

*"He that plant trees, love others besides himself."
-Sir Thomas Fuller*



THE RAVEN

Flying towards a greener earth

G7 AND THE UNFULFILLED PROMISES



Climate change was one of the main topics discussed at the Carbis Bay summit in Cornwall. The G7 countries - the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, Japan, France, Germany, and Italy - agreed to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

In 2009, developed countries committed to provide \$100 billion per year to poorer countries in climate money by 2020. The aim, however, was not attained, in part due to the Covid pandemic.

"The G7's reaffirmation of the previous \$100 billion a year objective does not come close to addressing the urgency and scope of the problem," Teresa Anderson of Action Aid stated.

"We reaffirm the collective developed countries goal to jointly mobilise \$100 billion per year from public and private sources through 2025," they stated in their final statement. Environmentalists want assurances that affluent countries will keep their promises to help poorer countries cope with climate change. Coal is the world's dirtiest primary fuel, and limiting its usage is viewed as a huge step forward by environmentalists.

In a separate announcement, the UK announced that it would spend hundreds of millions of pounds to defend the world's most vulnerable communities from climate change, joining Germany and the United States. According to UK Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab, the funds will "allow faster responses to extreme weather and climate-related disasters in countries bearing the brunt of climate change."





OVER 300 TREES LOST IN DELHI IN LAST 20 DAYS, REASONS STILL UNCERTAIN

Delhi has lost more than 300 trees in the past 3 weeks. Experts pointed towards numerous factors, including the recent heavy storm, Taukate and continuous rains after this cyclonic storm. Multiple instances of western disturbance was also one of the reasons. Other factors were poor canopy management, weak roots, and less care was the result that these big trees couldn't withstand the winds. Most experts also said that the problem is not just winds but something deep, like concretisation, diseases and termite attacks, pollution, water-logging, groundwater depletion, and heat islanding. For this problem, NDMC has taken steps that include inclusion of good horticulturists who shall suggest good ways of planting and maintaining such trees and urban tree management system will enhance the quality of measures.

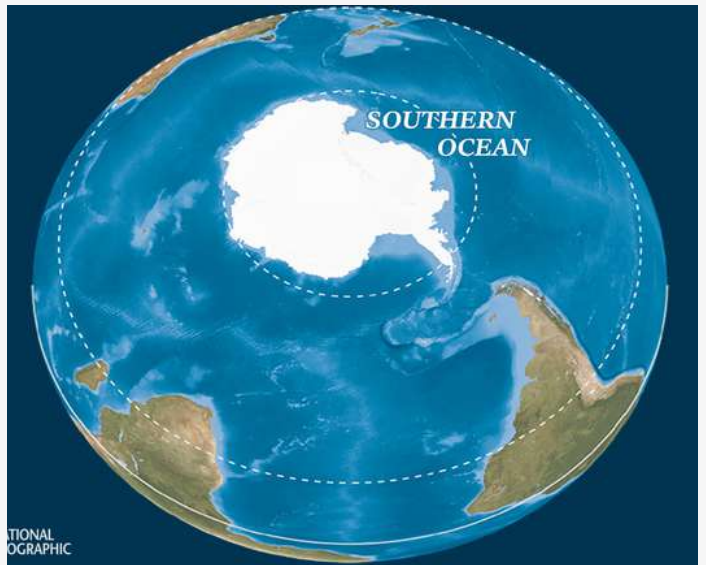


NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ADDS 5TH OCEAN TO WORLD MAP

National Geographic has recently announced that it is officially recognizing the body of water surrounding the Antarctic as the Earth's fifth ocean: the Southern Ocean. The change marks the first time in over a century that the organization has redrawn the world's oceanic maps, which have historically only included four: the Atlantic, Pacific, Indian and Arctic Oceans.

The Southern Ocean has long been recognized by scientists, but there was never an international agreement. It stretches from Antarctica's coastline to 60 degrees south latitude, excluding the Drake Passage and the Scotia Sea. The newest body of water makes it the second-smallest, after the Arctic.

