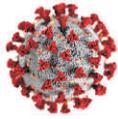


# Report & Activity Highlights 2020-2021



## Project COVID-19 Series



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## ***From President Desk***

### ***Greetings from Climate Change Research Institute!***

The years 2020 and 2021 are marked with the pandemic COVID-19; the whole world came to standstill in March 2020, being shaken by SARS-CoV2 virus. At that time no one knew to what extent the virus would affect and what is the remedy? There was a lockdown worldwide, leading to millions/ billions of people confined to their houses. Mobility came to standstill. The healthcare system of the countries collapsed. According to the reports 450 million people were affected worldwide, India had 44 million cases reported altogether.

The Climate Change Research Institute (CCRI) took initiatives to enlighten Youth about the ecosystem changes, linkages of COVID-19 with climate change & biodiversity, sustainable Development Goals and adapting to S&T solutions to minimize the impacts. In last two years considerable effort has gone into holding virtual events. The COVID-19 Series became an amazing project for CCRI and is placed before you in two chapters. We uploaded the e-Newsletters and launched e-Magazine for Climate Change Youth Forum of India. We took initiatives towards science campaigns for addressing societal challenges and meeting national goals of *Atmanirbhar Bharat* and *Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsava*. Major highlights include;

- Our Star Book publications
- Launch of Climate Change Youth Forum of India
- Deliberations on Post COVID-19: Future of Biodiversity
- Webinar on COVID-19 and 3Es of *Atmanirbhar bharat*
- Campaign on Ecosystem Restoration: Ocean and COVID-19
- Knowledge Sharing

I am happy to present before you the activity highlights of CCRI - COVID-19 series for the years 2020-2021. These activities have led to build a responsible and environmental citizenship among the targeted audience.

With best wishes

**Dr. Mrs. Malti Goel**  
**President**



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## About CCRI

The Climate Change Research Institute (CCRI) is a registered not-for-profit society, founded with a vision to promote understanding of climate change, mentoring and developing human resources for taking action through science based solutions. Aiming at sustainable development the institute addresses wide strata of society and as many stakeholders as possible through Awareness Campaigns in schools and Capacity Building/ training for college students and researchers.

It organizes awareness and capacity building workshops, scientific events of international relevance, lectures, campaigns on topics of scientific & societal interest in energy and environment for students, teachers, researchers and community members. It disseminates science & technology research in the field of environment and climate change mitigation & adaptation to stakeholders and policy makers. The Institute is internationally renowned whose activities focus on research for finding out solutions to mitigate climate change impacts, in addition policy advocacy on national priorities. Awareness on scientific & technological measures for implementation of UN Sustainable Development Goals for environment protection and economic growth are undertaken.

### Main Objectives and Activities

Promoting environment education and teaching in climate change among wide strata of society.

- To create scientific awareness through workshops, conferences, lectures, capacity building programmes on the topics of environment and sustainable development.
- To develop educational tools on emerging topics of societal interest; such as energy, health and water in the climate change context.
- To undertake studies in energy sector: clean coal, carbon capture and utilization, renewable sources and in achieving Sustainable Development Goals, through science & technology solutions.
- To enter into collaborations with other national, international organizations with similar objectives and also encourage study groups on various environmental aspects.
- To disseminate scientific information through publications of newsletters, magazines, bulletins and books on priority thrust areas on national importance.

### Vision and Mission

To become a Centre for Excellence in developing human resources through science based solutions and technical capacity building in the area of ecosystem changes and climate change

Glimpses of our activities can be seen at [www.ccri.in](http://www.ccri.in)

# Chapter 2020

*By polluting the oceans, not mitigating CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and destroying our biodiversity, we are killing our planet. Let us face it, there is no planet B*  
- Emmanuel Macron, President of France

**The year that was 2020 -**  
**A month wise chronology of events held**  
**on a virtual platform**

January 2020

Our Quarterly Publication – Climate SAR  
Climate SAR, Vol. VII, No. 1 Climate Change and Marine Ecology

Vol. VII - No. 1

January, 2020

**Climate SAR** सार  
Climate Science And Research



**Key Messages**

1. **Ocean and Climate Change:** Oceans cover 71% of the Earth's surface, and are storehouses for 97% of water on Earth.....
2. **Plastic Waste and Marine Debris:** More than 1.5 trillion plastic bags are used worldwide in a year.....
3. **Ocean Acidification and Marine Ecology:** Many ocean-related benefits to society such as coastal protection or provision of food and income are getting affected by these.....
4. **Ozone Depletion and Marine Ecosystem:** The most severe effects of climate change and solar UV-B radiation exposure are; decreased reproductive capacity and impaired larval development.....

## 5. Implementing Sustainable Goal 14 (SDG 14) - Life below Water:

The CCRI organized this seminar on 'Marine Ecology: Implementing Sustainable Development Goals 14' Puthuvyppe, Kochi promoted by Centre for Marine Living Resources & Ecology (CMLRE), Ministry of Earth Sciences and the Swadeshi Science Movement (SSM). It was attended by more than 200 graduate, postgraduate and research students from various Universities. An Information brochure on **Implementing SDG14 and Climate Change – Drivers & Impacts; Solutions & Actions** was shared with participants. The event conveyed the message to protect ocean.

**Climate Change Research Institute**  
Science & Technology Solutions for Sustainable Energy Future

**About CCRI**  
The Climate Change Research Institute (CCRI) is founded with a mission to disseminate science & technology research in the field of climate change mitigation and adaptation. It educates and informs youth in schools and colleges about the ecosystem changes and consequences of climate change. It seeks to achieve this through organizing awareness and capacity building workshops, scientific events of national relevance; holds lectures, campaigns on topics of scientific & societal interest in environment and climate change.

**Implementing SDG 14 - Kochi 2019**  
In September, 2015, the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that comprise of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets. The SDG14 targets to **Conserve and Sustainably use the Oceans, Seas and Marine Resources for Sustainable Development**. The Climate Change Research Institute (CCRI) recognizes the importance of education & awareness in the context of Marine Ecology and proposes to discuss the following sub-targets of SDG 14.

14.1 - By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution.

14.3 - Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels.

**Climate Change**

**Drivers**

- Anthropogenic Activities leading to greenhouse gas emissions
- Deforestation and Land Use Changes
- Climate and Earth System feedbacks
- El - Nino Changes
- Carbon Cycle Imbalances

**Impacts**

- Intense Weather Events
- Frequent Droughts & Forest fires
- Shifting Agriculture Practices
- Sea Level Rise
- Coastal and Marine Ecosystems
- Water Scarcity

**S & T Solutions**

- Energy Conserving & Energy Efficient Technology
- Renewable Energy Resource Utilization
- Low Carbon Fuel for Electricity
- Land and Water Management
- Marine Ecology & Sustainability
- Solar Rooftops & Parks
- Smart Cities
- Green Buildings & Infrastructure
- Carbon Capture, Storage & Utilization
- Waste Management - Reduce, Recycle & Reuse
- Beat Plastic Pollution
- Afforestation and Reforestation
- Biodiversity Conservation

**What You & I can do**

- Generate your own solar energy
- Use efficient electric & lighting appliances
- Use public transport or bicycle to save fuel
- Encourage Car Pooling
- Reduce and Reuse Plastic
- Do not throw waste plastic or fishing net in oceans
- Regular Beach cleaning drive in coastal areas
- Switch off lights when not in use
- Segregate & Manage your kitchen waste
- Increase plantation & greenery in surroundings
- Awareness and Education Campaigns
- Capacity Building and Training Workshops

Dr(Mrs) Malti Goel  
Chief Executive and President  
Climate Change Research Institute, Email: contactus@ccri.in

### Media Highlights

**THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS**

Sunday, September, 22, 2019 07:34:59 PM

Search

**NATION WORLD STATES CITIES BUSINESS SPORT GOOD NEWS MOVIES GALLERIES VIDEOS OPINIONS**

Home > States > Kerala

## First satellite seminar held at Puthuvyppe

The first satellite seminar of Swaraya Bharat was held at the Centre for Marine Living Resources & Ecology (CMLRE), Puthuvyppe, on Saturday.

Published: 22nd September 2019 06:16 AM | Last Updated: 22nd September 2019 06:16 AM

**By Express News Service**

**KOCHI:** The first satellite seminar of Swaraya Bharat was held at the Centre for Marine Living Resources & Ecology (CMLRE), Puthuvyppe, on Saturday.

The seminar with the theme 'Sustainable Development Goal-14 (Life under water)' was organised as part of Kerala Science Fest 2019, jointly by Swadeshi Science Movement and Ministry of Earth Sciences -CMLRE. Climate Change Research Institute president and CEO Dr Malti Goel spoke on the theme and SDG 13 (climate change).

**Latest**

- Karnataka govt's appointment of 'ineligible' officer as MD to TSCIL raises eyebrows
- Rohit Sharma equals MS Dhoni's record during third South Africa T20I
- Chhattisgarh government writes to Centre for guidelines to rehabilitate internally displaced Bastar tribals

The Climate SAR can be accessed online at: <https://bit.ly/3pLPkbE>

March 2020

Live Mint Quoted on COVID-19

About Live Mint

Representative of an integrated newsroom, [www.livemint.com](http://www.livemint.com) is Mint's online portal and is among the fastest growing news website in India. Mint provides daily national, international and business news, tracks market movements and detailed coverage of significant events.



Home > News > India > COVID-19: Will summers make the virus less contagious?

COVID-19: Will summers make the virus less contagious?



High temperature and relative humidity can reduce the transmission of COVID-19, as was the case during SARS outbreak in 2002-03, according to a new study. (PTI)



While this would help contain the outbreak in northern hemisphere, the situation may worsen for countries like Australia and South Africa in southern hemisphere, it added.

The argument is based on a few assertions. Firstly, influenza virus is more stable in cold temperature since respiratory droplets tend to remain airborne longer in cold and dry air. Secondly, cold and dry weather tends to weaken immunity and make people more susceptible to attack from viruses.

There is no denying that transmission of viruses is affected by climatic conditions. "Cold weather is generally favored by viruses and as temperature rises to 25-26°C, they start becoming less effective," said Dr. (Mrs.) Malti Goel, former adviser, Ministry of Science and Technology.

