



Ansel Adams



Defining Gravity and defying it - Incredible Resolve

By Rajendra Shende, Chairman TERRE Policy Centre

A straw is unlikely to be used in science laboratory to demonstrate and define the universal gravitational force. But the proverbial 'last straw' that breaks the camel's back frames the anecdote of the law of gravitation that acts to bring a straw as well camel down to earth. The precipitous fall of crude oil prices from about 100 USD dollars in June 2014 to less than USD 30 dollars this month-nearly 70 percent fall-most of which occurred in a space of 6 months in 2014-goes even beyond. It points to the gravity of the situation, which has threatened the economies of oil producing and exporting countries.

Plummeting price of crude oil has defined modern law of gravity in an open-market economy. And it is not only about prices of crude oil, the similar pattern

is observed in prices of coal and natural gas. Force of oversupply is the classical reason for the fall but that does not tell the whole story.

I am not a student of economics and definitely not the protagonist of the unregulated open-market economy. But 2014 and 2015 reveal another force that defies the gravity of the market forces. Those forces emerge from the resolve of the world community to take action on climate change.

Take for example the investment and the capacity addition in the generation of renewable energy all over the world.

As per the Bloomberg analysis, USD 329 billion was invested in renewable energy in 2015, a record-breaking year, by adding more capacity of 121 gigawatts than ever before. 2016 will see even higher figures. **Continued on page 2,**

Light for Brilliance – One for One

Have you seen a lantern in the sky? Notice how they take time to fill up with air and then slowly rise, never straight up, never with a constant brightness or brilliance. Think about the glimmer they leave in our hearts. How they make the night sky, the light sky. So is it with children. We at TERRE want to create the opportunity to light that flame, and then they soar, never straight, often not fast enough. Like the rising orange lantern, always moving towards their place in the world.

A project dedicated to maximum utilisation of renewable or alternative sources of energy to light up lives of millions of families for whom darkness is an everyday reality. TERRE Policy Centre has embarked on a mission to distribute solar lamps of 0.5 Watts in rural areas of the country where electricity is scarce. These lamps are pre-installed with solar panels which get charged on exposure to the sun. Leaving them out the entire day will ensure a light supply for no less than 10 hours. This is your chance to help reach out to children all over the country. Buy a Solar Lamp for yourself and donate one at INR 500. For more details contact TERRE Policy Centre.

Defining Gravity and defying it...

From page 1 As per the open-market theory this should not have happened with century long established fossil fuel technologies and falling prices of the fossil fuels for last 18 months. The investments and capacity addition in clean energy should have fallen, particularly when most of the developed economies are in financial crisis since 2008.

What I observed is the defying the gravity of the market forces. Open market is getting an “open signal” that era of dirty and polluting energy is over. The World is determined to defy the classical economic theories for the benefit of the planet.



Urban Forestry Smritivan



TERRE Policy Centre welcomed the dedicated team of Pumpkin Nursery yet again for a tree plantation drive initiated by their students. The drive took place early in January and only added to the recent developments at the Smritivan site at Warje.

The Aerospace Industry & the Environment



Our first rendezvous session for 2016 kicked off with a highly informative presentation on the “The Aerospace Industry and the Environment” Dr. Sachin Pawar Post-Doctoral research scientist at the Tomsk Polytechnic University in Russia was the presenter.

He gave the audience a detailed insight into the chemicals and material used in aviation engineering, where it is derived from and its life-span. It is no strange argument that the Aerospace industry has several harmful causes to the environment. The release of harmful gases, usage of chemical resources and high consumption of energy are an evident threat to our ecosystem. Extensive knowledge of material currently used in aerospace engineering can help find alternatives which are far more environment friendly. The discussion ended in the acceptance that the construction of airplanes cannot be made 100% environment friendly, however steps can

be taken to minimise its harmful effects to the environment.



QUESTION OF THE MONTH



Which is the wettest inhabitable place on the earth?

1. *Tutendo, Columbia*
2. *Mawsynram, India*
3. *Mt. Waialeale, Hawaii*
4. *San Antonio De Ureca, Equatorial Guinea*

If you know the answer, send in your entry to us at info@terrepolicycentre.com



NUMBER OF MONTH

90%

The Ocean constitutes over 90% of the habitable space on the planet.

'Green Olympiad' Award Ceremony



With the great response of Green Olympiad, first ever on-line competition organized by Forest department Maharashtra state with TERRE Policy Centre came to an end with the declaration of the final result on 30th January, 2016. The winners are awarded at the hands of Mr. Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble min-

ister of Environment & Forests accompanied by Mr. Dilip Kamble, state minister, Maharashtra.

Launched before six months, the competition had two rounds & held into three categories i.e. sapling, plant and tree. Mr. Nevish Pathe from sapling categories, Ms. Pragati Jaju from plant category and Mr. Ritesh Patel from tree category were winners of the competition.

Addressing the enthusiastic youth audience, Mr. Javadekar announced about launching of All India Green Olympiad competition next year with environment education department. Also he reminded about 'Plastic free city campaign' by school, college students from main cities across the nation which is going to held on 13th February, 2016.

At the end, Mr. Rishi Acharya, Head, technical partner of Green

Olympiad concluded the function. And the function was anchored by Dr. Vinita Apte.



Volunteering by Persistent



On the fresh morning of 30th January, 2016, young employees of Persistent technologies had volunteering work at SmritiVan, Warje, Pune. The enthusiastic crowd attended the activity with the mindset of social responsibility. The basic works was done like watering the plants, removing the unwanted weeds were.



