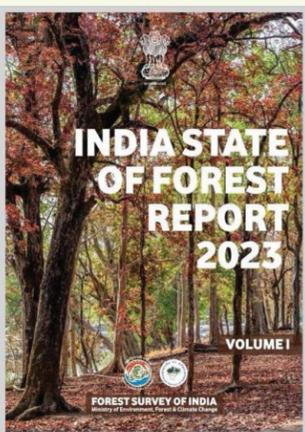
Special coverage of HCLFoundation's environment education and awareness efforts on page 6&7



The International Day of Forests is celebrated annually on March 21. The United Nations established this day in 2012 to raise awareness about the importance of forests, their conservation, and the vital role they play in supporting life on Earth. The theme for the International Day of Forests in 2025 is "Forests and Food".

### Fire Havoc

### India State of Forest Report



The "India State of Forest Report 2023 (ISFR 2023)" was released by Shri Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, GoI at the Forest Research Institute in Dehradun in December 2024. The report indicates that the country's forest and tree cover have increased by 1445 square kilometers since the 2021 assessment. According to the data, the overall area covered by mangroves is 4,991.68 km<sup>2</sup>, a reduction of 7.43 sq km from 2021. The ISFR evaluates the nation's forest resources using both field and satellite data.



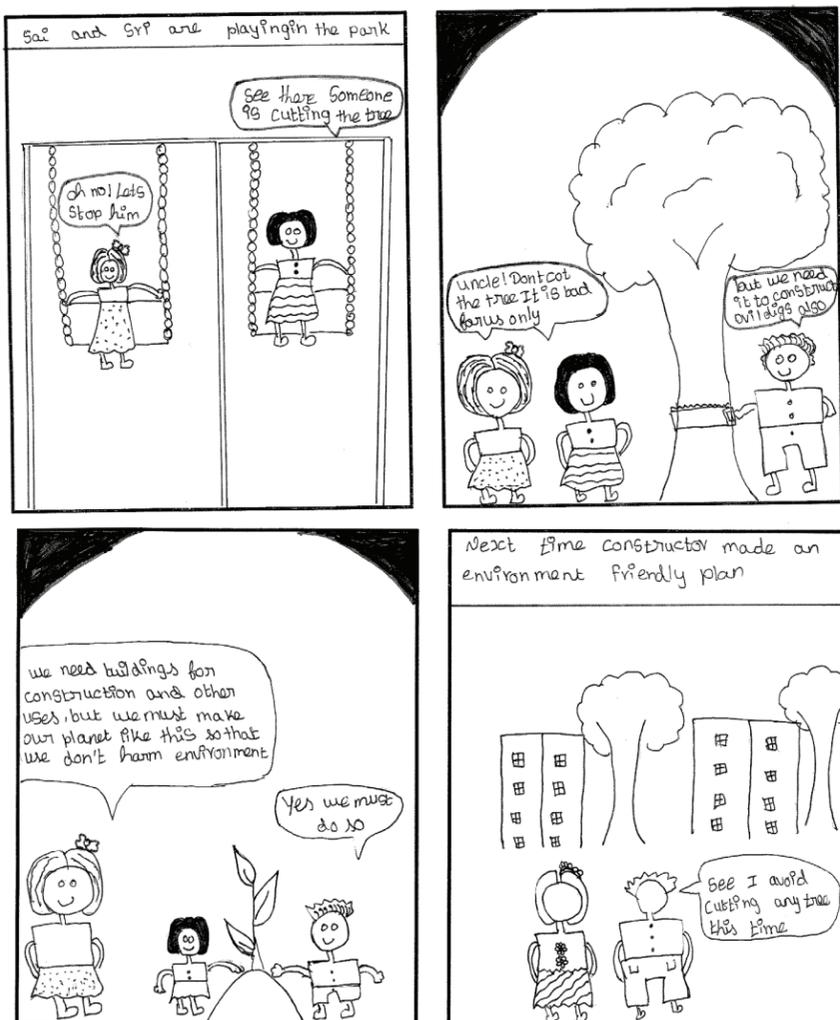
Photo: iStock

According to Global Forest Watch data, between 2001 and 2023, forest fires destroyed over 1.65 million hectares of forest in India. A majority of these forest fires are attributed to human activities.

