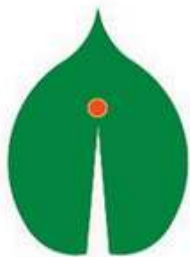


NEWSWATCH



INDIAN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION

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Editor: Pramod Shah

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President: Madhukar Naik

From the President's Desk:



Dear friends and members of IEA, **the Indian Environmental Association**

I suppose you must be enjoying the holidays but facing serious issues on 2 accounts. One is the scorching sun and the other is fuel crisis. While there is a small breather in fuel crisis in the sense, right now the war is under ceasefire. It gives me a sense of urgency while bringing this April 2026 edition of the NewsWatch. Ni active bombing or missiles but no surety when the things might turn for the worst.

As a true Environmentalist, we all have to dreams one is beautiful earth and peace for the mankind. Both the things are in a worst scenario as of now. But let's hope sense will prevail and World again will become clean and green.

Coming from a place called Marathwada, a region in Maharashtra, where is is always a water shortage, I know the value of water.

No explanation is required to an Environmental Engineer as why there is a huge Global warming. We will have to work hard to counter the Global warming.

Now IEA looks forward to new financial year. Kindly suggest new plans and new events to hold and celebrate.

Governing Body of IEA has been formed, with three layers of management, The Directors, the Managing Committee members, and sub-committee members. We have even formed a working group that actively works for drafting, follow-up, invitations, booking of venue, and so on.

India is amongst a handful of countries where Environmental Protection and wildlife protection are part of The Constitution. To be compassionate to other animals is part of our duties. In short, Environmental Protection includes all surroundings including plants, forest land, wild and domesticated animals, etc. This covers the full spectrum of Environmental Protection.

As you would all recollect, 5th June is celebrated throughout the World as World Environment Day. IEA is pleased to inform you that IEA Directors have planted trees on this occasion. Attaching a few photographs. Kindly share your photogrpahs or material related to Werold Environment Day or plantation.

Do contribute to the NewsWatch on current Environmental issues. You may e-mail the articles, and newspaper cuttings to indenvassociation@gmail.com

To cover the cost of the NewsWatch publication, we have decided to accept advertisements related to the Environmental field in the NewsWatch. Do enquire for the same on the above e-mail ID.

I would again request you all to increase the circulation of NewsWatch and come forward with various suggestions for improvements not only for NewsWatch but also overall planning of IEA activities

Yours truly

M A Naik

President IEA

NewsWatch at a glance

read more

»»» Updates from around the globe

Page2-4

»»» Updates from IEA



June 5, 2026: World Environment Day.

Dr. Sundara Narayana Patro, Educationist.

Wish you a very happy "World Environment Day". Let the Journey continue towards a Green Future.

"World Environment Day" is the international day observed on 5th June every year for the environment awareness promotion. Led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and held annually since 1973, it has grown to be the largest global platform for environmental outreach. It is celebrated by millions of people across the world.

Every year a country hosts the global level celebration on a particular theme. India was the global host in 1977, 2011 and 2018.

his year's official theme is "Inspired by Nature. For Climate. For Our Future" under the campaign message #NowForClimate.

The key focus areas for this year are to highlight the transition to a green economy, nature-based solutions, and the push to remain within the climate threshold. The 2026 campaign rallies the world around the urgency of combating climate change, promoting initiatives like green hydrogen scaling and AI-optimized energy grids. Communities, schools, and organizations worldwide—including efforts across India—are focusing on ecosystem restoration, sustainable agriculture (such as millet inclusion), and eco-friendly lifestyle choices.

The world's temperature is reaching record highs and industrial emissions causing climate change on continents. The three planetary crises the planet Earth facing now are climate change, biodiversity loss and systemic pollution. This is an annual event that reflects the human ecological footprint and reminds us that we need to go beyond quick fixes and superficial solutions for the ecological issues that we face, and move towards a more comprehensive and structural approach, a shift towards circularity.

The era of creating a resilient economy where industrial growth is intrinsically linked to the use of finite raw materials is the topic of much discussion in 2026 and there is a shift of focus directly towards advanced mechanical recycling frameworks.

"The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it." – Robert Swan

When Waste Becomes the Raw Material

The future of waste management may not be about disposal.

It may be about redesigning what we call "waste" in the first place.

Every year, millions of areca palm leaf sheaths naturally fall from trees across Asia. For decades, these leaves were largely ignored, left to decompose, or burned as agricultural residue.

Today, they are being transformed into plates, bowls, trays, and food packaging through a simple process of cleaning and heat pressing.

No trees are cut.

No additional raw materials are required.

No plastic is involved.

This is waste innovation at its best.

The concept is simple but powerful: take an underutilized biological byproduct and create value from it. What was once considered agricultural waste becomes a marketable product that can replace resource-intensive single-use alternatives.

The environmental benefits extend far beyond the product itself:

- ♻️ Agricultural waste is diverted from disposal streams
- ♻️ Demand for virgin materials is reduced
- ♻️ Plastic pollution is avoided before it starts
- ♻️ New revenue opportunities are created for rural communities
- ♻️ Natural resources remain in circulation for longer

This is the essence of a circular economy—not just recycling waste, but designing systems where waste becomes a resource.