This document can be accessed online at: <https://bit.ly/3mf8JzR>

April 2020

## World Earth Day 2020



A Snippet from Google Doodle for the World Earth Day, 2020

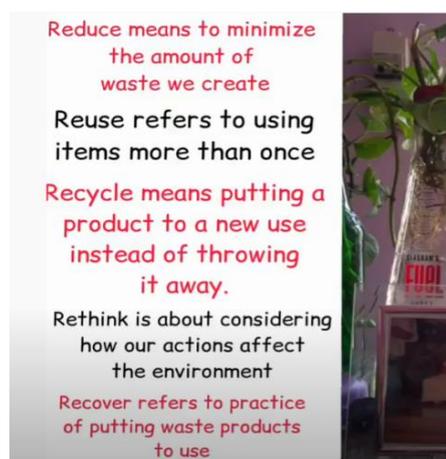
Earth Day celebration falling on 22<sup>nd</sup> April was a very special event in 2020 being the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the World Earth Day. The theme for the Earth Day 2020 was **“Climate Action”**. The CCRI planned science campaign in association with the **India International Centre (IIC)**, had to be cancelled due to pandemic COVID-19 and worldwide lockdown.

In a digital celebration Dr. (Mrs.) Malti Goel, President CCRI sent Earth Day Message to all invitees, quoting from Pope Francis-

*“The global pandemic might be one of nature’s responses to man-made climate crisis”.*

She said the pandemic has brought about an unprecedented situation which has halted many communities, services, and programmes worldwide. By April it was reported that COVID-19 wave has almost infected more than 200 countries, with first case of officially reported by the WHO on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 at Wuhan, China. The President’s message to school children narrated the LESSONS from this episode about the need to conserve energy. Saving oil, using electricity efficiently and doing few other things by staying at home, should be the goal viz.,

- **Plant a sapling at your house**
- **Learn more about the native plants, shrubs and birds or attend webinars online.**
- **Utilize your Lockdown time by reading and learning new skills**
- **Look for more sustainable options in day-to-day life by using**
- **Stay at home and prevent wasting food and water.**
- **Practice reuse and recycling at home.**



The CCRI prepared in-house video film covering these goals and suggesting how to reuse waste in homes and shared it. COVID-19 reminds of an Indian Proverb for environment protection which could be written as

*“Only When the Last Tree Has Died, And the Last River Been Poisoned and the Last Fish Been Caught, Will We Realize We Could be Attacked by Covid-19!”*

Glimpses of the Video

Did your coffee mug break?  
Don't know how to reuse it?

Here's how you can  
**REuse**  
**REcycle** the  
**Old and Broken Mug**  
And  
**REduce** the waste

Grow your favourite plant



How to make beautiful plant hangings using Plastic Bottles

Steps

1. Cut the plastic bottles into two halves
2. Decorate the bottles using jute ropes
3. Stick some decorative material
4. Put soil in both the bottle halves
5. Pot a plant in each halves
6. Do holes around the corner so that we can tie it with the help of ribbon

Tada! Your plant hanging is ready

How to make beautiful plant hangings using Plastic Bottles

Material Required

1. Plastic Bottles
2. Jute Ropes
3. Glue
4. Decorating Material
5. Ribbon



Use the plastic containers  
To store spices,  
pickles,  
Or grow plants to be kept  
on your study table or balcony

To pot a plant

dahi container  
And  
Plastic Utensil  
To grow plants

Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

For storing spices

Reusing ice cream box  
to plant an indoor plant

Reusing paint box to pot a plant

Ice cream box  
Styrofoam cup  
Yogurt box



You-Tube link <https://bit.ly/3vKQ7uw>

May 2020

Article Published in NESAs Newsletter e-Version

President and CEO of Climate Change Research Institute, contributed an article for NESAs, e-Version on the topic "COVID-19 and Climate Change"

NESA E-version\_May 2020 (Private Circulation)

## COVID-19 AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Malti Goel

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The whole world is taken aback by COVID-19. The new coronavirus case at Wuhan, China was first reported by World Health Organization (WHO) on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019. In India first case was reported in Kerala on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The WHO acknowledged it a health emergency and on 11<sup>th</sup> March(1), declared it a pandemic. The new coronavirus disease named as COVID-19 is a zoonotic disease. Zoonotic diseases already comprise roughly 70 percent of all human infections. In 2007 WHO had warned that emerging infectious diseases are becoming a growing threat in the face of increasing urbanization, antimicrobial resistance and climate change. In 2003 outbreak of SARS-CoV – Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus created havoc. Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) virus and Zika virus, a mosquito-borne virus caused other epidemics invaded Middle East and many Asian countries in 2015-16.

A lot has changed with the new coronavirus SARS-CoV2 leading to COVID-19. Lockdown across the world and social distancing are the ways to stay safe. All mobility came to a stop. With 212 countries under the grip of virus. More than three lakhs deaths have been reported in last four months. It is shown that about 80% of infected people get mild to moderate disease, while 14% have severe symptoms and 6% have life threatening episodes of respiratory failure or organ failure. Among the vulnerable population children made up of 2% of the cases, not got severely ill, but aged population above 80 were affected the highest 22%.

A number of studies are appearing about investigating climate change relationship with COVID-19. In this article we examine the atmospheric science and climate change linkages with this global COVID-19 epidemic. The three pronged approach of nexus between COVID-19 and climate could be in terms of (i) Environment, (ii) Weather & climate and (iii) Climate change.

### (i) Linkage with Environment

Most attention grabbing finding about the environment linkage is that as a result of stay home with the pandemic COVID-19 outbreak; the streets, water bodies and the air all are much cleaner than what we can imagine in our dreams. This year water quality of the rivers *Ganges* and *Yamuna* has improved at an incredible level. Himalayan Ranges are visible from a distance of 200 km. More emphasis has been given to air quality in the world's most polluted and busiest cities and it is seen that pollution has dropped like never before. Many cities that had high pollution level are seeing remarkably less air pollution and are breathing clean air. Urban Tree leaves are green and no longer laden with dust and pollution.

NASA pictures released in early March clearly showed that according to the calculations made by the Center for Research on Energy and Clean Air the greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere had come down by 23% in the month of February when COVID-19 was at the peak in Wuhan, in comparison to the same period last year. At the same time is no coincidence that NCR of Delhi in India has suffered three earthquakes, though of low intensity, during this period.

Good news about lock down is about energy saving. With closure of offices and industry, the electricity 'peak demand' had fallen by

25% on average after March 22 in India, the day India began fight against COVID-19 with *Janta Curfew*. The NTPC has recently reported that the demand for power has reduced by as much as 45%. By stopping the use of personal cars and other transport means, oil consumption has fallen significantly. Oil is the energy resource which our country imports as much as 85% to meet mainly transport needs. We can save on our imports bill, by investing in renewable energy and avoiding unnecessary travels.

### (ii) Weather and Climate and COVID-19

The second is, its connection with weather & climate that might be having a role in the growth of virus. Although the origin of corona virus is yet to be ascertained and whether it is natural or man-made, is a topic of high debate, it was believed that with the coming of summer, COVID-19 might also stop, as is the case with many other viruses, including the common cold, bird flu or influenza occurring during the colder months. Cold weather and humidity are favored by the viruses and as the minimum temperature starts rising above 25-26°C, it starts becoming ineffective. But nothing is proven yet for the new corona virus.

### (iii) COVID-19 and Climate Change

Are COVID-19 and climate change impacts are linked in any way? The climate change and COVID-19 may not have same origin, but both are global crises and have produced disaster over *Homo sapiens*. One line of thought is that climate change has led to many wildlife species migrating toward higher altitudes. This potentially is putting animals in contact with new diseases to which they haven't evolved resistance. The change in migratory patterns of the animals could lead to a lower respiratory system in animals. With the environmental devastation these microorganisms which animals host are now being transferred to humans. Bat has been associated with the cause of new coronavirus.

Another theory is that according to findings of Ohio State University scientists from a study of two ice cores extracted from Gulya Ice Cap, northwestern Tibetan Plateau, China and using gene-sharing network is that melting of glaciers giving rise new species of viruses[2]. They found that the microbes differed significantly across the two ice cores, presumably representing the very different climate conditions at the time of deposition. These viruses and bacteria trapped from thousands of years and are still present in the glaciers although in a dormant state. As global temperature rises the re-emergence of ancient viruses threatens present day species lacking immunity to these old world pathogens.

To conclude, with the ongoing debate on whether COVID-19 is natural or man-made, one thing is for sure that in addition to non-communicable diseases and vector borne diseases, viral outbreaks of similar nature would become more common in future with the progression of the climate crisis.

### References

1. Cucinotta D, Vanelli M. WHO Declares COVID-19 a Pandemic. *Acta Biomed*. 2020 Mar 19;91(1):157-160. doi: 10.23750/abm.v91i1.9397.
2. Zhi-Ping Zhonga, et. al., Glacier ice archives fifteen-thousand-year-old viruses, Jan 2020, <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.01.03.694675v1.full.pdf>, Preprint accessed on 11.3.2020

NESA E-version\_May 2020

11

The document can be accessed online at: <https://bit.ly/3ba4SOB>

# April-June 2020

## Knowledge Sharing e-Newsletter COVID-19 and Climate Change

e-Newsletter

April-June 2020

## COVID-19 and Climate Change

*The Corona crisis is hundred meters race and climate crisis is a marathon. We have to run both at the same time.*

- Victor Gataz, Stockholm Resilience Center

When the whole world was gripped by the microscopic organism, Climate Change Research Institute (CCRI), launched quarterly e-Newsletter for knowledge dissemination on COVID-19, to help the audience keep up with the latest research.

President of CCRI, Dr. (Mrs.) Malti Goel quoted, *“We are amidst corona virus threat. Pandemic COVID-19 crisis has taken the world by surprise. How climate change and COVID are connected, is uppermost dilemma before those concerned with environment? Are we heading to sixth mass extinction as the number of species are becoming extinct, is another vital concern?”*

### **Key Messages in five Sections**

**Biodiversity and COVID-19:** “Since 1978, over 750,000 square kilometres of Amazon rainforest have been destroyed with an increasing proportion of deforestation driven by industrial activities and large-scale agriculture.”

**How Endemics and Pandemics are related to Climate and Climate Change?:** “According to the US Agency for International Development, 75% of new emerging diseases at the start of the 21st century have been transmitted from animals, often because deforestation has brought them closer to the human environment.”