### Interesting facts about forests

- Forests cover about 31% of the Earth's total land area, and they are found on every continent except Antarctica. (Food and Agriculture Organization)
- Around 80% of the world's terrestrial species of animals, plants, and insects live in forests. (World Wide Fund for Nature)
- Tropical rainforests, which are found near the equator, are often referred to as the "lungs of the Earth" because they produce a significant amount of oxygen and help regulate the planet's climate. (National Geographic)
- The Amazon Rainforest is the largest in the world, spanning across nine countries in South America. (World Wildlife Fund)
- Trees can "talk" to each other through their roots and the air. They release chemicals to warn other trees of threats, like insect attacks or diseases, so nearby trees can take defensive actions. (Peter Wohlleben's book The Hidden Life of Trees)

### BUILDING OR EARTH?



B. YUVASRI

### Atal Harit Upvan: A Model for Urban Transformation

In 2019, the Lucknow Municipal Corporation, in collaboration with the HCL Foundation, allocated 15 acres of land to the Give Me Trees Trust (GMTT) with the vision of "transforming such a waterlogged marshy land into self-sustaining green space with increased biodiversity".



Originally a waterlogged and unproductive land, Atal Harit Upvan faced significant challenges, and nearly 80% of the land used to remain waterlogged for 4–5 months each year. GMTT adopted a nature-based approach to tackle these challenges and transformed the 15 acres of barren land into a thriving green space which has significantly enhanced local biodiversity, habitat quality, and community engagement.

Over 2,21,443 native trees, representing 44 tree species and 20 shrub species, have been successfully planted and maintained, creating a resilient ecosystem. The site now supports a rich diversity of wildlife, with recorded observations of 63 bird species, 42 butterfly species, 11 species of dragonflies and damselflies, 13 species of reptiles and amphibians, and three mammal species. The site has also become an important hub for nature walks and environmental education, attracting school students and community members.



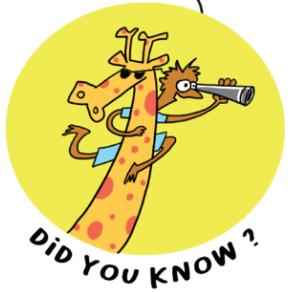
## Hottest January on Record

January 2025 was reported as the hottest January ever recorded, with global temperatures averaging 1.75°C above pre-industrial levels, according to the EU's Copernicus Climate Change Service.



Scientists expressed concern over the persistent warming trends and their implications for ocean ecosystems and climate regulation. If this continued it could lead to accelerating sea level rise.

**Thawing permafrost** is a ticking climate time bomb! This frozen ground in Arctic regions holds twice as much carbon as the air, but as it melts, it releases methane, a gas 25 times stronger at trapping heat than CO<sub>2</sub>. This speeds up global warming even more. But that's not all—ancient viruses and bacteria are emerging from the thaw. In 2016, a deadly anthrax outbreak in Siberia



was linked to melting permafrost. It's also damaging homes and roads, forcing people to relocate. The only way to stop this? Reduce carbon emissions before it's too late!

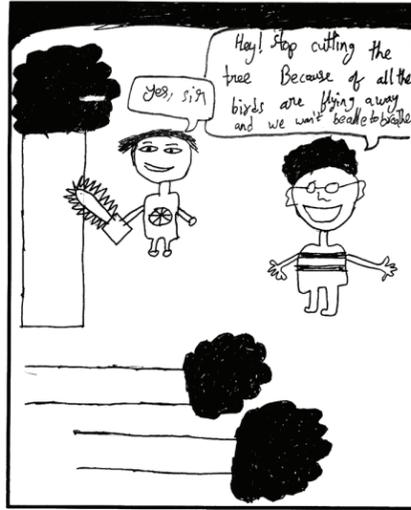
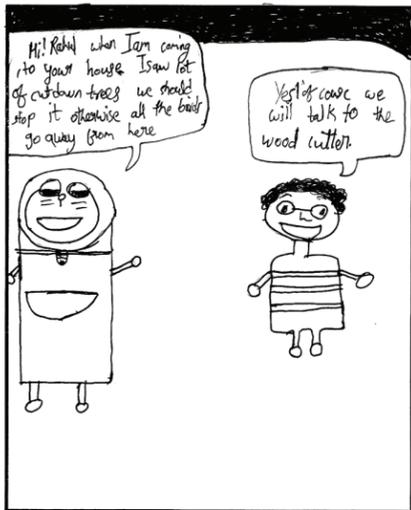
## The Deadliest Wildfires in California

In January 2025, a series of devastating wildfires swept through Southern California, particularly affecting Los Angeles and nearby counties. The fires began on January 7 and lasted until January 31, burning over 57,000 acres of land. The fires were fueled by severe drought conditions, dry vegetation, and hurricane-force Santa Ana winds that reached speeds of up to 100 mph.

The two largest fires, the Palisades Fire and the Eaton Fire, caused the most destruction. Together, they destroyed over 18,000 structures and claimed at least 29 lives, making them among the deadliest and most destructive wildfires in California's history.



