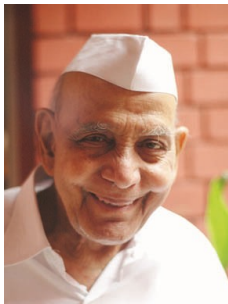




Dr. Mohan Dharia: Valentine for the earth



Source:
www.newglobalindian.com

Dr Mohan Dharia - A legend - A much revered veteran freedom fighter has served in a number of public positions in a career spanning over seven decades. Former union Minister of India and a lawyer by profession Dr. Mohan Dharia finds his calling as environmental and social activist. He is one of the staunchest advocates of growth in tandem with social justice and compassionate care for the environment, a dictum that has guided the dynamic decisions taken by him in a position of authority. Looking at his commitment and love for the earth, some might speculate that he would consider 'Earth' as his valentine... now and forever. This column is dedicated to his devotion and enthusiasm which has shown no signs of fading for more than half a century.

As a Deputy Chairman of India's Planning Commission Dr. Dharia inducted in India's planning process the concept of Sustainable Development way back in 1972, when Stockholm conference on Human Environment was held. But it is the grass roots of India that have beckoned Dr. Mohan Dharia's untiring métier. He is the founder of Vanarai, a voluntary organization that has succeeded in engaging thousands in rural development and creating self reliant villages. He is similarly associated with a number of social, environmental and educational causes and organizations. Dr Mohan Dharia is a pioneer and is responsible for planting millions of trees all over India, an endeavor for which he is recognized widely as the Green Man of India.

Dr Mohan Dharia, fondly called ANNA, has been conferred with a number of state and national awards, including the second highest, Padm Vibhushan, by the President of India. The epitome of Gandhian thought, Dr Mohan Dharia's life and work is a noble expression of the relevance of the Mahatma in today's times.

The Carbon Bombs: Point of No Return

"The world is quickly latest Greenpeace and Ecofys Report on the 14 reaching a Point of No Return for preventing the massive coal, oil and gas turn for preventing the worst impacts of climate change. Continuing on the current course will make it difficult, if not impossible, to prevent the widespread and catastrophic impacts of climate change. The costs will be substantial: billions spent to deal with the destruction of extreme weather events, untold human suffering, and the deaths of tens of millions from the impacts by as soon as 2030."

This is what is said by the

project which are being planned by the fossil fuel industry. Combined, these are projected to produce as much CO₂ in 2020 as the entire US and increase global CO₂ emissions by a whopping 20%.

This would also mean that the efforts for action against climate change would be delayed by at least a decade. According to the report, the world will most likely reach a 'Point of No



GREENPEACE ACTIVIST LIGHTING A FAKE CARBON BOMB
(Source: www.myspace.com)

Return' as it will fail to curb the rise in temperatures within the favourable 2°C mark. Instead, we might be looking at a "catastrophic" scenario with an increase in temperature by about 5 to 6°C.

Cont. on Page 2

TERRE Event Calendar

- The Environment Film Festival 2013 was successfully organized by TERRE, in association with Indian High Commission and Ministry of Housing and Environment (Maldives). The event was held in Male (Maldives) from 26th to 31st January 2013. [Click here for Photos of the Inauguration Ceremony of the Event](#)
- Eight films, produced by TERRE, were screened at the Kirloskar Vasundhara Film Festival in Pune (India) in the category of Earth Care Films. The festival was held from 25th January 2013 to 2nd Feb 2013.
- Rajendra Shende, Chairman hold discussion with INTERPOL, Lyon, France to discuss with Environmental Crime Programme on the links between National Security and Environmental Security.
- Neha Patwardhan, Programme Leader attended Convocation at TERI to receive the degree in Water Resources Management at the hands of Dr. R.K. Pachouri.

From the Chairman's Desk



**Four years to change the climate...
Having lost twenty years of inaction on climate change**

A compromise to arrive at the political consensus is time consuming and prohibitively energy intensive. There has to be third way to wriggle out of crisis. Is this a lesson that President Obama learned over first four years as President of the most prosperous and most powerful nation on the earth - The United States of America?