**COVID-19, CO2 Emissions and Renewables:** Global Energy Review, IEA quoted, *“Beyond the immediate impact on health, the current crisis has major implications for global economies, energy use and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions”*

**Climate Action -Sustainable Development Goal 13:** In 2020, due to corona crisis impacts, the nationally determined contributions of countries could become achievable with larger goals, after 2019 being second warmest year on the record.

**Post COVID-19 Action Plan: Message from** Secretary General, Antonio Guterres on World Environment Day stated *“It is time to act decisively. My message to governments is clear: tax pollution, end fossil fuel subsidies; and stop building new coal plants. We need a green economy not a grey economy*



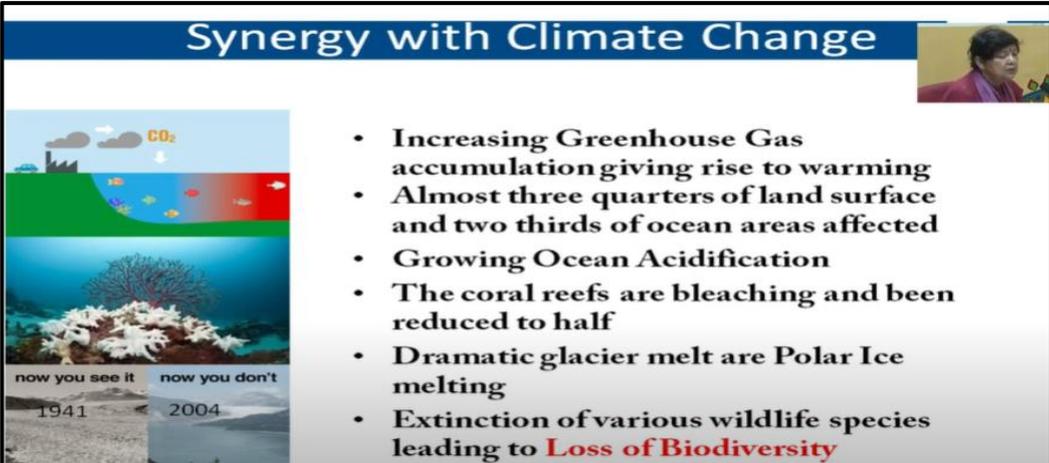
The e-Newsletter can be accessed online at: <https://bit.ly/3vKRkSA>

# June 2020

## Post COVID-19: Future of Biodiversity

The celebration of World Environment Day falling on 5<sup>th</sup> June has been a Flagship event of the **Climate Change Research Institute** every year. The CCRI has made noteworthy contribution towards the eco-system changes and S&T solutions by interacting with the students, with the teachers, with the professionals and with the scientists in novel ways.

To celebrate **World Environment Day 2020** Dr. (Mrs) Malti Goel delivered the theme talk on "Post COVID-19 Future on Biodiversity" in collaboration with **India International Center**. Shri V S Verma, Distinguished professor & Member Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, Delhi welcomed all, sharing the background on Environment Day.



**Synergy with Climate Change**

- Increasing Greenhouse Gas accumulation giving rise to warming
- Almost three quarters of land surface and two thirds of ocean areas affected
- Growing Ocean Acidification
- The coral reefs are bleaching and been reduced to half
- Dramatic glacier melt are Polar Ice melting
- Extinction of various wildlife species leading to **Loss of Biodiversity**

### Key Messages

**COVID-19:** COVID-19 was declared as Pandemic on 11th March 2020. "Is Nature sending us any message for taking care of the planet?" is the key question.

**Biological Diversity:** "We have already recorded that there are 8-9 million species, possibly 100 million and 1.7 million varieties of animals, plants, and fungi respectively" – and these are endangered.

### **Causes of HIPPO Decline in Biodiversity:**

**H- Habitat loss** is a greatest threat to biodiversity.

**I- Invasive species** is non-native organism negatively impacting native species.

**P- Pollution and influx of carbon dioxide** affecting the health of individual species

**P- Population increases** are threats to biodiversity causing habitat loss, pollution, and land-use changes.

**O- Over-harvesting** i.e., extraction of resources including trees, plants, and animals

**Future of Biodiversity:** relies on threefold actions

(i) **Grassroots level active participation of local community in preserving biodiversity and increasing awareness on human role in introducing conservation education;**

(ii) **Scientific studies by remote sensing and plant diversity are helping in species distribution modeling; and**

(iii) **Synergy between biodiversity and climate change and taxonomy studies and documentation.**

The environment day lecture can be accessed online at: <https://youtu.be/LLrIWxU1WBI>

July 2020

Article Published in Social Action Journal

On invitation to write in the Special Issue on Climate Change of Social Action Journal, we contributed the article on 'Climate Change, COVID-19 and Cities: Social Transformation'. It appeared in the July-September 2020 issue of the Journal. The abstract is as follows.

**CLIMATE CHANGE, COVID-19 AND CITIES: SOCIETAL TRANSFORMATION**

Malti Goel\* & Neha G. Tripathi\*\*

*Abstract*

*Urban planning has a critical role in energy consumption in cities and therefore in climate change mitigation. With increasing urbanization, cities have grown in numbers and in population with ever increasing demand for energy resulting in hotter weather, global warming and climate change manifestations. As governments are making choices about managing the risks and opportunities associated with climate change, COVID-19 has taken people by surprise and shock. This article is focused on the challenges for integrating city planning interventions based on pandemic induced impacts on lifestyles. The pandemic's impact on energy demand is seen to be directly proportional to the duration and stringency of measures meant to curb the spread of the virus. Work from home, virtual schools, shift in transport and change in lifestyles became major drivers to achieve people centric approach leading to climate resilience. It suggests accelerated implementation of smart cities and strategies for taking a quantum jump towards fourth Industrial revolution not only to control the spread of pandemic but also provide solutions for post COVID-19 city planning and ecological sustainability.*

**Keywords:** Climate change, Covid-19, Urban planning, Societal transformation

**Introduction**

Global warming and climate change are manifestations of the Anthropocene era. By Anthropocene, we mean the current geological epoch started with the first industrial revolution of the 18th century. It represents the period during which human activities have a dominating influence on the environment and climate. The Anthropocene is proposed as a sub-division of Holocene, an era of 12,000 years of stable climate since the last ice age. During this Holocene epoch beginning with the agricultural revolution,

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\*\*Asstt. Professor, School of Planning & Architecture, New Delhi -110003, Email: maltigoel2008@gmail.com

The Social Action Journal is a "Quarterly Review" of Social Trends, approved by UGC-CARE, captures the social dimension of Independent India.

Full paper can be accessed online at: <https://bit.ly/3ntkjGW>

# August 2020

Knowledge Dissemination  
e-Newsletter Bio-Medical Waste, COVID-19 and SDG3

E-Newsletter

July-Sept. 2020

Bio-Medical Waste, COVID-19 and SDG3

*“Corona has exposed the fragility of healthcare systems, the inefficiency of social protections frameworks, and the lack of economic resilience.”*

-John Hopkins University and Medicine -  
Coronavirus Research Centre, May 2020

**Bio-Medical waste**, according to BMW Rules 2016 means any medical waste, which is generated during the diagnosis, treatment or immunisation of human beings or animals or research activities pertaining thereto or in the production or testing of biological or in health camps and in other categories. According to the Rules Bio-Medical waste treatment and disposal facility means any facility wherein treatment, disposal of bio-medical waste or processes incidental to such treatment and disposal is carried out, and includes common Bio-Medical waste treatment facilities.

- Ministry of Environment & Forests, 28th March 2016



With a view that Pandemic COVID-19 crisis has given rise to generation of new biomedical toxic waste and its management has become the uppermost challenge before the nations. With the rapidity of spread of COVID-19 disease, the waste has grown manifolds and its proper handling has been a dilemma before those concerned with human health and environment, the newsletter throws light on following sections.

- (i) **How is India handling its Bio-Medical Waste?**
- (ii) **Why Corona Bio-Medical Waste need Better Management?**
- (iii) **Coronavirus Outbreak is Piling Pressure on India’s BioMedical Waste Disposal System**
- (iv) **How Different States are handling their COVID-19 Waste?**
- (v) **SDG3 (Good Health and Well-Being) and COVID-19**

The e-Newsletter can be accessed online at: <https://bit.ly/3iCnLhs>

# September 2020

## National Teachers' Day

### COVID-19 and 3Es of *Atmnirbhar Bharat*

The Climate Change Research Institute organized a webinar workshop on “**COVID-19 and 3Es for Atmnirbhar Bharat**” on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to mark the Teachers Day. The event was in collaboration with the Universal Public School. Young children of the school opened the event by singing beautiful *shlokas*. Major highlights of the workshop are as follows.

**Prof. D. P. Agrawal**, Chairman Governing Council, CCRI extended warm welcome said that it is important for teachers to create continued awareness among students and parents about safety from corona virus. Elaborating on 3Es challenges being faced at the national level he suggested Youth to develop capacity to fight COVID-19 and plan to live simple and frugal life, taking a vow not to waste. Do not forget “When there are difficulties, we develop capacity to fight it all”.

**Dr. (Mrs.) Malti Goel**, President CCRI introduced the theme and said Education, Environment and Economics of Health are the three challenges before us arising from pandemic COVID-19. She interacted with the students and the teachers on a creative note. In her lecture on ‘Challenges in Nature’s Healing: Climate Change and COVID-19’ she touched on the important aspects of the air pollutants, their types, ozone pollution; and their impact, climate change, COVID-19 and *Atmnirbhar Bharat*.

Climate Change Research Institute  
invite you all to join a Webinar on  
**COVID-19 and 3Es for *Atmnirbhar Bharat***

Register here: <https://forms.gle/RQY7kZNDsXlogr5>

**Meet the Panelists**

**Key Note Speakers**

**Prof. D. P. Agrawal**  
Chairman GC, CCRI  
Former Chairman, UPSC

**Prof. G. D. Sharma**  
Former Secretary UGC  
Ex-Director CEC, India

**Other Speakers**

**Dr. (Mrs) Malti Goel**  
Chief Executive, CCRI  
Former Emeritus Scientist

**Mrs Maya Gupta**  
Director Principal,  
Universal Public School,  
Preet Vihar

**Dr. Bhawana Awasthi**,  
Chief Medical and Clinical  
Oncology, Indian Spinal  
Injuries Centre

**Dr. Neha Tripathi**,  
Assistant Professor, SPA

10:30 – 12:30 Hrs on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Prof. G.D. Sharma**, Former Secretary UGC and Ex-Director CEC delivered the Guest Address by quoting from Mahatma Gandhi and linked 3Es through the process of psychomotor skills to be given to the students and by planting trees and saplings for protecting the environment. He said that self study is very important especially in COVID-19 era and virtual lectures are becoming the norm. New ‘normal’ mode of education could be mixed mode of education, of digital material, applications, Study from Home (SFH) and be self-reliant.