## CHOOSE TREES CHOOSE LIFE



## Global Risks Report Findings



The World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report 2025 places significant emphasis on environmental issues, identifying them as some of the most pressing and persistent risks facing the world, particularly over the long term. The Report ranked extreme weather events as the second-highest global risk for the next two years and the top risk over the next decade. These risks are tied to crossing climate tipping points as global warming approaches 1.5°C by the early 2030s.

## Harit Quiz

- Which gas is the main cause of global warming?
  - Oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>)
  - Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)
  - Nitrogen (N<sub>2</sub>)
  - Hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>)
- What is the largest rainforest in the world?
  - The Amazon Rainforest
  - The Congo Rainforest
  - The Daintree Rainforest
  - The Sundarbans
- Which of the following is a renewable energy source?
  - Coal
  - Natural Gas
  - Solar Power
  - Diesel
- What is the most common type of pollution in the ocean?
  - Noise Pollution
  - Plastic Pollution
  - Air Pollution
  - Light Pollution
- What is the term for the gradual increase in Earth's temperature due to pollution?
  - Ozone Depletion
  - Global Warming
  - Acid Rain
  - Greenhouse Effect

Answer: 1(b), 2(a), 3(c), 4(b), 5(b).

## Knowledge to Action: Empowering Youth Climate Innovators



The Environmental Education and Awareness (EEA) division of TERI, in partnership with HCLFoundation, hosted a five-day Student Training Workshop in Bengaluru from February 17-21, 2025. As part of the Knowledge to Action: Empowering Youth Climate Innovators programme, it engaged 396 students and 20 teachers from 15 BBMP government schools, equipping them with knowledge on climate change, sustainability, and waste management. Ms. Saltanat Kazi inaugurated the event, with sessions led by Dr. Neetika W. Chhabra, Mr. Vishwajit Naveen, Ms. Ardra Lekshmi J., and Ms. Anjana Venugopal. Hands-on activities, including DIY projects, bio-enzyme preparation, and carbon footprint reduction, empowered students to adopt sustainable practices in their schools and communities.



## International Conference on Educating for Sustainability Action

Ms. Aishwarya Balasubramanian was at the International conference on Educating for Sustainability Action held at Ahmedabad from 9 to 11 January, 2025, to represent HCLFoundation's work specifically on imparting Environment and climate change education in various panels including. i) Role of CSR in driving sustainable development, ii) Use of innovative tools and technologies in greening education, iii) Climate change education. The Generation for Climate Action (GenCAN) Phase I compendium was released during this occasion. Check the compendium on this link: <https://gen4climateaction.org/pdf/webversion-CTB.pdf>



## Animal Birth Control (ABC) camp



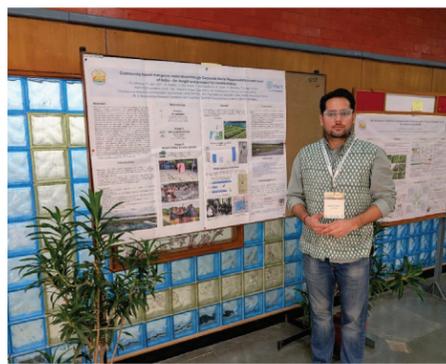
Wild-CER, with HCLFoundation's support, has established a One Health Centre in Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR), Maharashtra, to improve ecosystem health.

From January 20 to 31, 2025, Wild-CER conducted an Animal Birth Control (ABC) camp in collaboration with HCLFoundation, WVS, and TATR's Forest Department. A total of 151 dogs were neutered and vaccinated against rabies in the Kolara range, covering 20 villages.

Given the frequent interaction between feral dogs and wildlife, disease surveillance is crucial. With HCLFoundation's support, Wild-CER is studying rabies, canine distemper, and haemoprotzoan diseases in dogs across 60 villages near TATR.

## HCLFoundation at India Mangrove Conclave 2024

At the India Mangrove Conclave in Chennai, Ankush Thakur, Program Officer—A&HR, presented a poster on "Community-Based Mangrove Restoration through CSR on India's East Coast." Authored by Dr. Advahan Devendiran, Ravi Kumar Sharma, Jain Vinith Veluswamy, Dr. Nidhi Pundhir, Marshal Kumar, Ankush Thakur, Dr. Santanu Basu, C. Boopathy, Souvik Kumar, the poster highlighted HCLFoundation's Harit initiative in biodiversity restoration, mangrove protection, and community-led conservation. It emphasized CSR's role in uniting government, NGOs, and local communities for sustainable water and land conservation.



## HCLFoundation Showcases Water Conservation Efforts at International Ground Water Conference 2025



The National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, hosted the 10th International Groundwater Conference 2025, bringing global experts together on sustainable groundwater management.