I had listened carefully to his presidential inaugural speech 4 years back in 2009. He had only one phrase for the climate change in his entire speech. He said, "With old friends and former foes, we'll work tirelessly to lessen the nuclear threat, and roll back the specter of a warming planet." Even this passing reference to global warming got lost in the myriads of other threats that he spoke of USA was facing-for example terrorism. To be fair, he also indirectly spoke about global warming by denoting American greed and the way America consumes and that... "Each day brings further evidence that the ways we use energy strengthen our adversaries and threaten our planet."

Then came Climate meet-

ing in Copenhagen where he made a curious and Hitchcockian appearance that did not have global appeal. Many called this meeting as 'Flophenagen'.

Now the Earth has a chance. In his inaugural speech in January 2013, President was stone-determined,

"We will respond to the threat of climate change, knowing that the failure to do so would betray our children and future generations. Some may still deny the overwhelming judgment of science, but none can avoid the



(Source: www.10waysosavetheworld.net)

devastating impact of raging fires and crippling drought and more powerful storms.

The path towards sustainable energy sources will be long and sometimes difficult. But America cannot resist this transition, we must lead it."

President Obama has chance to prove that Winston Churchill was wrong about Americans when he said: "They (Americans) generally do the right thing after first exhausting every available alternative."

Rajendra Shende
Chairman, TERRE

Attention Eco-Resoluters !!

We have received quite a response for Eco-Resolutions. More pouring in. Watch next issues how we would network with all those Eco-Resoluters. Send and email to us to register today!

**The Carbon Bombs:
Point of No Return**

Contd from Page 1

According to the report, to control the existing rate of exponentially rising emissions,

more them by pushing projects like these. This report discusses pathways that lead to climate disaster and pathways that would avoid climate chaos.



CLICK IMAGE TO VIEW MAP OF 'DIRTY ENERGY PROJECTS'

new projects based on fossil fuels need to be stopped immediately. These cause direct conflict with a 'livable climate'. The "Dirty energy projects" discussed in this report range from massive expansion of coal mining in China, to large-scale expansion of coal exports from Australia, the US and Indonesia, to the development of risky unconventional sources of oil in the tar sands of Canada, in the Arctic, in the ocean off the coast of Brazil, in Iraq, in the Gulf of Mexico and in Kazakhstan, and to gas production in Africa and the Caspian Sea. They are the biggest dirty energy projects planned in the coming decades.

The signs of climate change have been evident yet a few governments and fossil fuel companies have chosen to ig-

Cancelling these 14 projects could reduce the emissions by one-third the amount. Cancelling a few of these 14 projects might be a practical target, but withdrawal of all 14 seems to be a far-fetched goal. Developing renewable and clean sources of energy instead would be a better bet to avoid disastrous consequences of climate change.



THE REPORT BY GREENPEACE
(Source: www.greenpeace.org)

Read the full report on this link
<http://www.greenpeace.org/international/Global/international/publications/climate/2013/PointOfNoReturn.pdf>



Waste Not, Want Not : 50% of all Food Ends up as Waste

As unbelievable as it may sound, Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMECHE), in their latest report say that this might as well be the case due to issues such as inadequate infrastructure and storage facilities, overly strict sell-by dates, buy-one-get-one free offers and consumers demanding cosmetically perfect food.

According to UN predictions, an additional 3 billion people will need to be fed by the end of the century, putting immense additional pressure on existing resources. In such a scenario, indiscriminate wastage of food will only worsen the situation.



GRAINS ROTTING DUE TO INADEQUATE STORAGE FACILITIES
(Source: Imeche Report)



FOOD BEING THROWN AWAY
(Source: Imeche Report)

IMECHE released a report titled 'Global Food Waste Not Want Not' which says that:

- between 30% and 50% or

1.2-2 billion tonnes of food produced around the world each year never reaches a human stomach;

- as much as 30% of UK vegetable crops are not harvested due to them failing to meet exacting standards based on their physical appearance, while up to half of the food that's bought in Europe and the USA is thrown away by the consumer;

- about 550 billion m³ of water is wasted globally in growing crops that never reach the consumer;

- it takes 20-50 times the amount of water to produce 1 kilogram of meat than 1 kilogram of vegetables;

- the demand for water in food production could reach 10–13 trillion m³ a year by 2050. This is 2.5 to 3.5 times greater than the total human use of

fresh water today and could lead to more dangerous water shortages around the world;

- there is the potential to provide 60-100% more food by eliminating losses and waste while at the same time freeing up land, energy and water resources.

