



Recent Happenings

The Return of the Dire Wolf

Colossal Biosciences asserts the resurrection of the extinct dire wolf (*Aenocyon dirus*), distinct from gray wolves, with three pups born recently. Reintroducing this large Ice Age predator presents intricate environmental challenges. While dire wolves once controlled large herbivore numbers, their return could disrupt current food chains, potentially affecting prey and other carnivores in unpredictable ways



Source: By SkyNews on 7th April 2025

Blue Ant Identified in Himalayan Biodiversity Zone

In Arunachal Pradesh's Siang Valley, a Himalayan biodiversity hotspot, Indian researchers identified a remarkable metallic blue ant, *Paraparatrechina neela*. This minuscule discovery in a tree hole highlights the region's diverse ant life, prompting questions about its blue hue's ecological purpose. Sadly, this crucial biodiversity, essential for downstream communities, is endangered by infrastructure development and climate change.



Source: NDTV on 4th June 2024

New Flower Species Discovered in Alluri's Dry Forests

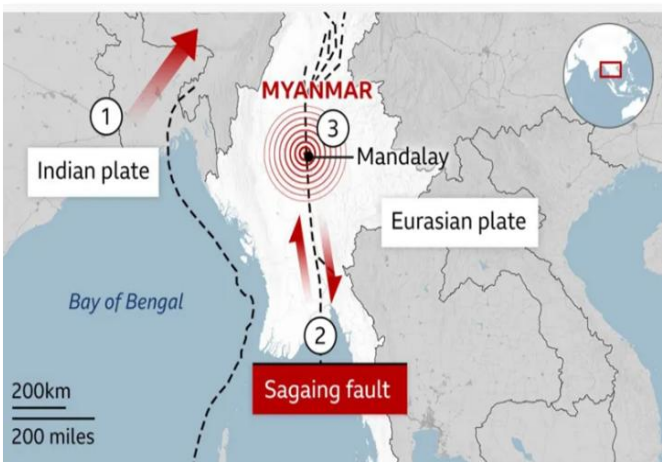
In the Andhra Pradesh's Eastern ghats beautiful, plant experts stumbled upon a brand-new flower, *Crinum andhricum*, high up in the Sapparla hills. This special plant stands out from its relatives with its wider petals and bigger bunches of blooms. It is India's 16th *Crinum*, which is named after the state. Though there are many on that hilltop, these precious plants face dangers from visiting crowds, fires, and grazing animals, reminding us how important it is to protect such unique natural treasures.



Source: The Indian Express, May 2025

Odisha Villages Recognized as "Tsunami Ready" by UNESCO

Odisha now has 26 UNESCO-recognized "Tsunami Ready" villages across six districts, a progression from two earlier acknowledgments. This results from fulfilling 12 preparedness standards through training, planning, drills, and infrastructure, backed by INCOIS's continuous surveillance. Active community involvement was clear in Kaitha's live exercise, showcasing Odisha as a worldwide leader in forward-thinking disaster response.



Source: BBC 31st march 2025

Study Suggests India, Somalia, Madagascar May Unite as a Continent in 200 Million Years

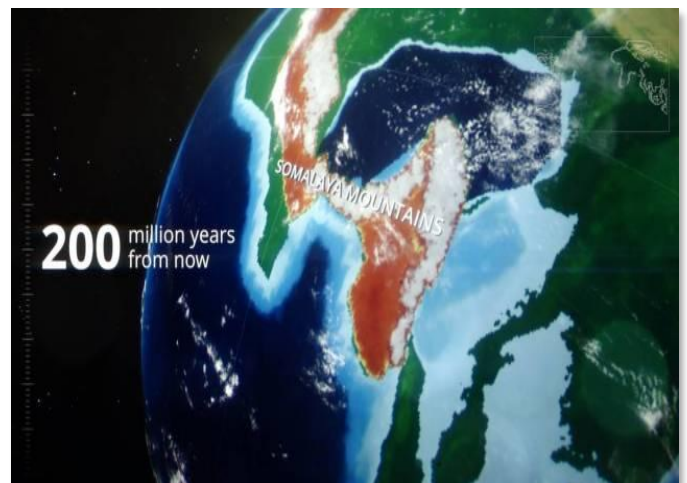
Fast forward 200 million years: a science study imagines East Africa and Madagascar inching over India! This slow-motion crunch, led by Prof. van Hinsbergen, could birth a new 'Somalaya' mountain range along India's west. Picture Mumbai at its foot, like Delhi and the Himalayas. Southwest India might even dip as the Horn of Africa gently shoves across.