As global waste generation continues to rise, the most impactful innovations may not come from creating new materials. They may come from recognizing the value hidden within materials we already have.

The next breakthrough in sustainability could be sitting in a landfill, an agricultural field, or a waste stream—waiting to be reimaged.

Because in a truly circular economy, waste is not the end of a product's journey.

It is the beginning of the next one.

WasteInnovation , CircularEconomy
WasteManagement, ResourceRecovery
WasteToValue , Upcycling
Agricultural Waste.



First Algal Tree Planted in Bhopal



India's first "Algae Tree" was officially inaugurated on May 1, 2026, at Swami Vivekananda Park in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

Developed by the Mushroom World Group after two years of research by a team of over 50 specialists, this innovative urban climate technology functions as a solar-powered photobioreactor designed to combat severe city pollution.

Key Technical Specifications and Claims Carbon and Oxygen Performance:

A single unit is claimed to absorb approximately 1.5 tons of carbon dioxide annually and release roughly 1.0 ton of fresh oxygen. This matches the carbon-sequestering power of 20 to 25 mature, adult trees.

Particulate Matter Reduction:

The system actively targets fine urban air pollutants, dropping local PM2.5 particles by 45% to 55% within a immediate 15-metre operational radius.

Energy Self-Sufficiency:

It operates entirely on built-in solar energy panels mounted at the top, running integrated internal pumps, monitoring sensors, and LED lights without needing any external power grids. How the Algae Tree Works The structure resembles a transparent, glowing green cylinder filled with water and highly concentrated microalgae cultures.

Air Intake:

Small automated pumps pull heavily polluted urban air through a regulated lower inlet. Filtration: An initial physical filtration layer captures coarse dust and fine

particulates like PM2.5 and PM10.

Photosynthesis:

The pre-filtered air bubbles up through the microalgae liquid. Using sunlight, the microscopic organisms continuously convert the trapped carbon dioxide into oxygen and biological mass.

AI Automation:

An embedded artificial intelligence engine constantly regulates the water's pH balance, internal nutrients, and air flow to keep the biological cultures

Optimized Urban Context:

Support vs. Replacement Environmental experts from platforms like The Logical Indian point out that these artificial bioreactors are highly effective solutions for heavily congested roadsides, tight market spaces, and public plazas where conventional tree root systems cannot physically fit. However, they emphasize that technology serves purely to supplement, not replace, natural green forests. Artificial setups cannot replicate the vast ecosystem advantages of real trees, such as providing cooling shade, preventing soil erosion, and hosting local wildlife biodiversity.

Kanjurmarg Methane Crisis — Mumbai*

Not hype. A real, science-backed public health emergency.

Key Facts

- Kanjurmarg landfill emits ~4.9 tonnes methane/hour (among world's top emitters)
- 90% of Mumbai's waste (~6,300 TPD) goes here

Health Risks

- Oxygen displacement → dizziness, suffocation risk
- Fire/explosion hazard (methane ignites at 5–15%)
- Toxic gases (H₂S, VOCs, benzene) → respiratory, neurological damage
- Children & elderly most vulnerable
- Major climate impact (methane far more potent than CO₂ short-term)

Legal Status

- Bombay HC called it the "worst dumping ground"
- 14,000+ नागरिक signatures demanding action

- Warning: shutdown + accountability if no action

Urgent Actions Needed

- Methane capture & flaring / energy recovery
- Waste-to-energy & strict segregation
- Relocation planning (away from residential zones)
- Real-time air monitoring



Residents in Vikhroli, Bhandup, Powai are breathing landfill gas daily.

This is a current emergency, not future risk.

Act. Share. Demand accountability.

Nescod (No Electricity and Sustainable Cooling on Demand)

Nescod is a groundbreaking, zero-electricity cooling technology developed by KAUST scientists (Saudi Arabia) as of April 2026.

It uses ammonium nitrate and water to produce a powerful endothermic (heat-absorbing) cooling effect, capable of dropping temperatures from 25 C to 3.6C in 20 minutes. It regenerates its cooling salt via solar energy, offering a sustainable solution for off-grid areas, food preservation, and medicine storage.

Key Features and Benefits of Nescod Technology: Zero Electricity & Low Cost:

Nescod requires no compressors, refrigerants, or electricity, making it vastly cheaper and more eco-friendly than conventional air conditioning.

How It Works:

It works by dissolving ammonium nitrate in water to create an endothermic reaction that absorbs heat. Solar heat is then used to evaporate the water, regenerating the salt for continuous, reusable cooling.

High Performance:

In tests, this technology managed to significantly lower temperatures in a short period, making it suitable for high-heat regions.

Ideal for Off-Grid Areas:

It serves as a sustainable alternative for cooling in remote areas or locations where power access is limited or unreliable.

Water Management:

The system is designed not just to cool, but also to potentially handle water recovery via solar distillation, providing a dual purpose in water-scarce regions. This technology is seen as a major innovation in sustainable cooling and a potential replacement for traditional air conditioning in specific applications.

Solid Waste Disposal near Ulhasnagar, Dist Thane - Present Condition



111 UP Villages Join Hands To Desilt & Clean River Tamsa, A Tributary Of Ganga



IEA REPORT-ACTIVITIES ON WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL DAY-5th June 2026