**Mrs. Maya Gupta**, Director- Principal, Universal Public School (UPS), Preet Vihar delivered the keynote address on “Linking COVID-19 with Education”. She talked about

how the education system in India has evolved since the ancient times and transformed from traditional *Gurukuls* to Schools. During corona times there have been many new challenges being faced for School Education. The COVID-19 has changed the dynamics of schooling, but no year can be called a “zero learning year”. There is a big responsibility in front of educational institutes, the educationalist, thinkers, and intellectuals.

**Dr. Neha Tripathi**, Assistant Professor, School of Planning and Architecture, described the need for Environmental awareness among youth and said that corona pandemic is the biggest global health challenge of 21<sup>st</sup> century. On impact of corona virus she quoted CNN article which reported how Air Travel had dropped to 96%, *which was the lowest in 75 years*. She presenting results of a survey conducted among youth and ended with a quote *“A good education is one the most valuable tool to create sustainable tomorrow”* and so Barbara Woods has said that *“we have only one earth and one life”*.

**Dr. Bhawana Awasthi**, Chief Medical and Clinical Oncology, Indian Spinal Injuries Centre, talked about “How to recover from COVID-19: Economic Packages from Hospitals”. She shared many challenges faced by the doctors during corona times. Elaborating on the risk factors responsible for spread of the virus, she gave a detailed introduction on COVID-19 transmission. She said there has been a huge economic impact on health care system. Social wellbeing is directly linked to the health wellbeing of the people in the country. She ended with a quote *“An agile healthcare system and a healthy population are keys to the economic and social wellbeing of a country. The absence of that can be psychologically debilitating and can sap the confidence of the citizen and the nations”*

## Webinar Recommendations

1.1. COVID-19 has put a big responsibility in front of educational institutes, the educationists, thinkers and intellectuals to impart online education. The students, parents and teachers should work to make it a success.

1.2. For students the key to **Atmanirbhar Bharat** is finding your area of interest and work for inter-dependence and creating a win-win situation, thinking and applying your ideas and thoughts, solving your own problems.

1.3. COVID-19 has highlighted beyond our comprehension as how fragile and interconnected, precious life is; and about the relationship between environment and people. The role of science is important in environment protect.

1.4. The COVID-19 has thrown greatest challenge to 3Es: Economy, Education and Environment. Major contributors to air pollution are economic and energy sectors namely; agriculture, transportation, industry, construction and others.

1.5. The important take away to fight climate change are use of solar energy and waste minimization. The waste should be recycled, reused and reduced. Planting of saplings, minimize automobiles use to save fuel, save energy by using more efficient household appliances, reduce consumption of material resources and saving water are other sustaining activities.

1.6. Clinical symptoms of COVID-19 on human health are many. To tackle the crisis healthcare infrastructure has been enhanced like; addition of new beds, availability of PPE kits and masks, requisitioning portions of private hospitals and use of telemedicine has emerged having economic implications on smaller health care systems.

1.7 The message - Youth should develop capacity to fight COVID-19 and plan to live simple and frugal life, taking a vow not to waste.

*“When there are difficulties, we develop capacity to fight it all”*.

The webinar can be accessed online at: <https://youtu.be/pFqUamigYKc>

## December 2020

### Launch of Climate Change Forum for Youth in India (CCFYI)

The core mission of CCRI is creating awareness, education and mentoring the youth, and wide strata of society about climate change. The CCRI has been working towards the environment and science of climate change by holding meetings and workshops

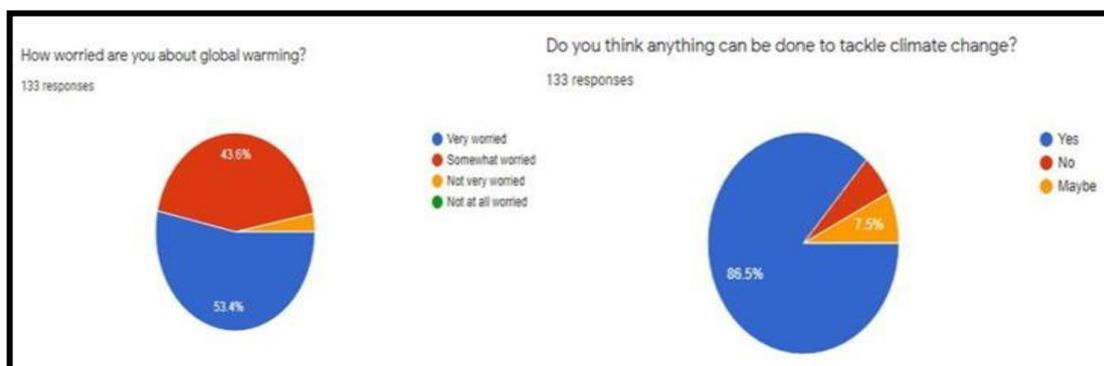


with students, teachers and researchers. Flashback of the activities included, organizing campaign mode experts' lecture series, ozone day competitions and workshops for youth for past few years. In a partnership with the Royal Society of Chemistry an Activity Based Learning Workshop in Chemistry for School Teachers on June 6-7, 2019, was greatly appreciated.

The CCRI has launched "Climate Change Forum for Youth in India" with the idea to have more interaction amongst youth about climate change through virtual platforms or direct participations. In the virtual workshop held in the honor of Teachers Day, which falls on 5th September to share post COVID-19 challenges of 3Es (Education, Environment, Economy of health) being faced by people of India and to create awareness for *Atmanirbhar Bharat* (Self Reliant India) at the national level. Membership to the Forum from youth (age 15-35 years) is invited through Google forms.

### Celebrating Youth Climate Action Day–5<sup>th</sup>December

The **Climate Change Forum for Youth in India (CCFYI)** conducted its first survey for spreading awareness about climate change among the youth in Delhi. The results of Survey clearly showed that youth are concerned and willing to work on individual level for the climate change control action. The changing weather, rising temperature, unseasonal rainfall, floods, droughts etc., are understood as the impacts of the climate change and youth indicated willingness to participate in more debates and webinars on this topic.



Survey response

# Chapter 2021

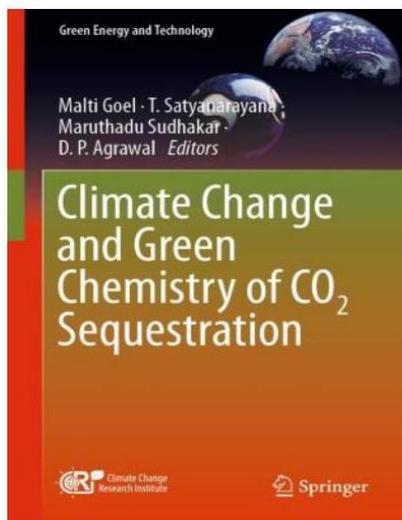
*The solutions are clear. Inclusive and green economies, prosperity, cleaner air and better health are possible for all if we respond to this crisis with solidarity and courage.*

- António Guterres, Secretary-General, UN

## Major Highlights 2021 - Building a strong base for CCRI

## Our Star Publication

The CCRI brings out a book on **Climate Change and Green Chemistry of CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration** published by Springer-Nature in 2021.



**The Climate Change Research Institute presents a book on "Climate Change and Green Chemistry of CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration".**

Foreword by Sh. Suresh Prabhu, former Union Minister of Civil Aviation, Railways, Industry and Commerce Government of India

Discusses advances in carbon dioxide capture and green chemistry of conversion in the context of global climate change

Focuses on CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration opportunities and challenges for India's energy security and provides an inter-disciplinary outlook for academic exchange of current research

© 2021

Eds: Malti Goel, T. Satyanarayana, M. Sudhakar, D. P. Agrawal

**This book is part of the "Green Energy and Technology" Book Series of Springer Singapore.**



### Chapter 3

#### **An Assessment of CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction Potential from Carbon Sequestration Versus Renewable Energy Targets in India**



Malti Goel, Rupali Pal, and Aditya Sharma

**Abstract** Carbon management from the energy sector is a key challenge before the nations. India as a nation is undergoing rapid economic and social transitions requiring diversified energy resources to meet basic energy needs of the people. India is having a 7% share in the world coal resources, and coal has been the dominant fuel for energy. Several policies that work toward climate change control by reducing or avoiding greenhouse gas emissions, exist. This chapter describes India's energy scene, trends in coal consumption, and India's renewable energy targets. To assess the potential of CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration—carbon capture, utilization, and storage, in mitigating emissions from the Indian industry—CO<sub>2</sub> emission scenarios need to be generated. Using basic assumptions from Coal Vision 2030, the CO<sub>2</sub> emission projections in three scenarios of high coal, business-as-usual, and high renewable energy, without and with CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration are calculated for 2017–2030. The current national and international CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration research is highlighted.

**Keywords** Carbon management · Energy security · CO<sub>2</sub> reduction · Renewable energy · CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration

#### Abbreviations

ADB	Asia Development Bank
BAU	Business as Usual
BCS	Best case Scenario

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M. Goel et al. (eds.), *Climate Change and Green Chemistry of CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration*, Green Energy and Technology, [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-0029-6\\_3](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-0029-6_3)

Book Climate Change and Green Chemistry of CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration being released by Shri Suresh Prabhu on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**Springer link:** <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-981-16-0029-6>.

## Webinar on Restoring Earth Resources

The Climate Change Research Institute (CCRI) held a Science Awareness Campaign on the World Earth Day 2021 on April 27<sup>th</sup>. The webinar was attended by youth in large number and the registration exceeded one hundred participants. It was 51<sup>st</sup> Earth Day and CCRI held it in collaboration with SEED. The theme of the event **Restoring Earths Resources: Climate Change and Water** had a focus on the most precious resource of the earth - WATER, without which survival is next to impossible. This was in line with the World Earth day theme for the year 2021 “**Restore Our Earth**” which brings attention to natural processes, emerging green technologies, and innovative thinking that can restore the world’s vulnerable ecosystems.