HCLFoundation, under its Harit initiative, presented the paper "Rejuvenating Small Water Bodies: A Case for Sustainable Management in Gautam Buddha Nagar," authored by Mr. Ankit Kumar, Dr. Nidhi Pundhir, Dr. Santanu Basu, and Tausif Shabaz.

The research emphasized cost-effective, replicable, nature-based solutions for water conservation. Experts praised such localized interventions as essential in addressing global water challenges.

## Coastal and Marine Conservation Convergence 2024



Twenty-five participants, including six partner NGOs from the Coastal and Marine thematic (AWCS, DRCS, MSSRF, ReefWatch, and SPANDAN), gathered for the Coastal and Marine thematic level convergence meet at Plan@Earth's office in Cochin, an HCLTech Grant partner. This platform fostered cross-learning through discussions, field visits, and knowledge sharing. Participants explored Plan@Earth's initiatives in waste management, ghost net recycling, and environmental awareness. A visit to a local fishing harbor provided insights into traditional practices and the role of coastal communities. The gathering concluded at CUSAT with a note on collaboration between social organizations and research institutions to drive innovation in marine conservation. The event strengthened partnerships for future conservation efforts.



## Harit Hunar



On February 28, 2025, the Harit Hunar Exhibition was organized by Gorakhpur Environment Action Group (GEAG), with support from the HCLFoundation, where women members of Police Lines, GB Nagar were informed about the importance of the Zero Waste and various methods of waste management. During this activity, participants recycled plastic waste from their homes and gave it a new life. The objective was to promote environmental conservation and sustainable development, spreading awareness about cleanliness and responsible waste disposal.



## Roots of Change

Under the Nurturing Harit Champion Initiative, organized by TIDE with support from the HCLFoundation, students from GHSS Perungudi (18 February 2025) and Avadi Boys School (28 February 2025) in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, took the lead in a vibrant tree plantation drive. With active participation from teachers and volunteers, the event emphasized the importance of afforestation and environmental stewardship. Interactive sessions helped instill a sense of responsibility among students, encouraging them to nurture the saplings and contribute to a greener future.

In a complementary effort, students at GHSS Perungudi also engaged in sustainable waste management by turning leaf waste into nutrient-rich compost. On 24 February 2025, they applied the compost to their school's Nutrition Garden, resulting in a thriving harvest. The hands-on experience—from collecting leaves to applying the compost—helped students understand the value of natural fertilizers and their impact on crop yield, promoting eco-conscious habits and practical environmental solutions.



## Comics Campaign



WCI successfully conducted the EE Comics Campaign at MPB Government Girls Higher Secondary School, East Tambaram, Chennai, blending creativity with environmental awareness through the power of visual storytelling.

With around 30 enthusiastic students participating, many experienced the joy of creating comics for the first time. Not only did they showcase their self-made environmental comics to peers and teachers, but they also took on the role of peer trainers, guiding fellow students in expressing environmental issues through comics in interactive small-group sessions.

By the end of the campaign, students had collectively produced over 80 visual drafts on diverse environmental themes, demonstrating their artistic talents and a deep understanding of sustainability.



This initiative was made possible through the invaluable support of the MPB Government Girls Higher Secondary School administration, HCLFoundation, and OfERR NGO, whose collaboration and enthusiasm were instrumental in its success.

## GenCAN Youth Climate Action Leaders' Summit

CEE India, in partnership with HCLFoundation, organized the GenCAN Youth Climate Action Leaders' Summit in Lucknow, Hardoi, and Bijapur. Over 275 student leaders and mentor teachers from 36 government schools participated in this transformative event on climate change awareness and action.

Students collaborated in mixed teams, engaging in an interactive quiz, Bhujjo to Jaane, and creative activities on climate concepts like greenhouse gases, carbon footprints, and climate action strategies. Group discussions helped them connect global issues with local impacts using real-world examples.



The summit concluded with students sharing their climate-positive actions, such as switching to LED bulbs, conserving electricity, composting, recycling, and promoting sustainable transport. The event empowered young leaders with knowledge and motivation to drive change in their communities.

**Environment education and awareness efforts at HCLFoundation**

**WHAT WE DO?**

Build environmental awareness and leadership for individual and collective environment action.

**AND, FOR WHO?**

The unreached – children, teachers, schools, communities from the underserved sections of society.