Source The Hindu, December 22,2024

Myanmar earthquake

A devastating 7.7 magnitude earthquake hit Myanmar near Sagging on March 28th, causing immense destruction. Tragically, over 3,000 lives were lost, and thousands more were injured, with anticipated increases. The powerful, shallow quake ripped apart roads and leveled homes, prompting emergencies in six areas. Getting information is tough due to the ruling junta's tight grip on information. This disaster painfully shows how vulnerable the region's buildings are to nature's fury.



Source- The India Express 2nd may 2025

Telangana's Ambitious Eco-Park Project Faces Deforestation Concerns

Folks in Telangana are dreaming big with a 2,000-acre eco-park in Kancha Gachibowli! This grand plan involves the University of Hyderabad moving out, a move that stirred up some strong feelings and even caught the Supreme Court's attention, nixing an earlier land sale. The park promises lovely views, animal havens, and more, costing a hefty sum. But some university students are understandably worried about losing their current green. This big change has wondering about the environmental costs of shifting such a large natural area.



Source - The Indian Express on 4th april 2025

South Korea's Historic Heritage Under Siege from Record Wildfires

South Korea is battling intense wildfires that have tragically killed 27 and displaced over 37,000. The blazes have scorched 88,000 acres and destroyed 18 cultural treasures, including the ancient Gounsa temple. Whipped by fierce winds, these unprecedented fires in the southeast triggered a national emergency, highlighting a worrying trend of intensifying wildfires possibly driven by shifts in the climate.



Source: BBC on 27th march 2025

Indonesia Grapples with Deadly Floods and Landslides

Heavy rains from January 17-23, 2025, triggered severe floods and landslides across Java and the Lesser Sunda Islands in Indonesia. Java suffered the most, with Pekalongan Regency reporting 25 deaths. Thousands of homes were damaged and tens of thousands displaced across multiple regencies. Bali also experienced deadly landslides. these shows the region's vulnerability to extreme weather intensified by environmental changes.



Source: relief web on 9th April 2025

Saving Vultures: One GPS-Tagged Flight in Madhya Pradesh

Weakened white-backed vulture rescued in MP soared to Afghanistan via GPS tracking after rehabilitation. Dr. Mishra confirmed its Kyrgyzstan location. Once critically endangered due to diclofenac, vultures are slowly recovering thanks to India's conservation efforts. MP's vulture population doubled (2019-2024). Their revival as nature's "clean-up crew" is crucial for disease prevention, highlighting their vital ecological role.



Source: The Hindu on 13th March 2025

Great Nicobar: Heading Towards Trouble, Experts Fear

Researchers are worried about the huge project planned for Great Nicobar. The numbers trees chop down seem way off and only thinking of burning the wood for power. The companies without any prior knowledge in biodiversity cut trees and plan to plant new forests as compensation looks dodgy. Legal questions and lack of clear info, fear this could badly hurt the island's nature and the local people.



Source: NDTV on April 21, 2025

Yamuna River's Dirty Secret: Majority of Sites Unfit, reveals Panel

The Yamuna in Delhi – a parliamentary group found that most spots tested, including many right in the city, can't even support basic water life. This sorry situation keeps happening because homes and factories are still dumping their untreated waste, despite efforts to clean things up. This pollution is a big problem for the river's creatures, could make our food risky if the water's used for farming, and might even make folks sick if they use the river.



Source: Frontline Magazine on 12th February 2025

Mount Spurr Volcano

Folks in Anchorage are keeping a close eye on Mount Spurr. This sleeping giant of a volcano is stirring, with the ground shaking more than usual lately. Scientists are on alert because Spurr has a history of really dramatic eruptions, in '92 when ash rained down on the city. If it blows again, things could get messy for nature. If ash cover everything, making the air thick and potentially messing with water and wildlife. Even it's not right next door to big towns, that ash cloud could ground planes all over south-central Alaska.