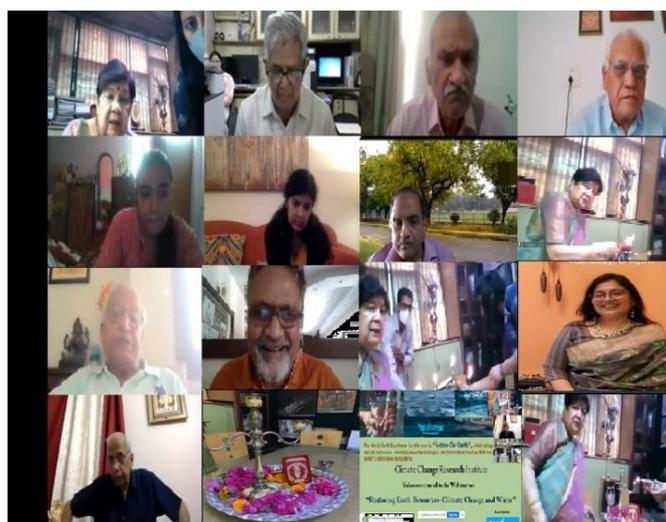
Dr Malti Goel, Chief Executive and President, CCRI in her introductory remarks cited ancient practices and current policies in water management. She said India’s National Water Mission 2009 and Jal Jivan Missions 2019 aim to conserve water and reach every household by 2024. The presentation is at: <https://bit.ly/3biuGaF>

Prof. G. D. Sharma Former Secretary, UGC presided over. In the opening address he shared his experience about *Bund-Bund Bachayen* and described practices adopted in the desert regions with the precise water management techniques.

Prof N. K. Goel, Department of Hydrology, IIT Roorkee delivered the guest address on ‘Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources’. He said climate change is felt primarily through changes in water. He explained various impacts of climate change on water resources, mitigation measures and how children can contribute towards environment and save water.

Dr. Rina Surana Associate Prof. MNIT, Jaipur in the special address touched on the Role of Water Bodies in Physical Planning. She elucidated how growth & development lead to encroachment on catchments & reclamation of water bodies. Future physical planning needs were explained.

Two other highlights of the event are (i) **A Water Quiz**- A google link to the quiz on WATER designed for the event was shared with the participants after the webinar. After 10 minutes the responses were compiled and results were announced, (ii) **Release of e-Magazine** - First issue of e-Magazine (January-February 2021) of the Climate Change Forum for Youth in India was released. It has informative articles on climate change, e-news alert sand contributions from the youth in the age group of 15-35 years.



The webinar can be accessed online at: <https://youtu.be/S8K3XZph5-Y>

## Science Campaign and Capacity Building Workshop World Environment Day 2021

The **World Environment Day 2021** theme this year was “**Ecosystem Restoration**”. The CCRI Science Campaign was held on ‘Ecosystem Restoration: Ocean and COVID-19’ in collaboration with the India International Centre on **4<sup>th</sup> June 2021** having eminent speakers.

**Dr. Hari Narain Srivastava**, Former Additional Director General, India Meteorological Department, New Delhi chaired the event. He observed that our efforts should be to reduce plastic waste and find new material which could be recycled and made use of in fighting COVID.

**Dr. M. Sudhakar**, Former Director, Centre for Marine Living Resources & Ecology, Kochi and Adviser, MoES as co-chair and moderator observed that COVID -19 provided an opportunity to study oceans and collect a very important and critical data set.

India International Centre  
and  
Climate Change Research Institute



**Webinar on**  
**Ecosystem Restoration: Ocean and COVID-19**

**Lead presentation:** Dr. Malti Goel  
Chief Executive, Climate Change Research Institute and Former Scientist  
'G' & Emeritus Scientist, Ministry of Science & Technology

**Keynote Speaker:** Dr. N. Ramaiah  
Former Chief Scientist, Professor at AcSIR and Deputy Director,  
CSIR-NIO, Goa

**Co-Chair:** Dr M. Sudhakar  
Former Director, Centre for Marine Living Resources & Ecology, Kochi and  
Former Adviser, Ministry of Earth Sciences

**Chair:** Dr. Hari Narain Srivastava,  
Former Additional Director General, India Meteorological Department,  
New Delhi

Friday, 4 June 2021 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Registration link:  
<http://webcast.streaminglive.in/iicwebinar3/signup.php>



**Dr. (Mrs) Malti Goel**, President CCRI as lead speaker introduced the theme. She said oceans are well known feedbacks to climate system on earth as *oceans store thousand times more heat than the atmosphere and act as climatic buffers*. She recalled important programmes of DST to address these concerns namely MONTBLEX and TOGA-I executed way back in 1990s. The Sagarmala project has been launched by Govt. of India for comprehensive development of 7500km coast line. She said that Ocean, Climate, Human health, marine ecosystem, and Biodiversity are interlinked and Ecosystem restoration demands “**One Planet, One Ocean, One Health!**”

**Dr. Ramaiah Nagappa**, Former Chief Scientist, Professor at AcSIR and Former Deputy Director, CSIR-NIO, Goa delivered **keynote address** on ‘Post COVID-19 Measures for Sustainable Harnessing of Marine Bioresources’. He said the world enjoys 620000km boon of coastal length of which India has a share of less than 1% (0.8%). Indian Ocean with 70 million km<sup>2</sup> area has nearly 7500km of coastline. India’s

exclusive economic zone (EEZ) is about 2.01 million km<sup>2</sup>. For every kilogram of seafood sold, Carbon Footprint of Product (CFP) left is ~1.44Kg CO<sub>2</sub>.

Dr Nagappa pointed out that apart from the impact of COVID-19, the biological resources at sea are facing many other threats, like ENSO Events (El Nino- Southern Oscillation) which occur every two-to-three years, cyclones, tsunami, deficit resolve, policy vacuum, and relegation. For the health of our seas, and sustained outcomes, we need to have national cooperation to take pollution control measures. He concluded by highlighting the 5Isas *Institute, Implement, Impart, Innovate and Ideas*.

He concluded with following poem written by his colleague, Mr. Simon

*Man wishes to live long and stay agile,  
The irony, he made his very environment fragile!  
Oh! Now he denied clean air to breathe like a juvenile  
And it forced him to fall prematurely senile!*

**For Ecosystem Restoration and health of our seas, national & international collaborations are vital. Sustained outcomes demand pollution control measures, more scientific observations in seas and reducing single use plastic.**

### Glimpses of presentations in the Webinar

## SagarMala

- Sagarmala is a project of Government of India launched for the comprehensive development of India's 7,500 km long coastline.
- Sagarmala aims to bring about a step change in waterways transport by unlocking the full potential of India's coastline and waterways.
- Under the project, towards Port Led Development, a 14,500 km long potentially navigable waterways and maritime industries have been proposed.

- Reducing the cost of transporting domestic cargo through optimizing modal mix
- Optimizing time/cost of EXIM container movement

**Reduction of logistics cost for EXIM and domestic trade with minimal infrastructure investment**

- Lowering logistics cost of bulk commodities by locating future industrial capacities near the coast
- Improving export competitiveness by developing port proximate discrete manufacturing clusters.

Vision of Sagarmala Programme

## MONTBLEX

- MONTBLEX is short form of "Monsoon Trough Boundary Layer Experiment", to the understand monsoon variability in India
- The experiment was conducted across the country in 1990, had four 30-metre high observational towers located at CAZRI, Jodhpur, IIT Delhi, BHU Varanasi and IIT Kharagpur, and sea observations in the Bay of Bengal.
- It was India's first national effort to understand the atmospheric boundary-layer processes in the northern India during summer monsoon season.

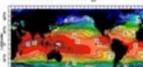




### Ocean Environment

What is Changing?

**Ocean Warming**



**Ocean Weather**



**Rains**



**Ocean Climate**



Dr. (Mrs.) Malti Goel explaining briefly the ocean environment

### Indian Ocean

**India EEZ: 2.01 Mkm<sup>2</sup>**

**3.5Mmt Harvests**

**20 M Maritime jobs**



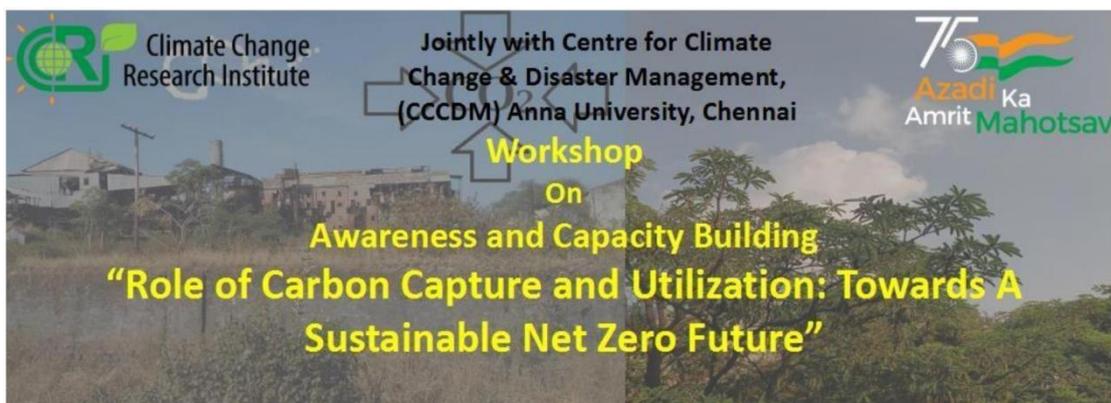
- ~70 Million km<sup>2</sup>
- Land-bordered North
- Drives Indian Monsoon
- Many major rivers discharge

~30% of 40B TCO, fixed in 20% Global Ocean Area

Dr. Ramaiah Nagappa during his presentation on "Post COVID-19 Measures for Sustainable Harnessing of Marine Bioresources"

The webinar can be accessed online at: <https://bit.ly/3mdChh6>

## Capacity Building Workshop 5<sup>th</sup> Awareness Workshop on Carbon Capture and Utilization 2021



(ACBCCS 2021)

Climate Change crisis is becoming crucial for the planet with climate emergency looming high requiring accelerated actions for environment protection. Carbon Capture and Utilization (CCU) is a critical technology for reducing concentration of GHGs in the atmosphere. In the 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of UN Conference of Parties (COP 26) held in Glasgow in early November 2021, world leaders have agreed to take intense climate change mitigation actions to achieve net-zero emission targets by 2050. The CCU was seen as one of the key energy technology and it is vital to understand natural and manmade carbon sinks on land and air.