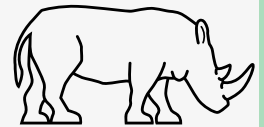
The waters encircling the southern continent have distinct ecological characteristics, including its unique current patterns better known as the Antarctic Circumpolar Current. That makes the waters around Antarctica colder and slightly less salty than those in the north, which helps transport heat around the world and store carbon in the deep ocean — all of which have a crucial impact on the planet.





IN VITRO FERTILIZATION REMAINS THE LAST RAY OF HOPE TO SAVE THE EXTINCT SPECIES OF NORTHERN WHITE RHINOS

Northern White Rhino are functionally extinct as the last male rhino of this species died in 2018. And only two female white rhinos are left, Najin (31) and Fatu (21), hence incompetent to breed and it is expected that this species of rhinos would last for another decade. Rhino experts are now also seeing the possibility of artificial reproduction technologies, which works well with humans i.e. in vitro fertilisation and southern white rhino surrogates as a way to preserve and maintain northern white rhino genes into the future. They have created some white rhino embryos which is a ray of hope. Not all the scientists are on board with this idea but there is no harm in trying this as it can be a major step to preserve our biodiversity.



U.N. DECLARES DECADE OF ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION TO 'MAKE PEACE WITH NATURE'

"Making peace with nature is the defining task of the 21st century" - Antonio Guterres

It's the decade for "economic restoration" as declared by the United Nations. A time zone specifically kept for the ecosystem for its restoration, and showcasing the importance of 'preventing, halting and reversing ecosystem degradation worldwide.' The UN had made a call on the world to restore at least 1 billion hectares of degraded portion of the land.

The sole motive to be achieved in this decade is to conserve, restore, halt and reverse ecosystem degradation worldwide by the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration led by the U.N Environment Programme (UNEP) and other organisations as well. The key message outflows addressing the nations that 'mother earth is not just merely to have it's presence though it is essential for survival we are a depiction of it as well. The scale of restoration is a massive effort starting from the gardens to a country.' A top, top priority for everyone must be ecosystem restoration. #GenerationRestoration



BIDDING FAREWELL TO AN ISLAND ?



Lakshadweep Islands are under a serious threat. As India is battling a severe second wave of Covid-19, Lakshadweep archipelago is witnessing a new plan proposed by the local administration that would open the gates wide for large-scale tourism and infrastructure development.

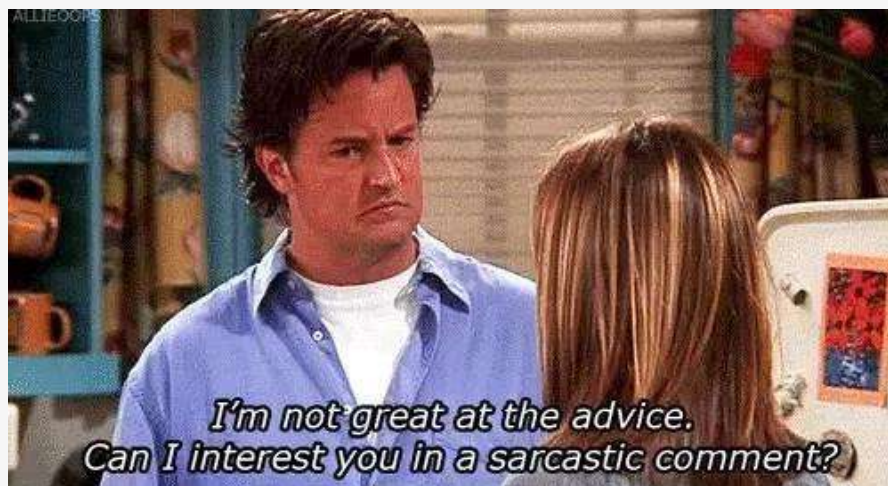
The Lakshadweep Islands are already a hotspot for large-scale tourism and heavy load fisheries. The islands are facing devastating impacts of climatic change which could adversely affect the local communities and they will have to pay a heavy price if irresponsible development continues in the future. The islanders are already witnessing rapid erosion, turbulent sea, and rise in temperature in the ocean which could further lead to endangerment of the aquatic wildlife. Due to large-scale tourism the island which consists of reefs, lagoons, beaches and sand dunes might vanish due to developmental activities. The island's coral reefs are already facing threats from pollution, dredging of navigational channels, coral mining and destructive practices like blast fishing etc.