(Source: www.imeche.org)

UN predicts that the world population will reach 9.5 billion by 2075. A key issue in this is how to produce more food given the limited resources.

There is also the added stress of climate change which is affecting crop productivity worldwide.

To increase awareness regarding the Food Security Issues, UNEP and FAO have partnered to launch the "Think, Eat, Save" campaign. This campaign will provide a portal for information sharing and action to tackle this global concern. The campaign is supported by UN's Zero Hunger Challenge and other partners.

Learn more on how you can contribute to reducing the food security concerns - www.thinkeatsave.org

"We stand now where two roads diverge. But unlike the roads in Robert Frost's familiar poem, they are not equally fair. The road we have long been traveling is deceptively easy, a smooth superhighway on which we progress with great speed, but at its end lies disaster. The other fork of the road — the one less traveled by — offers our last, our only chance to reach a destination that assures the preservation of the earth."

~ Rachel Carson

Quick Question

Which country consumes the most energy in the world?

- Russia
- China
- USA
- Japan

Send in your entry to us at terrepolicycentre@gmail.com
before 13th February 2013



Last Issue's Answer:

Ammonia is not found in vehicular pollution.

Quick Answer

H.V. Paranjape
(Pune)



Let's Talk Numbers

4 x 10¹²

is the number of 100 watt light bulbs that equal the amount of solar energy reaching the earth every second.

(Source: www.energyinformative.org)

Reader's Speak

The News Letter is becoming an interesting read!

It also acts as a reminder to get closer to GREEN!

Rajendra Shivalkar

Garware Ropes, Pune

Thank you for this useful information. It is good to see that Terre is taking up significant issues. With Rajendra Shende's invaluable experience, I am sure many agencies and countries will benefit from Terre's policy interventions.

It will be an honour to be associated in some suitable and usable capacity though...

Pradeep Wagh

DEIS, Pune

Team NewsleTERRE is always eager for your feedbacks. Please send us your thoughts via email at terrepolicycentre@gmail.com

In the News

IUCN Programme on IPBES

April 2012 marked the successful outcome of years of international negotiations, when more than 90 governments agreed to officially establish the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). IPBES has been established as the leading global body providing scientifically sound and relevant information to support more informed decisions on how biodiversity and ecosystem services are conserved and used around the world.



IPBES – 1, the first plenary meeting of IPBES, concluded on 26th January 2013, in Bonn (Germany). More than 500 delegates participated in the discussions and events. Important decisions such as the selection of the Chair and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP) were taken during the weeklong meeting.

For more details on IPBES and the meeting visit www.ipbes.net

Air in a Can

Haze engulfs Beijing (China) forcing many people to stay indoors and many to rush to hospitals with respiratory problems. The emission levels are going off the charts, as high as 20 times the safety limits.

Chen Guangbiao, Chinese businessman who made millions in the recycling business, has come up with an interesting way to draw attention towards the rising problem of pollution. He is selling 'Air in a Can'. Cans, the size of soda-pop cans are being sold at about 80 cents a piece and are being handed out as 'Fresh Air' which was packed in pristine regions of China.



Read more on these links

<http://news.yahoo.com/chinese-millionaire-fights-pollution-thin-air-121003957.html>

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/chinas-filthy-air-prompts-mask-rush-cans-fresh/story?id=18352787>

To keep abreast with the latest news in the field of environment, log on to

www.terrepolicycentre.org/news.html

What can we do?

Use renewable sources of energy. Try to use equipments that rely on renewable energy such as solar water heaters, solar lamps, even biogas if possible. These will not only lower the emissions but also your energy costs.

TERRE Policy Centre

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