The CCRI in response to India's 75<sup>th</sup> year of *Azadi ka Amrit Mahotasava*, held its 5th Awareness and Capacity Building workshop on "Role of Carbon Capture & Utilization: Towards A Sustainable Net Zero Future" (ACBCCS-2021) on a Virtual Platform on 7<sup>th</sup> December in association with Centre for Climate Change and Disaster Management, Anna University, Chennai. Topics included Importance of development of new solvents, direct capture of CO<sub>2</sub> from air, CO<sub>2</sub> utilization & storage options and coastal zone carbon sequestration.

Shri V S Verma, Shri Gautam Sen, Shri L.K. Bansal and Shri Neeraj Gupta were among the distinguished guests/members attended the workshop physically.

### Distinguished speakers

**Dr. K. Palanivelu, Director, Centre for Climate Change and Disaster Management & Professor, Centre for Environmental Studies, Anna University, Chennai**

**Prof. Mohamed K. Aroua, Head, CCDCU, Sunway University, Malaysia**

**Shri Gautam Sen, Ex-Sr. VP Reliance, and Ex-ED, ONGC**

**Dr. Abhijit Mitra, Director, Techno India University, West Bengal, and Ex-Head, DMS, University of Calcutta**

The webinar began on high pitch in hybrid mode, with speakers joining from Chennai, Kolkata, Malaysia and other places. More than 150 participants connected from across the country from various organizations. However, due to technical faults the event could not proceed ahead and was rescheduled on 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2022.

## Awards, Achievements and Partnerships on Sustainability

Climate Change Research Institute (CCRI) receives 'Global NGO Expo (GNE) Award of Excellence' on June 28, 2021 designated as one of the Best NGOs in India for setting up and promoting impactful social practices.

The CCRI was designated to support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Algorithm project of Springer Publications for SDG 13: Climate Action to create strong and representative search engines for generating Training Modules in Machine Learning model.

*Shaastra*, a Science Magazine of IIT Madras interviewed Dr Malti Goel, President CCRI on Carbon Capture and Utilization in India



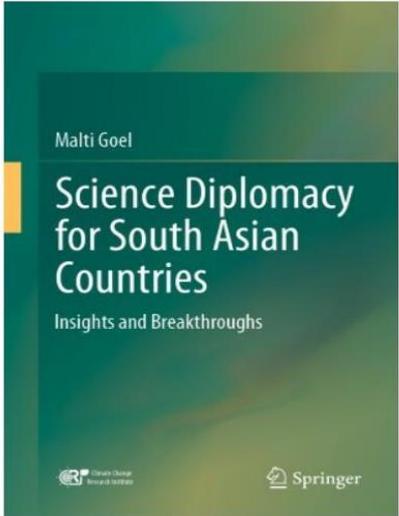
## Cleaning up their act

Aditi Jain

Quoted Malti Goel on Carbon Utilization 'CCU is an energy-intensive and costly affair because the process takes place at a given pressure and temperature and in the presence of a catalyst, points out Dr Malti Goel, chief executive at the Climate Change Research Institute, New Delhi. "Therefore, the initial emerging economy, India has set ambitious renewable energy target of achieving 175GW capacity from renewable energy by 2022. The Paris Agreement on Climate Change represents one of the biggest climate change milestones and a total of 196 Parties at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP 21) in 2015 agreed to take drastic measures to fight against climate change (UNFCC, 2020). India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement is to reduce the emission intensity of its economy by over 33-35 per cent by 2030, compared with 2005 levels. Another significant transition is achieving non-fossil fuel-based energy share of 40 per cent in the total installed capacity by 2030. The CO2 sinks are expected to increase by 2-3 billion tonnes per annum. While there is a global drive to adopt clean technology solutions due to the current and future impacts of climate change, barriers in energy transition.

# A Book on 'Science Diplomacy' Published

The CCRI published a book on **Science Diplomacy for South Asian Countries: Insights and Breakthroughs** in December 2021. The book is aimed to provide information on a new tool for international cooperation among the South Asian region.



**Author: Dr. (Mrs.) Malti Goel**

**Dr Malti Goel, Ph.D, D.I.I.T, IIT Delhi, Former Adviser, Govt. of India & CSIR Emeritus Scientist publishes a book on Science Diplomacy with Springer Singapore**

**Covers science diplomacy for Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka**

**Elaborates on the current state of bilateral cooperation in technology and research of India with neighboring South Asian countries**

**Brings together the latest information on international governance models, mega-science projects, science policy and science diplomacy in India**

**Foreword by Prof. Dorairajan Balasubramanian  
Vice President, TWAS, Italy**



Science diplomacy is the tool to build international collaborations among countries and regions to address common issues using scientific and technological knowledge. The World Academy of Science (TWAS) recognizes the importance of science diplomacy for regional cooperation, and science diplomacy is one of its flagship programmes launched in 2011. The TWAS has offered summer courses, thematic meetings, and regional workshops to scientists, scholars, policymakers, diplomats, and other stakeholders from developing countries. Through these activities, the TWAS has made incredible contribution towards capacity building in science diplomacy for aspirants in developing countries.

The genesis of the programme is the Center for Science Diplomacy established by American Association for Advancement of Sciences (AAAS) in 2008. The AAAS Centre has been a leader in bringing science diplomacy to limelight as a critical aspect of science and international relations for building bridges between the nations. It has been documenting and sharing experiences, developing an intellectual framework and providing trainings to support the practice of science diplomacy. Science diplomacy calls for multidisciplinary roles from the institutions both government and non-government and a closer interaction between the *scientists and diplomats*, who are specialists in their fields. We need 'diplomats' with scientific appraisal and 'scientists' conversant with the art of diplomacy.

The book on *Science Diplomacy for South Asian Countries: Insights and Breakthroughs* is a laudable and brave attempt to catalyze understanding of science diplomacy cross-cutting concepts among the scientists and diplomats in South Asian countries. The need for the book is apparent. Among the developing countries, there is a realization that science diplomacy is less known, and new initiatives are beginning. Therefore, it is the right time to address the challenges of growth and development in South Asia, a lesser integrated part of the world. The book introduces concepts and contours of science diplomacy with international examples. India's current S&T collaborations and future of science diplomacy with neighbouring countries are discussed. In practice, science diplomacy could mean several things. It would require understanding, mutual trust, cooperation, engineering skills, and diplomacy to find a solution for the real problems and the people's aspirations.

I compliment the author for her pioneering effort to take the first step to unravel the disparities and difficulties in cooperation, with possible strategies for adopting science diplomacy in South Asian countries. She does a great job creating awareness among the researchers, scientists, diplomats, and policymakers to take it forward. Readers from countries in South Asia and others would find the book an excellent research resource material.

Prof. Dorairajan Balasubramanian  
Vice President, The World Academy of Sciences,  
Trieste, Italy  
Former President, Indian Academy of Sciences,  
Bengaluru, India  
Director Research, Prof. Brien Holden Eye  
Research Centre, L. V. Prasad Eye Institute,  
Hyderabad, India  
Deputy Director, Centre for Cellular and  
Molecular Bioevol, Hyderabad, India

**Foreword by Prof. D. P. Agrawal**  
Chairman, Governing Council, CCRI

Science diplomacy is at the crossroads between science and technology and foreign affairs. L. S. Dandl and R. S. Patman, in their book *Science Diplomacy: New Dawn or False Dawn?* (2015) write, "As modern foreign policy and international relations encompass more and more scientific issues, we are moving towards a new type of diplomacy, known as Science Diplomacy". The statement is valid for developed countries, though even after six years science diplomacy is a much less-known concept among the developing countries.

As the progress is being made in documenting and sharing skills, science diplomacy is recognized as the "soft power" of science requiring mutual trust and understanding against the "hard power" of technology involving defence-related interventions and economic sanctions. Unlike traditional diplomacy pursued secretly, science diplomacy aims to raise awareness and promote common interest towards a goal. It is open diplomacy hoping that it could help build regional coherence in scientific communities and improve relationships between the countries.

South Asian countries are rich in human and natural resources, yet economic development in the region has lagged compared to other world regions. During my tenure as Chairman, Union Public Service Commission in India, we began a dialogue between all the Chairmen of the respective public service commissions of SAARC members about the role of public service commission in influencing the youth of the country through the route of education, science and technology, and development. In the very first meeting, the realization was that the members did not appreciate India's big brotherly attitude. Mutual respect is a critical issue to overcome the prevailing mistrust.

I am happy that the book *Science Diplomacy for South Asian Countries: Insights and Breakthroughs* is a thought-provoking attempt to introduce role of science in international affairs for the growth of the region. I commend this work for its original scholarship and praise the author. The foreign policy relationships in future will give significant recognition to scientific professionals and science diplomacy for finding solutions to global challenges contributing to the region's sustainable growth. Breakthroughs in science and technology collaborations will take place and bring the nations in South Asia closer. India needs to take action to develop strategies to make it a win-win situation for the partners. Therefore, it is most reasonable for the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to come forward by creating an arm on science diplomacy for South Asia.

I am confident that the book will be a valuable resource for students, researchers, and policymakers.

Prof. D. P. Agrawal  
Chairman, Governing Council, CCRI, India  
Ex-Chairman, Union Public Service Commission,  
India  
Founder Director, IITM, Gwalior, India  
Former Professor and Dean, IIT Delhi, India

**Chapter 1**  
**Introduction to Science Diplomacy**



**1.1 Science and Inquiry**

Science and scientific discoveries have contributed to our understanding of the mysteries of nature from the time immemorial. The Royal Society of London founded in 1660 exemplified the role of science among people. This 'learned society', and a world's oldest academy dedicated to science, has the motto 'Nullius in Verba', meaning 'Take nobody's word for it', i.e. verify the facts through knowledge or scientific inquiry [1]. The resurgence in society about 'science' and 'inquiry' came with the Copernicus scientific theory of heliocentric universe. Nicolaus Copernicus (1473–1543 AD), a Polish scientist challenged the Ptolemy's existing geocentric theory and prevailing thought that the planet earth is the centre of the universe. He stated that the Sun is in the centre<sup>1</sup> and the earth and other planets revolve around the Sun. Copernicus, was condemned vehemently by the religious authority of the Roman Catholic Church. His work explaining the theory was not allowed to be published and the heliocentric texts were banned. The famous Italian scientist Galileo Galilei (1564-1642 AD), who supported Copernicus theory was put under house arrest. In this cacophony the Royal Society continued to promote scientific inquiry for improving natural knowledge independent of political or religious interferences. Religious leadership dominated the western societies until the first Industrial Revolution of the eighteenth century, which provided a major breakthrough to realize a scientific enterprise.