The draft involves the development of posh resorts, star hotels and high-profile beachfront modelled after international tourism destinations such as Maldives. But none of the drafts that were produced by the Lakshadweep administration were consulted with the local population.

BEACON OF HOPE

On world environment day, Raimona reserve forest in Kokrajhar has been upgraded as the sixth national park of Assam.

Sarichten





[Derived from German for sarcasm (sarkasmus) and news (nachrichten)]

The UNFCCC and its 197 members after having an emergency conference this world ocean day (8 June) and after 1 week of debates and discussions, has press released its new agenda of 'Accelerate climate change'

This agenda was put up in the conference when the UNFCCC, after rigorous research and analysis concluded that climate change can't be de-accelerated, let alone stopped or reversed. So in light of this report, the UNFCCC decided to go for full climate change. 6 June 2024 is set as the deadline for all destruction.

Under this acceleration, signatories will have to destroy all the natural flora fauna, develop industries, focus on high production and encourage all families to have at least 5 children and many other anti-environmental tasks. A special team will also be sent to poles to melt all the ice caps.

As of now 127 countries have signed this agenda with 100 ratifying it. However, all of African and South American countries are against this agenda. Talks may happen on any kind of concession for these nations.



WHAT TO WATCH?

CHILDREN OF MEN

Children of Men is a sci-fi thriller movie whose plot is set in a dystopian future where an outbreak has left the women infertile due to which the human population is declining. But after 18 years, one woman miraculously gets pregnant. Now, it's Theo's job to save the woman and transport her to safety.

Children of Men is available on Amazon Prime.



WHAT TO READ?

Ruskin Bond has curated a new poem to express his views/grief towards the environmental loss in Dehradun, Mussoorie. Ruskin Bond titled the poem Dirge of Dehradun. This poem mourns the current environmental degradation in "the twin cities of happiness" which are now falling under rising population, rapid infrastructure development at the cost of ecologically sensitive areas, decaying water bodies, and poor waste management.



DIRGE FOR DEHRADUN

I WONDER WHERE THE GREEN GRASS WENT?
ALL BURIED UNDER NEW CEMENT.

I WONDER WHERE THE BIRDS HAVE FLOWN?
THEY'VE GONE TO FIND ANOTHER HOME.

I WONDER WHERE THE FOOTPATH'S GONE?
RIGHT UNDERNEATH YOUR CAR, MY SON.

I WONDER WHERE THE OLD FOLKS GO?
THE NURSING HOMES WILL SURELY KNOW.

WHAT GROWS SO FAST BEFORE MY EYES?
A GARBAGE DUMP, A MILLION FLIES.

IS THIS THE PLACE YOU CELEBRATE?
IN PROSE YOU MADE IT SOUND SO GREAT.

IT WAS, BEFORE I KNEW IT'S FATE.

17 APRIL 2006 **RUSKIN BOND**

What did you like about this fortnightly's- The Raven? What did we miss? Let us know what you think:

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<https://www.instagram.com/sageenvi/>



<https://twitter.com/SageEnvi?s=20>



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/envisage-sustainable-and-greener-earth-820b251b7>

About Envisage

EnviSAGE- the Environmental Society of SGND Khalsa College is a group of highly motivated environment conscious and prudent members who believe in the maxim, 'Our actions today will impact the tomorrow of others'. We consider the earth and all its resources as a precious gift, not to be taken for granted, but to be respected, preserved and nurtured. We feel that we are responsible and accountable for our activities and behaviour towards the environment and strive to share the same enthusiasm, concern, knowledge and sense of gratitude with others as well. Through our activities, we aim to empower individuals in terms of the knowledge about environmental issues and challenges that we are currently face