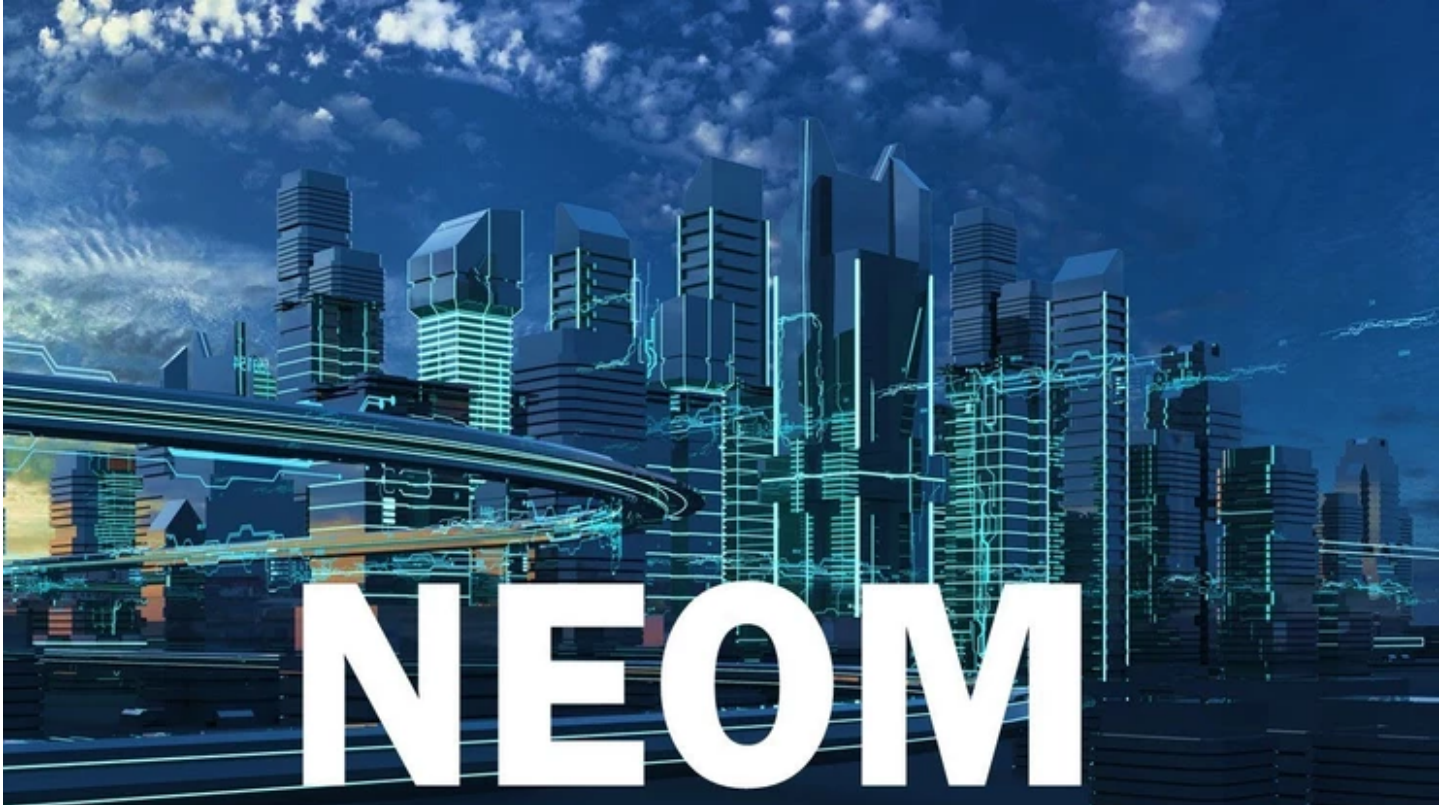




EnviSAGE Newsletter! - 1

"Our planet's alarm is going off, and it is time to wake up and take action!" – Leonardo DiCaprio



Saudi Arabia recently announced the launch of a new project "the line" in its future eco-city NEOM. It will be built along a 170km long straight line along the Red Sea Coast.