On the other hand, ancient eastern civilizations had been more cooperative and had zeal for scientific reasoning. Greek Geographer Eratosthenes of Cyrene in the second century BC had foretold that the earth is round and its circumference is (today's equivalent of) 40,000 km. He calculated the earth circumference by using the differences in the observed angles of the Sun from two different locations. According

<sup>1</sup> The work as *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium libri vi* ("Sixth Book Concerning the Revolution of the Heavenly Orbit") was published as a book in 1543.

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Springer link: <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-981-16-3025-5>

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## Our Publications

### Bimonthly e-Magazine

The Climate Change Research Institute has started the e-Magazine for a wider outreach among the society. The following Issues of the e-Magazine have been published by the Institute during the period of Report

- ✚ e-Magazine Issue-1, January–February 2021 – **CLIMATE CHANGE**
- ✚ e-Magazine Issue-2, March-April 2021 - **RESTORING EARTH RESOURCES**
- ✚ e-Magazine Vol.-I, Issue-3, May-June 2021 – **ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION**
- ✚ e-Magazine Vol.-I, Issue-4, July-August 2021 – **AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV**
- ✚ e-Magazine Vol.-I, Issues-5&6 – **CLIMATE ACTION**

### E-Newsletters

- Climate SAR, Vol. VIII, no.1 - Climate Change and Marine Ecology
- COVID-19 and Climate Change, April-June 2020
- Biomedical Waste, COVID-19 and SDG 3, July –September 2020

### Books Published

- ❖ Climate Change and Green Chemistry of CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration, Eds **Malti Goel**, T. Satyanarayana, M. Sudhakar, D.P. Agrawal, 2021, **Springer Nature**, Green Energy and Technology Series, ISBN 978-981-16-0029-6
- ❖ Science Diplomacy for South Asian Countries: Insights and Breakthroughs, **Malti Goel**, 2021, **Springer Nature**, ISBN 978-981-16-3024-8

### Scientific articles

Published in the International and national journals of repute

- ❖ **Clean Energy Transitions and Role of Science Diplomacy** Malti Goel, in **SCIENCE DIPLOMACY REVIEW** | Vol. 2, No. 1 | March 2020, pp 27-34.
- ❖ **Building Bridges between Science and Diplomacy to Address Global Challenges**, Malti Goel, in South Asia in **SCIENCE DIPLOMACY**, October-December 2021, Vol. 5. P 9-12, ISSN: 2456-5318.
- ❖ **Climate Change, COVID-19 and Cities: Social Transformation**, Malti Goel and N.G. Tripathi, in **SOCIAL ACTION JOURNAL**, July-September 2020. Vol. 79, no.3 pp206-215.
- ❖ **Citizen-Centric Smart Planning: Case Study San Diego**, California, Neha G. Tripathi and Malti Goel, in the book Smart Master Planning for Cities, Springer Nature, Under Publication

## CCFYI Bi-monthly e-Magazines

*Knowledge is Power. Knowledge shared is power multiplied*

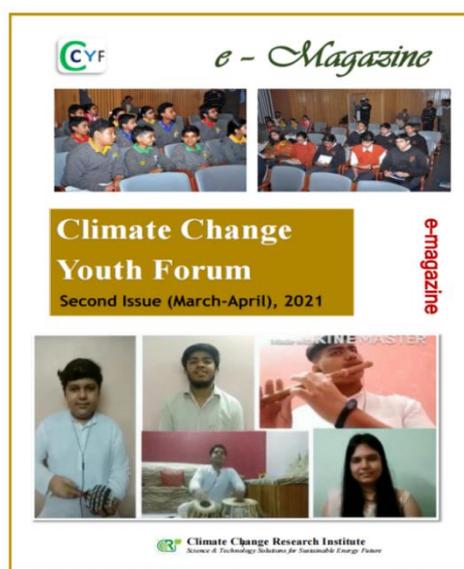
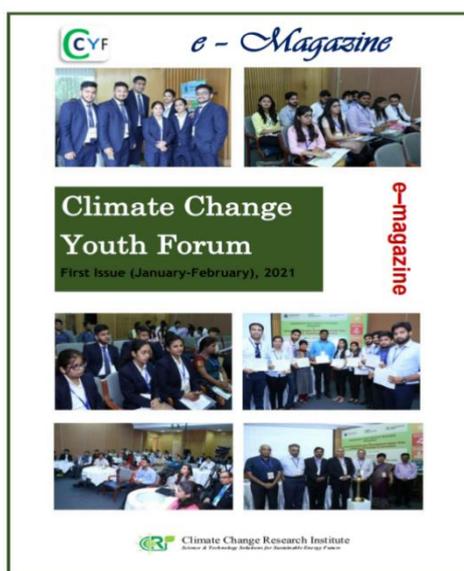
- Robert Boyce

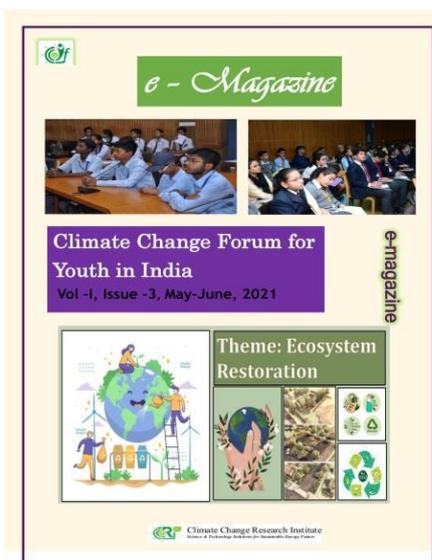
To impart knowledge on various dimensions of climate change The Institute has launched a **Bi-monthly e-Magazine** for Climate Change Forum for Youth in India. As future generation Youth would suffer most from the planetary calamities and have an important role to play; they hold the responsibility to safeguard the earth from getting the destruction caused.

The aim of this e-magazine is to build a responsible and environmental citizenship among the targeted audience using an interwoven integration of environmental and climate change knowledge, a sense of responsibility and self- awareness about scientific solutions to mitigate the ongoing climatic impacts.

The inaugural issue of e-magazine- **Jan-Feb issue** was released on World Earth Day 2021. It aimed to disseminate knowledge on scientific solutions to climate change, to share their perception, queries and articles on climate change, and to inform them national priorities. The issue having special sections on Members' contribution, e-News Alerts on Climate Change and information on the Chamoli Disaster in Uttarakhand, which occurred in the month of February was shared as knowledge storehouse among the members of CCFYI. <http://ccri.in/e-Magazine/e-Magazine-Jan-Feb-2021.pdf>

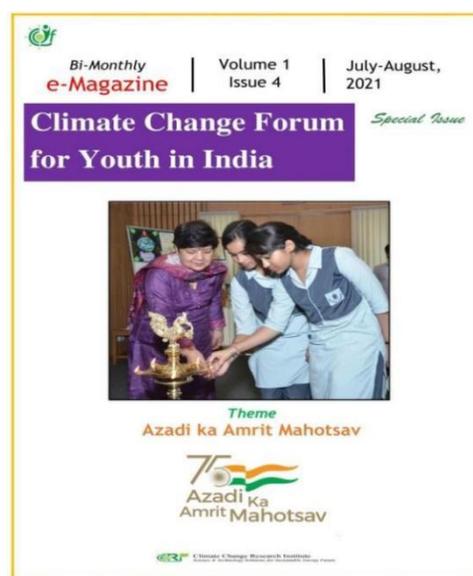
E-magazine **Vol. 1 –No.2 (March-April 2021)** has a theme of World Earth Day describing the role of oceans on climate change and impact of pollution caused by increasing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and solid plastic waste as new threats to Marine Ecology. It has special sections on Members' contribution, Report on Earth Day celebration, Climatology of smart city- Delhi, e-news on Climate Change, Earth Day Quiz on Water with objective questions related to earth and water, and the response. [http://ccri.in/e-Magazine/e-magazine\\_March-April-2021.pdf](http://ccri.in/e-Magazine/e-magazine_March-April-2021.pdf)





**E-magazine Vol. 1 –No.3 (May-June 2021)** has a theme of World Environment Day. It has special sections on the Members’ contribution, highlights of webinar on Ecosystem Restoration: Ocean and COVID-19 describing role of plastic pollution in oceans; World Environment Day Quiz on Ecosystem restoration. The quiz had a set of 20 questions, sub-divided under four different heads Environment day, Atmospheric Pollution, Water pollution and Ecological restoration. <http://ccri.in/e-Magazine/e-magazine-May-June-2021.pdf>

**E-magazine Vol. 1 –No.4 (July-Aug 2021)** is a special issue. To celebrate Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsava in the 75th year of India’s independence, the *Special Issue* aimed to reach out the youth of the nation with the best of the knowledge is published. It has sections on CCFYI Members contribution, e-news on climate change and a survey conducted for school teachers about the awareness on climate change. In this issue, decade journey of Climate Change Research Institute from 2010 - 2020 is included. <http://ccri.in/e-Magazine/e-magazine-July-Aug-2021.pdf>



**E-magazine Vol. 1–No.5&6 (Sept-Dec 2021)** is a combined issue with a theme - Climate Action. On the auspicious occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Indian Independence, Hydrogen mission was launched. The Mission will play a very crucial role in helping the nation to achieve energy independence and to mitigate the Climate Change. The issue has sections on Members contribution, news on International Climate Summit held in New Delhi and The UN Conference of Parties (COP 26) on Climate Change held in Glasgow, besides e-news alerts on climate change. [http://ccri.in/e-](http://ccri.in/e-Magazine/e-Magazine-Sept-Dec-2021.pdf)

[Magazine/e-Magazine-Sept-Dec-2021.pdf](http://ccri.in/e-Magazine/e-Magazine-Sept-Dec-2021.pdf)

## COP26 Lancaster University Festival on CCU Technologies

*'India's determined and proactive interventions against COVID-19 as well as our leadership in the COP26 summit have shown that we are ready to anchor sustainability at the global level'*

Dr (Mrs) Malti Goel, President Climate Change Research Institute was invited as **lead speaker** in the the virtual seminar on **“ Mitigating Climate Change Through Carbon Dioxide Capture and Utilization Technologies ”** organized by Sunway University on 20-22 October 2021, 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. (UK Time) as a part of the COP26@ Lancaster University Festival. These seminars by the Centre for Carbon Dioxide Capture and Utilization (CCDCU) sparked debate and showcased leading specialists and research relating to climate change in the run-up to the United Nation's COP26 in Glasgow.