Source: Siebert et al., 2024, Science of the total Environment

Visakhapatnam's Struggle with Single-Use Plastic Ban

Visakhapatnam really wanted to ditch single-use plastics; it's been a lot of struggle to keep them gone. The first ban come in 2022, Everyone was on board, but now those non-woven bags are sneaking back into shops. It's shame as when these plastics stick around, we get more trash, blocked drains, messy land and water, and harm to our sea creatures. To go green, make sure this ban actually sticks is super important.



Source: The Times of India on 12th April 2025

Dead Sea's Unusual Salt Chimneys Discovered

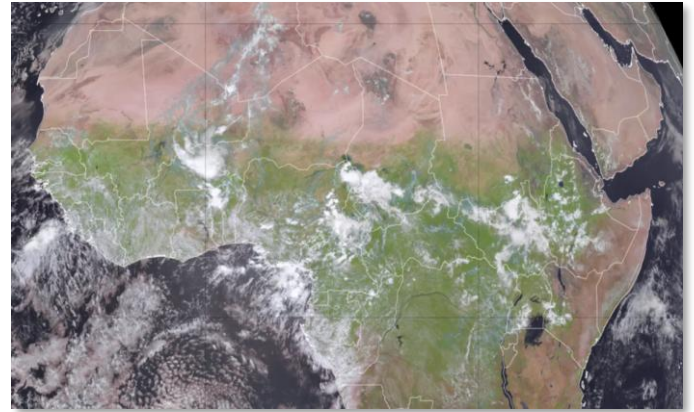
Scientists exploring the Dead Sea's bottom stumbled upon bizarre, towering salt chimneys, some over 20 feet tall! These odd formations pop up when mineral-packed underground water meets the super salty lake, quickly turning to crystal. 1 Interestingly, these salty towers seem to be a warning sign, as the study links them to sinkholes forming later in the area, which can be really dangerous for roads and buildings around the Dead Sea. 2 So, these strange chimneys might actually help us predict where sinkholes could appear next



Source: The Hindu on 13th April 2025

Sahara Desert Showing Green After Big Rains, NASA Finds

NASA's spotting green stuff growing in the Sahara where it used to be just sand, thanks to some major rain. Even dry lakes are filling up! It's like the desert's waking up, which is cool for local animals. But it also makes you think – how will this sudden green change things for the creatures that love the dry heat? And with all the climate stuff going on, could this be a sign of bigger changes in the Sahara that might even mess with weather far away?



Source: CNN Weather on 13th September 2024\

Terracotta Rings: An Unexpected Ally in Mangrove Restoration

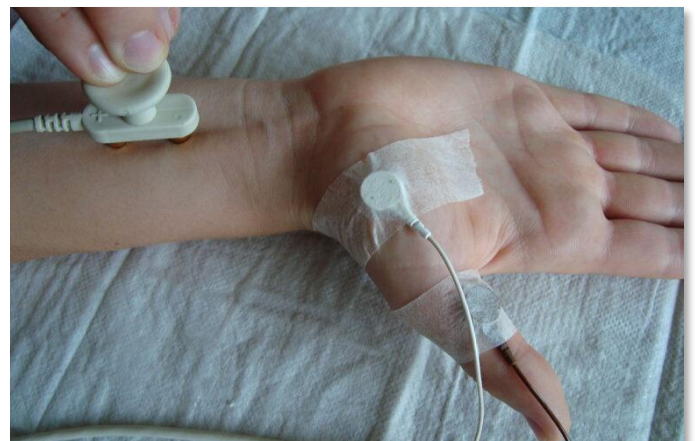
Scientists are using humble baked clay rings to help tiny mangrove seeds get a good start. These rings are safe houses for baby mangrove seeds. They keep the strong waves away so the seeds can settle down and grow roots without getting tossed around. Having more mangrove in our coastlines will be tougher against storms and more suitable place for aquatic animals. It's a simple way to bring back these incredible coastal forests, helping both nature and coastal communities thrive.