**Key Strategies**

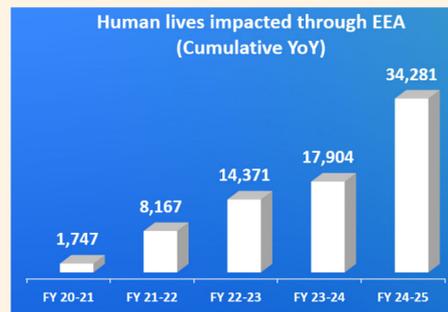
- National Climate Leadership Challenge
- Knowledge to Action: Empowering youth climate innovators
- Green school programme
- Awareness workshops

**Carbon footprint reduced in schools\***  
35983 metric tonnes of carbon reduced



\*FY23-24 data of National Climate Leadership programme. Third party assurance of data is in process

- 64% female
- 36% male
- 61% individuals exhibiting improved environment awareness
- 669 schools impacted
- 728 teachers trained
- 19,428 green spaces created in schools (sq. ft.)
- 181 educational materials developed



**Testimonies**

**Tasmiya, Grade 8 student**



Before joining the school program, I had no knowledge about organic farming and toxin-free food. But through this initiative, I have learned so much, says Tasmiya. "Now, I actively participate in my school's Nutrition Garden, where I have discovered the nutritional value and health benefits of organically grown vegetables and medicinal plants. This experience has inspired me to start growing vegetables at home using organic methods."

"Seeing our students take initiative through the GenCAN programme has been truly inspiring. Their enthusiasm and dedication to making a positive impact in our environment, demonstrate the power of education and community involvement in driving meaningful change."  
-Mr. Yogendra Kumar Pandey, Principal

**Harit Khabar Reader Feedback at a Glance**

Category	Insights
<b>Geographical Reach</b>	Diverse set of cities, including Kolkata, Lucknow, Noida, Nagpur and Chennai
<b>Most Loved Sections</b>	Little Earth (30%), Issue-Based Stories(25%), Grassroots Comics (25%), Harit Champions(20%)
<b>Impact</b>	Almost all respondents noted that Harit Khabar has significantly improved their environmental awareness and knowledge
<b>Overall Feedback</b>	Feedback reflects high levels of satisfaction with the quality and relevance of the content, reinforcing the newsletter's role as an effective tool for environmental education, networking and advocacy.

**National Climate Leadership Challenge**

**Generation of Climate Action (GenCAN)**

Building climate literacy & Leadership among students to reduce carbon footprint in schools.



Sathi Khatua, from Nayagram, West Bengal said "With the streets buzzing with people, we organized street dramas in local haat (weekly market) and awareness rallies for the community to raise awareness about environmental issues".

"When I first started, I didn't know how much we could actually achieve. But now, it feels like we've started a ripple" she added.

	Year 1 FY 23-24	Year 2 FY 24-25
<b>States</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Schools</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>256</b>
<b>Teachers</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>331</b>
<b>Students</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>1,559</b>

**Knowledge to Action: Empowering youth climate innovators**



**Students impacted:** 396  
**Teachers trained:** 78  
**No. of schools:** 15



Focusing on building students' capacities in government schools on climate change science to equip them with the knowledge and skills needed to develop innovative solutions for local issues—empowering them to ideate, prototype solutions, and promote critical thinking, leadership, and entrepreneurial skills.

**Awareness workshops**

Inspiring environmental stewardship through immersive experiences like bird nest crafting, environment-inspired comics, and interactive nature walks.

**Total reach - Env Awareness: 5022**



**Workshops: 31**  
**Nests made: 639**  
**639 bird nests made by 4450 students.**  
20% of nests have been adopted so far  
**157 HCLTech** volunteers & families actively participated in the nest making workshop conducted by Eco Roots Foundation across multiple cities.



**Total reach - Env Awareness: 5104**  
**Workshops: 60**

Education materials developed: **38**  
**667 green comics** created in 60 workshops conducted by World Comics India across multiple cities.

**Green school programme**



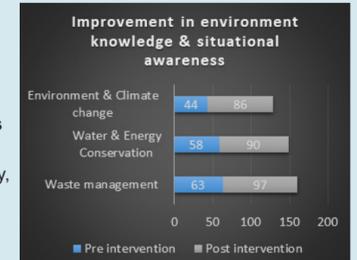
Instilling pro-environment behavior among students and improving green practices within schools



Improving environmental awareness among **1352+ Harit club students in 35+ schools** across Chennai, Noida through various activity-based sessions on water, biodiversity, green spaces, etc.



- **100+ Sessions.**
- **1500+ hours** of active engagement with students.
- **16 leaf composters** installed to yield manure.
- **10 water recharge pits** installed with recharging capacity of **20,000 litres.**



Percentage (%) increase in environment knowledge and situational awareness among Harit school students pre and post interventions. Study conducted in Chennai & Noida (n: 394 students)





## Micro Plastic in Delhi's Water

In February 2025, a ground-breaking study conducted by the Delhi government revealed the presence of microplastics in the city's groundwater, as well as in the water and soil of the Yamuna River. This discovery raises significant health concerns, as microplastics can be toxic substances and pathogens, potentially leading to adverse health effects upon consumption.