In the Session on Day 1: Green Technologies for CO<sub>2</sub> capture, Dr Malti Goel delivered the talk on 'Carbon Capture, Utilization and Implications' covering the need for Carbon Capture and Utilization; new technologies, large-scale CCUS projects, achievements in them and major technical, market & policy challenges. Amount of CO<sub>2</sub> utilized depends on the demand for the products and their market acceptance. Need for adoption of science based targets for energy intensive industries was highlighted. CO<sub>2</sub> Capture- the Quest for Green Solvents by Prof. Mohamed Kheireddine Aroua, and Application of machine learning approaches for the sustainable development of CO<sub>2</sub> mitigation processes by Dr. S. Mazari were other highlights of the day. The presentation is available at <https://youtu.be/GeDiPvcS63k>



### Concluding Remarks

The Climate Change Research Institute during the COVID-19 crisis in past two years has participated and organized several awareness campaigns. The Institute has held capacity building workshops, EEC lectures and interacted with the students, teachers, researchers, policy makers and professionals. Topics such as Climate Change, SDGs, COVID-19, Oceans and Biodiversity are discussed. We partnered with the Centre on Climate Change, Society for Environment & Education, Universal Public School and India International Centre.

In these two years, major effort has gone into holding virtual events, environment education and dissemination of information. The Climate change Forum for Youth in India (CCFYI) was launched. The national targets such as Atmanirbharata and 75<sup>th</sup> year of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsava have been the focus. The Report spotlights the activities and programs organized and managed by the Climate Change Research Institute (CCRI), INDIA starting from January 2020 to December 2021. These are, but a few examples of the many ways in which the Climate Change Research Institute has been working and progressively contributing to create a transformative impact among youth about S&T solutions to emerging challenges in climate change.

## Acknowledgements

**Prof. D. P. Agrawal**, Chairman, GC, Ex-Chairman UPSC, Founder Director, IIITM, Gwalior  
**Dr Ramaiah Nagappa**, Prof. at AcSIR, Ex- Chief Scientist& Ex- Deputy Director, CSIR-NIO, Goa  
**Prof N.K. Goel**, Department of Hydrology, & Dean of Students' Welfare, IIT Roorkee  
**Prof G.D. Sharma**, Ex-Director, CEC and Former Secretary UGC  
**Shri V. S. Verma**, Member GC, Ex-Member, CERC and Member (Planning) CEA  
**Mrs. Maya Gupta**, Director –Principal, Universal Public School  
**Prof K. Palanivelu**, Director, CCCDM &Professor Anna University, Chennai  
**Dr H. N. Srivastava**, Ex- Additional Director General, India Meteorological Department  
**Dr. M. Sudhakar**, Director, CMLRE, Cochin, Ex- Adviser, Ministry of Earth Sciences  
**Dr Reena Surana**, Associate Prof. MNIT, Jaipur  
**Dr Neha G. Tripathi**, Assistant Professor, School for Planning & Architecture (SPA)  
**Dr Bhawana Awasthy**, Chief Medical and Clinical Oncology, Indian Spinal Injuries Centre  
**Esteemed GC and EC Members**

## Our Collaborators

### India International Centre (IIC)

The India International Centre is premier cultural organization situated in New Delhi, India. Membership of the IIC includes artists, academicians, senior government officials, judges, jurists, parliamentarians, doctors, ministers, governors, social activists, journalists and persons from scientific domains, whomeet to initiate the exchange of new ideas and knowledge in the spirit of international cooperation.

### Society for Education and Economic Development (SEED)

SEED is a registered society under Society Reg. Act and has been working since 1992. The object is link Education and economic development. It has several centers namely; Centre for Higher Education studies and training, Centre for economic analysis and Women empowerment through micro enterprise Shiksha for adults and children education. It has forum of colleges India named as Indian colleges forum. Centre for WTO studies. Its focus is on research and development.

### Universal Public School (UPS)

Universal public School aims to be an institution that empowers each child with a sound foundation of knowledge, values, and life skills. An innovative, contemporary and skill-based education that meets global standards is the hallmark of the school. Itendeavors to craft socially conscious and responsible individuals who like to serve the society.’ The school aims at nurturing individuals with paramount values and multivalent competencies. This task is accomplished by virtue of a dynamic curriculum that envisions not only academic excellence but effective skills and the art of living. A comprehensive education system coupled with a passion for sincerity, dedication and excellence drives us towards creating global leaders who will take on the mantle of tomorrow.

### CCCDM, Anna University

Anna University's world-leading scientific expertise and experience, its unmatched facilities for multi-disciplinary research, its leadership-class computational systems, and its decades-long history of leading-edge scientific research and analysis of complex systems, provide a unique foundation for Centre for Climate Change and Disaster Management to lead future advances in climate change research.

## Participation and Lectures delivered in the Seminars by Dr (Mrs) Malti Goel, President CCRI

**Attended** ORF Dialogue with Mr Ashok Mullick on Foreign Policy, Policy Adviser, MEA on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020.

**Participated** in National DD TV Channel Panel Discussion on '*Samadhan Carbon ka*' in Hindi on DD Science on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

Delivered the presentation on **KUSUM Scheme: Opportunities & Challenges** in India Energy Forum Summit on Renewable Energy Trajectories held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

**Lecture on Physics of Global Warming and Strategies for Mitigating Climate Change Crisis** at MIT Meerut under INSPIRE Programme of DST on 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2020.

**Panelist** in the **World Petro Coal** conference in the Session on Future Energy Systems: Fuel Markets Global Opportunities on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

**Chief Guest** address on '**Women in Science**' on **National Science Day** celebration on 28<sup>th</sup> February at the HSTC college, Mathura.

**Member**, NCCF and Technical Working Group (TWG) of Carbon Registry of the **Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests**

**Environment Day** lecture on "Post COVID-19: Future on Biodiversity" at the India International Centre (IIC), to celebrate 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020 on a virtual platform.

**Lecture on Coal as Energy Fuel in Thermal Power Plants** for the ICED trainings '**Audit of Environmental Management in PSEs (Steel and Power Plants)**', Jaipur held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020 on a virtual platform.

**Lecture on CleanCoal Technology and Environment Audits** in the ICED Training on 'Audit of Environmental Management in PSEs', Jaipur.

**Participated as Jury for, NIT Calicut** thesis evaluation of the **Masters in Planning Graduates** on a virtual platform held on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2020.

**Convener** IEF *Urja Vichar Manch* on importance of forecasting in Renewable Energy (RE) development held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020.

Lecture in virtual mode on '**Challenges in Nature's Healing: Climate Change and COVID-19**' in the webinar "**COVID-19 and 3Es for Atmnirbhar Bharat**"

**Invited talk on "32 years and Healing" – Our Planet, Our Environment**" in the seminar on "Ozone Layer & Climate Change: Human Efforts" organized by STE on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

**Delivered** lecture on **CCS Status and Challenges** in IEF Webinar on "Challenges Facing Integrating Renewable Energy In Electricity Grid and Reducing Carbon Footprints" on 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2021.

**Lecture on Woman in Science** in the event '**She Inspires**' organized by IITDAA on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 to celebrate the International Women Day.

**Lecture on "Plastic Pollution and Control"** in the **NOSTC programme '100 Schools, 100 lectures'** at Modern Public School, Shalimar Bagh on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

Convener Joint webinar organized by the **International Solar Alliance** and the India Energy Forum on 27 April 2021.

**Theme lecture on "Restoring Earth Resources-Climate Change and Water"** in CCRI workshop in collaboration with SEED on 27<sup>nd</sup> April, 2020.

**Delivered** the talk on **Ecosystem Restoration: Ocean and Pandemic** in the virtual Webinar on Environment Day at India International Center on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

**Keynote Lecture** in the **Inauguration** of the **International Conference on Recent Advances in Mechanical Infrastructure (ICRAM – 2021)** by IITRAM, Ahmedabad on August 6-8, 2021.

**Chief Guest** lecture on **UN Sustainable Development Goal 7- Affordable and Clean Energy** in **Self-Actualized Leadership Network Global Summit 2021 (SALN)** by **Defined Values Consultants Pvt Ltd.** on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2021.

**Participated** in the **International Climate Summit 2021** of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, at Taj Palace, New Delhi. jointly with Team **Norway** on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep 2021.

**Lead talk on Carbon Capture, Utilization and Implications** in International Seminar organized by **Sunway University, Malaysia** on 20-22 Oct 2021

**Presented Carbon Capture, Utilization in IRON & STEEL Industry: Outlook and Implications** in the **IIM ATM 2021 & International Conference** on 13-15 Nov 2021.

**Delivered** a lecture on **Stay Smart-Love Green-Go Clean** in the IITDelhi Annual Alumni Day-cum-Festival seminar held on '**Equitable Growth and Sustainable Development**' held on 26-27 December 2021.





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### Vision

#### Mission

Innovate and become a Center of Excellence in Environment and Climate Change education.

### Organizers

Climate Change Research Institute is founded with a mission to promote environment and climate change education, innovation and teachings. It aims to address wide strata of society about the consequences of climate change on our lives and taking control measures. Institute is taking initiative to create awareness on energy security and sustainability through lectures in schools and college, workshops and internet reach. Its future work plan includes development of educational tools on topics of scientific and societal interest; such as energy, health and water in the climate change context. Research and studies would be undertaken on science & technology measures aimed at climate change mitigation and ways of reducing the emission of CO<sub>2</sub>.