Source: Mongabay on 29th April 2025

How Climate Change Might Be Making Food Bugs More of a Problem

Turns out, our warming world might be making food safety a bigger worry. Think of warmer weather as a party for bad food bugs like Salmonella they just multiply faster. In the wet weather, those germs can spread all over, messing with our food. Even dry spells can concentrate the bugs in our farming water. Keeping food in a heat weather is a new challenge



Source: Mongabay on 25th February 2025

Freshwater Species Crisis: Quarter of Global Population at Risk

It's really worrying news that a report from IUCN says almost one in four of the world's freshwater creatures, like our fish and crabs, are in serious danger of disappearing forever. Things like dirty water, losing their homes, and strange new animals moving in are the main culprits. Places with lots of unique water life, like India's Western Ghats, are especially at risk. This sad situation screams that we urgently need to step up and protect these precious watery worlds and all the good they do for us.



Source : IUCN on 8th January 2025

Finally! Sacred Groves Deserve Forest Status, Rules Supreme Court

That's a big win for nature! The Supreme Court has said that even these special, often small, sacred groves should be seen as real forests. This happened after folks in Rajasthan wanted their "oran" groves to get proper protection. The court totally agreed, saying these places are super important for nature and our culture, and now the government needs to make rules to look after them everywhere, with help from local people. This could mean that other kinds of natural spaces might get more protection too.



Source: The Hindu 5th February 2025

Rajasthan Green Energy Project Gets \$1 Billion Funding Boost

Adani Green Energy just landed a big \$1.06 billion funding deal for their huge solar and wind farm in Rajasthan – their very first big project. This 19 years cash boost, fits perfectly with how long the project will run and is seen as a safe bet. This helps Adani Green reach their goal of a massive 50 GW of clean energy by 2030, a big step in making India greener.



Source: The Hindu on 3rd March 2025

COP29's Methane Moment: Bridging the Gap Between Goals and Reality

So, the UN has this cool satellite system, MARS, that spots methane leaks. But sadly, when it yells "leak!", most of the big polluters just shrug. Even with everyone talking about cutting this powerful warming gas at COP29, and countries making promises, it's not translating to real change. Big players like India are even sitting on the sidelines. It's a real shame because tackling methane is a quick way to hit the brakes on global warming and buy us time for bigger climate fixes.



Source: The Times of India on 10th June 2024

NTPC Wins UN Award for Water Sustainability

Big thumbs up for NTPC! They just snagged a UN award for being super clever with water. They've really put in the effort to save water and even make some of their plants self-sufficient. This award shows they're serious about being green while powering up India, with big plans for clean energy like wind and solar in the years to come, proving they care about the planet too.



Source: Mongabay on 3rd December 2024

Nagole's Wastewater Treatment Plant Recognized for Going Green

The Nagole sewage plant in Hyderabad just won a prize for being a real eco-hero! They're doing amazing work making sure the water they clean up before it goes back to our rivers and lakes is super clean. This means happier fish, healthier folks, and a better environment for everyone. It proves that smart ways to handle sewage can truly make our water sparkle and our surroundings flourish.



Source: ET Government on 13th February 2025

Remembering Radheshyam Bishnoi: A Young Life Dedicated to India's Wildlife

Radheshyam Bishnoi, a passionate 28-year-old wildlife protector from Rajasthan, tragically passed away on May 24, 2025. Rooted in his community's deep respect for nature, Radheshyam was on his way to prevent poaching when the accident occurred. His unwavering dedication to rescue animals and save Rajasthan's desert ecosystem leaves an immense void, but his inspiring legacy of stewardship will continue to resonate.



Source: MONGABAY, May 24,2025

The Daring Rescue of Nine Baby Bustards Amidst Border Fire, Under the Veil night

Nine tiny Great Indian Bustard chicks, just days old, embarked on a crucial 200 km journey to safety last week. These critically endangered birds were relocated from their homes in Jaisalmer due to tension near the Indo-Pak border. Now nestled in a new facility in Arwar village, Ajmer, this temporary relocation could pave the way for a vital hub



Source: The Print, May 15,2025

Jaipur's Youth Fight to Save City's Green Lungs from Mass Tree Felling

A passionate, determined with unwavering courage, youth movement is rising in Jaipur, fiercely opposing government plans to sacrifice nearly 100 acres of vital forest for development. This cherished "green lung" of south Jaipur, home to thousands of trees and over 80 bird species, faces destruction for a proposed Unity Mall and other projects. Young activists raise voice environmental devastation against immoral politicians.



Source:: India Today,May24,2025