The findings also highlight shortcomings in current water treatment systems, which may not effectively filter out these microscopic pollutants. This study underscores the urgent need for comprehensive strategies to address plastic pollution and safeguard public health.

## International Year of Glacier Preservation

2025 is designated as the International Year of Glacier Preservation by the UN, and March 21st will be observed every year as World Day for Glaciers. It aims to raise global awareness about the critical role of glaciers in our climate system and the profound impacts of their rapid melting.



Photo: iStock

## Dead Olive Ridley Turtles Wash Ashore

Since January 2025, over 1,000 Olive Ridley sea turtles were found dead along the 34-kilometer stretch from Marina Beach in Chennai to Kovalam in Chengalpattu. The primary suspected cause is entanglement in fishing nets, particularly from mechanized trawlers. Normally, during their nesting season (December to April), dead turtles might wash ashore due to natural causes or incidental human impact. This year, however, the numbers spiked dramatically, with conservationists reporting more than three times the usual mortality rate by late January.



Photo: iStock

## A New Species of Congrid Eel Discovered

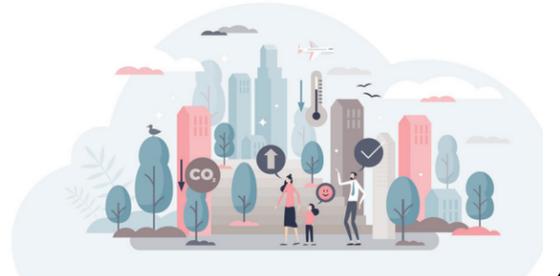
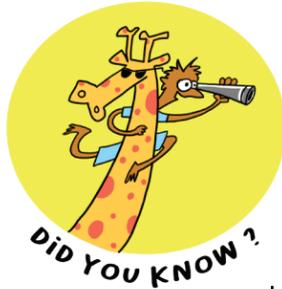


Photo: iStock

Recently, researchers from the National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBFGR), under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), discovered a new species of Congrid eel off the Thoothukudi coast in Tamil Nadu, India. This eel, belonging to the genus *Ariosoma*, has been named *Ariosoma tamilicum* in honour of the Tamil language, reflecting its discovery location and the request of local fishermen who assisted in the find.

**Carbon intensity** refers to the amount of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) or carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) emissions produced per unit of a specific activity, output, or economic value.

It's a measure used to assess the environmental impact of various processes, industries, or energy sources in terms of their greenhouse gas emissions.



## Escalating Air Pollution Crisis in Delhi and Northern India

In this beginning of the year, North India saw a continuation of severe air quality issues in Delhi and other northern cities like Kanpur and Lucknow. With winter intensifying smog from stubble burning, vehicular emissions, and industrial activity, the Air Quality Index (AQI) breached the "severe" category (above 400) for multiple days in January.



Photo: iStock

## Launch of the State of India's Environment 2025 Report



On February 26, 2025, the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) released its annual State of India's Environment 2025 report spotlighting extreme weather on 255 days in 2024, a 74% surge in cropland damage, and worsening air and water pollution.



Photo: iStock

## Jyothi & Rathna

### ReefWatch

In a quiet coastal community, two determined women—Jyothi and Rathna—have taken on an extraordinary mission. As ghost net processing workers under the Ghost Net Retrieval Project by ReefWatch Marine Conservation in Kundapur, Karnataka, they dedicate their days to sorting, cleaning, and processing discarded fishing nets—turning marine waste into an opportunity for change.

Ghost nets—lost or abandoned fishing gear—pose a severe threat to marine life, entangling sea creatures and damaging fragile habitats. By retrieving and processing these nets, Jyothi and Rathna actively reduce this threat, helping to restore balance to the ocean. Their efforts also bring vital economic stability to their families, proving that sustainability and livelihoods can go hand in hand.



Together, they have processed nearly seven tons of fishing nets—an achievement that underscores their resilience and commitment. Their teamwork reflects the power of local action in addressing global challenges.

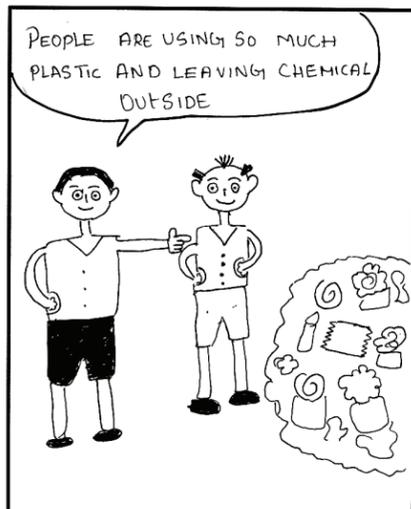
As the sun sets over the coastline, their work for the day may be done, but their impact continues. Jyothi and Rathna are not just processing ghost nets—they are safeguarding oceans, supporting their families, and inspiring others to take responsibility for the world around them.