Features-

1. The Line will be a city with zero cars, zero streets, and zero carbon emissions.
2. The city will have no streets and claims to preserve 95% of nature.
3. All energy in NEOM will be 100% renewable – from solar, wind and hydrogen-based power generation – ensuring clean and pollution-free urban environments
4. The city will have hyper-connected AI-enabled communities.
5. The city will consist of high-speed transportation and no commute will take more than 20 minutes.
6. It will be supported by agricultural areas, supporting locally grown and sustainable food production.

The Sarail Hounds descended from the English Greyhounds and the Mughal era sighthounds are facing extinction with just dozens remaining in Bangladesh. Their sharp eyesight and renowned hunting skills have earned them roles with the military and police, while masters love them for their devotion. With few government resources since a failed attempt to breed Sarails collapsed in the 1970s, only a few wealthy owners in the country are trying to save the breed.

Euphantra Siruvani is a newly found fruit fly from the Tephritidae family. The species is reported from an ecological hotspot located in the Western Ghats of India, somewhere near Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu namely Siruvani. Hence, the name of the species is also named upon the same. The first to spot this fruit fly is H. Sankararaman, who is a research student at Annamalai University.

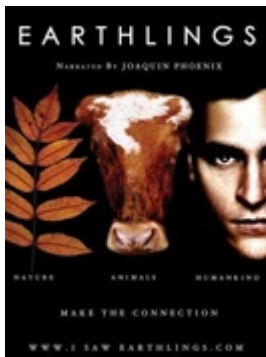
In developing countries, each person produces, on average, 6 litres of toilet wastewater each day. Based on the number of people who don't have access to safe sanitation, that equates to nearly 14 billion litres of untreated faecal contaminated wastewater created each day. This untreated wastewater directly contributes to increased diseases. This water causes diarrhoeal diseases that kill 800 children every day, mostly in India, Afghanistan and Congo. An estimated 80% of wastewater from developed and developing countries flows untreated into environments around the world. The damage raw wastewater inflicts on corals is severe. The challenges of climate change will exacerbate our sanitation crisis, as increased rain and flooding will inundate sanitation systems and cause them to overflow.

CO2 levels in the atmosphere will this year reach levels 50% higher than before the industrial revolution because of manmade emissions. The Met Office said "The human-caused build-up of CO2 in the atmosphere is accelerating. It took over 200 years for levels to increase by 25%, but just after 30 years we are approaching a 50% increase". The UN says emissions from energy, food production, transport and industry must fall more than 7% every year throughout the next decade in order to keep the temperature goals of the Paris climate deal in play.

What's new

Inspired by Air Link which processes air pollution to create ink & paint, Architect Tejas started Carbon Craft Design in 2016 which aims at making tiles out of carbon captured from air pollution. Each tile contains at least 70% waste material & is equivalent to cleaning 30000 litres of air. The tiles also use 1/5 energy than that to make vitrified tiles.

Green picks



The Earthlings - Narrated by the Oscar winner, Joaquin Phoenix. Earthlings expose the cruelties committed against animals. It is an important and informative documentary, fueled by terrific images and videos captured through hidden cameras.

The Earthlings is available on youtube for free.

BBC Blue Planet II- BBC Blue Planet II is a mini-series documented on marine life and narrated by Sir David Attenborough. Blue Planet takes you on a voyage to the world's ocean and shows mankind's influence on the world's oceans through both global pollution and climate change.

BBC Blue Planet II is available on Amazon Prime Video.



In the memory of:



Sugathakumari (22, January 1934 – 23, December 2020) fondly being called as ‘Sugatha Teacher’ by her hundreds of admirers and followers. She was a renowned Indian poet and one of the most active campaigners of the Save Silent Valley Movement, which began in 1978 and was also in the forefront of the recent agitation against the construction of an airport at Aranmula. Sugathakumari wrote a celebrated poem titled Marathinu Sthuti (Hymn to a Tree), which became an anthem of the movement to save the forest. She was honoured with Padma Shri in 2006. Her poetic works often reflected and addressed the appalling and pathetic situation of life that have become part and parcel of the society she lived in and sought solutions to tide over them.

News

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