International Youth CONFERENCE 2016



BIODIVERSITY, WATER, CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Mr. Rajendra Shende
Chairman, Former Director UNEP Paris

Dr. Vinitaa Apte
President

Mr. Ajay Pathak
Trustee

Mr. Vickrant Argade
Secretary

Date : 26th & 27th February 2016

Venue : Pune

Time : 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Organized by

TERRE Policy Centre

22, Anandashram, Pune
Maharashtra, India 411002



PEOPLE NEED CORAL REEFS

>845

species of
reef-building coral.

>100

countries host
coral reefs.

500

MILLION PEOPLE
rely on food sourced
from coral reefs.

1%

of the marine environment
consists of coral reefs

>25%

of all marine fish life
is supported by coral.

US \$375 BILLION

the estimated annual value of the services coral reefs provide, including food, shoreline protection, jobs based on tourism and even medicines.

>850

MILLION People
live within 100 kilometers
(62 miles) of coral reefs

**PROVIDES
FOOD**

**FISHING +
TOURISM JOBS**

**POTENTIAL
MEDICINES**

**BUFFERING FROM
STORMS + TSUNAMIS**

75%

of the world's coral reefs
are threatened.
By 2050, 90% will
be threatened.



OVERFISHING



**CLIMATE
CHANGE**

NEWS NETWORK



Javadekar's priorities for 2016: Cut delays in decision making, involve public to achieve green goals'

Post Climate Change meeting, Environment minister took strict actions for environment protection

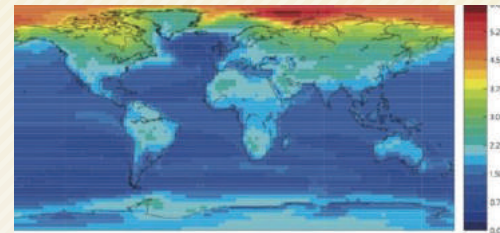
<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/environment/pollution/Javadekar-priorities-for-2016-Cut-delays-in-decision-making-involve-public-to-achieve-green-goals/articleshow/50412399.cms>



Hong Kong government signals end to domestic ivory trade

Following a major anti-ivory campaign by WWF-Hong Kong, the city's Chief Executive, C Y Leung, announced today that the government is actively exploring phasing out the domestic ivory trade.

http://www.panda.org/wwf_news/?259592/Hong-Kong-government-signals-end-to-domestic-ivory-trade



Impact of human activity on local climate mapped

Earth's temperature has increased by 1°C over the past century, and most of this warming has been caused by carbon dioxide emissions. But what does that mean locally?

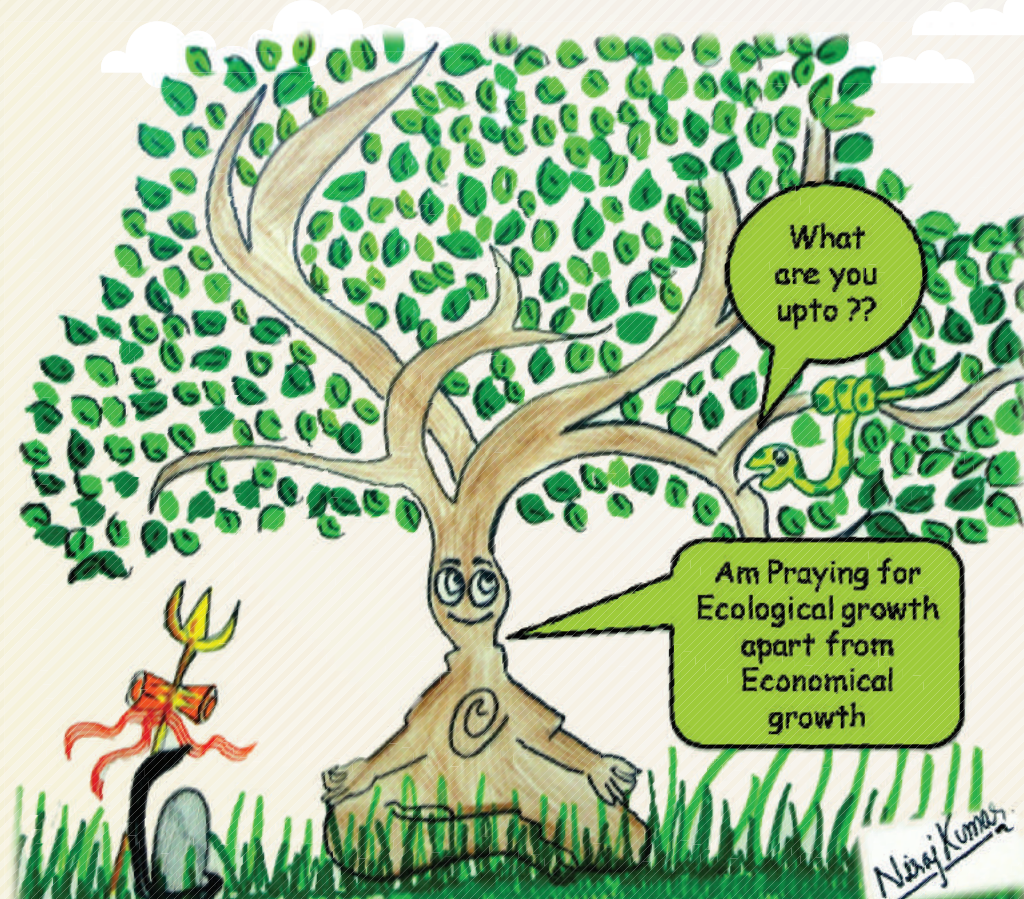
<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/01/160120142725.htm>

Dr. Abdul Kalam Young Scientist Fellowship



Have you registered yet? Time is running out and we are hard pressed to make the best decision. Register for the young scientists fellowship and don't miss your chance to be chosen as a fellow and have your project funded by TERRE Policy centre. For more details visit: www.drkalamfellowship.com

Last date for registration is the 14th of February 2016



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