Their story is a powerful reminder that conservation is not just the work of scientists or activists—it is a shared responsibility. And for these women, it is a responsibility they embrace with pride, one net at a time.

## ACID RAIN

Suraya • Bi  
X B



## Pinky

### Give Me Trees Trust



Pinky, a 28-year-old ambitious woman from Lucknow, embodies dignity, self-respect, and gender equality. Her journey is one of relentless hard work and deep passion for nature. Since 2019, she has been associated with Give Me Trees Trust, starting with basic nursery tasks and gradually mastering her skills. Her dedication and keen interest in afforestation led her to play a crucial role in HCL's CSR initiative, the Harit Project.

Under the project, she is in charge of essential activities like mulching, planting, and nurturing young saplings, ensuring they grow into strong, thriving trees. Her hands-on experience in plant care has made her an invaluable part of the restoration efforts.

Beyond her work, Pinky's connection with nature runs deep. She believes that planting trees is not just an act of conservation but a way to give back to the environment that sustains us. Her work

is more than a livelihood—it is a calling. She finds peace and strength in greenery, and her daily efforts contribute to making the world a healthier, more beautiful place. Though she had limited access to formal education, her sharp intellect, practical wisdom, and strong social skills set her apart. She motivates young girls to step out, work for their families, and break free from the barriers of gender inequality. Through her unwavering spirit and dedication to trees and nature, Pinky stands as a role model, showing that hard work, perseverance, and love for the environment can truly change lives.



# AIR POLLUTION

Once up on a time, the school reopened and two best friend meet.

Hi, Jaiy How are you? Let's go to park. Great let's go.

Jaiy of Jack reach the Park.

There is so much pollution. Yes, my eyes are also burning.

Next Day, both fall sick.

This is due to Air pollution when you go out wear mask. Tell your friends to. I Am coughing my Eyes Are Burning.

Next Day go to class room and meet the friends.

ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION

Friends Air pollution is increasing in our Area wear masks when we go out.

By: D. Revathi.

# REACH US ON THE EARTH

Amranda and Aadhya goes to school after a rainy day and School is submerged with water.

Hi! why this ground is like a lake. Today also no PET period. We should complain this.

It is our fault. This land where school is built used to be a lake. What did we do?

So now its too late we can't do anything. We can still do Rainwater harvesting and use the excess water. Wow! that's a good idea.

Both of them consults with their teacher who invites an expert to do it.

See this is how we will recharge our land.... That's great This way we can even conserve rain water.

- R. Sauganya 8A

# बर्बादी नदी

मेरा दोस्त भीतर चालू करके नहा रह या

अरे भीतर चालू करके कितना पानी बर्बाद कर रहे हो ?

पानी के खराब मत करीं बालटी में पानी भर कर नहा लीं

अरे मैंने तो इसके बारे में पूजा दीनदी जब नदी कब्रगा

आदर्श कश्यप

**No Wastage:** Once a boy was using a bore pump to take a bath. His friend saw him and scolded him for wasting water like this. He told him that instead he could use a bucket and save water. His friend realizes his mistake and starts to use a bucket for bathing. street. -Adarsh Kashyap

# नदी हुई साफ

एक बार मे अपने पापा के साथ गाँव जा रहा था गाँव में हमी देखा नदी में कचड़ा देखा मैंने पापासे पूछा

पपा इस नदी में कचड़ा कैसे है? क्या इस गाँव के सभी लोग नदी में कचड़ा फेंकते हैं?

हम हीनें लीगा गाँव में जाकर गाँव वाले से कचड़े के बारे में कहा

नदी को हम लोग साफ करी करोगे तो हमरे गाँव खराब होगा

अभी गाँव वाले को उसकी बात समझ अलगी है और वो नदी को साफ करके का पैसेवा लेते हैं

उस दिन बाद वो हीनें लीटके जा रहे थे

अरे नदी साफ हो गयी

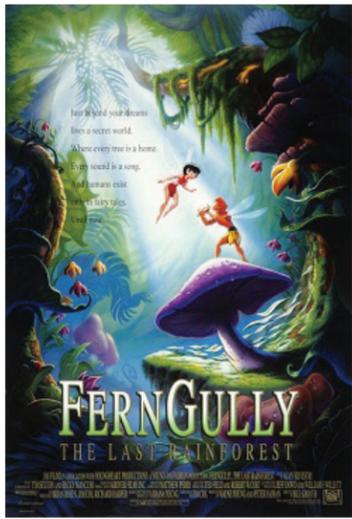
नाम गौरव कुमार

**The River Got Cleaned:** Once a boy was going to his village in a car with his father. On the way, he saw a river near his village filled with waste and garbage. He inquired with his father and was told that villagers were throwing waste and plastic in the river and that's why it's so dirty. They gathered the village people and told them how the dirty river badly affects their village. The villagers understood and collectively decided to clean the river. -Gaurav Kumar



**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF  
FORESTS**

**Movie suggestion: FernGully: The Last Rainforest (1992)**



FernGully: The Last Rainforest is a classic animated movie about rainforest destruction and conservation. The film tells the story of Crysta, a fairy who discovers the dangers of deforestation when she meets Zak, a young logger who learns to appreciate nature. With its vivid animation, memorable characters, and the villain Hexxus—a powerful metaphor for pollution—the film effectively conveys the importance of protecting the environment. At just 76 minutes, FernGully balances entertainment with

an educational message, and teaches children that even small actions can help protect nature, fostering a sense of responsibility for the environment.

**Book recommendation: We Are Water Protectors by Carole Lindstrom**

We Are Water Protectors by Carole Lindstrom is a beautifully illustrated and powerful picture book that introduces children to the importance of water conservation and environmental activism. Inspired by Indigenous-led movements, the story follows a young girl who takes a stand against the destruction of water sources, emphasizing the sacred relationship between nature and people.

Through lyrical storytelling and stunning artwork by Michaela Goade, the book conveys a message of unity, responsibility, and the urgent need to protect our planet's most precious resource. With its themes of environmental justice and Indigenous wisdom, We Are Water Protectors is an inspiring read that encourages young minds to become stewards of the Earth.



Photo: Wikipedia

**CLEAN ENERGY** S. Jivika VIII - A

**Panel 1:** Raj and Anjal talk about the air pollution while walking on the road.  
Raj: Hey! Our environment there is so much of air pollution.  
Anjal: Yes I am so worried about that and I am so proud of you Raj.

**Panel 2:** While walking on the road.  
Anjal: Why are you sad?  
Raj: Most of citizens don't care about our environment but you care about it.

**Panel 3:** Thinking about reducing air pollution.  
Raj: Shall we think about reducing air pollution?  
Anjal: I have an idea...

**Panel 4:** Anjal has an idea.  
Anjal: We use cycle for short distance and also use Public transport for long distance.

**Quiz**

- Which of these materials takes the longest to degrade?
  - a) Banana peel
  - b) Plastic bottle
  - c) Paper
  - d) Cotton cloth
- What do bees help to produce by pollinating flowers?
  - a) Honey
  - b) Fruits and vegetables
  - c) Both a and b
  - d) Milk
- What is the "3R" rule for protecting the environment?
  - a) Run, Recycle, Reuse
  - b) Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
  - c) Read, Ride, Recycle
  - d) Reduce, Relax, Recycle
- What is the safe level of noise intensity for humans?
  - a) up to 90 decibels
  - b) up to 70 decibels
  - c) up to 80 decibels
  - d) up to 60 decibels
- The study of weather is called?
  - a) Meteorology
  - b) Climatology
  - c) Aeronomy
  - d) Aerology
- What happens if we cut down too many trees?
  - a) More fresh air
  - b) Less oxygen and more pollution
  - c) More animal homes
  - d) The trees will grow back instantly

Answer: 1(b), 2(c), 3(b), 4(c), 5(a), 6(b)

**Solve this Mystery**

**About the publication**

HCLFoundation and World Comics India's collaborative initiative 'Harit Khabar' is a quarterly newspaper that aims to educate people on environmental issues and challenges and raise community participation towards the cause of the environment. This publication has been launched to provide a platform to various partner organizations working in collaboration with the HCLFoundation's distinct flagship programme Harit - The Green Initiative to showcase their work and accomplishments and also to create a network between them. Through Harit Khabar we aim to stir meaningful debates on critical issues concerning our environment and ecosystem, accessibility to environmental education and public participation in decision-making processes in the country.

**About HCLFoundation**

HCLFoundation delivers the corporate social responsibility agenda of HCLTech in India through its flagship programmes and special initiatives. It is a not-for-profit organisation that strives to contribute towards national and international development goals, bringing about lasting positive impact in the lives of people, through long-term sustainable programmes.

Issue – 28, Year – 4, January-March, 2025  
(Private circulation only)

We are grateful to HCLFoundation partners for their significant contribution to this publication.

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