

Excerpts from address of Hon. Shri Prakash Javdekar, Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, India at the Ministerial Plenary of the First United Nations Environment Assembly, 26 - 27 June, 2014, in Nairobi

1. India attaches utmost importance to the evolution of the post-2015 development agenda. We strongly believe that it must be an agenda for 'development', an agenda that can propel sustained and inclusive economic growth in all countries, particularly developing countries. Poverty eradication, which has been identified at Rio+20 as the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, must remain the central and overarching objective of the SDGs and the post-2015 development agenda. More than 1.3 billion people in the world still live on less than US\$ 1.25 a day. It is therefore all the more important that action on poverty must not be contextualized or linked with other challenges and must receive our undiluted attention and focus.

2. The wide difference between the average per capita consumption of energy and other resources in the developed and developing countries as also the huge wastage of food at consumer level in developed countries makes it imperative for developed countries to take lead to shift towards SCP patterns. Clearly, our efforts to put the global economy on a sustainable path must not be and cannot be on the backs of the poor. At the same time, improving energy efficiency and resource use in production processes is extremely important. Once again, the developed countries have to lead from the front and commit technology transfer to developing countries for them to achieve this. We support a standalone goal on SCP and also it's mainstreaming across various sectors, viz., energy, food, water, agriculture, etc.

3. India strongly feels that technology transfer is the most important means of implementation and an effective and functional Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM) is a must for a meaningful Post-2015 Development Agenda. The TFM should meet the technology transfer needs of developing countries in various sectors, viz., health, energy, food, water, sanitation, etc. The developing countries need to be assisted in technology needs assessment, adaptation, rollout and human and institutional capacity building.

4. The developed countries need to



not only urgently fulfill their commitment to provide 0.7% of gross national income (GNI) as official development assistance (ODA) for developing countries but also pledge additional and predictable funding considering the ambition levels for post-2015 development agenda. The options for other supplementary modes of financing could be looked at once this basic commitment is met by the developed countries.

5. India is well aware of the threat that illegal trade in wildlife poses for the environment and we have a strong legislation in the form of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to deal with such threats. The Act provides for deterrent punishment for wildlife crimes. Species are classified under different schedules based on threat perception and commensurate penalties are prescribed for offences involving such species. Many important mega fauna such as Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Elephant, Rhinoceros, etc are classified under Schedule-I, with highest punishment prescribed under the law for crimes relating to them. Other statutes like Customs Act, Indian Forest Act and Biological Diversity Act complement efforts in conservation of wildlife. We are a committed member of CITES. Our international Trade Policy has built-in inherent process of consultation between the Trade regulator and my Ministry on bio-diversity related trade matters.

6. Illegal trade in wildlife has global ramifications. Often, tracing linkages of such crimes and investigating them to their logical conclusion prove to be a difficult task. We believe that an organised crime like this needs to be tackled by an organised proactive, collaborative and intelligence led enforcement. There is a need for an effective mechanism for information sharing amongst international agencies on crimes and criminals. We are ready and willing to be part of any mechanism for international cooperation in combating trafficking of endangered species of flora and fauna.

Prakash Javdekar



## Competitions for Youth

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HERE'S A CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE AND WIN EXCITING PRIZES AND RECOGNITION ON THE GLOBAL STAGE TO ALL OUR YOUNG FRIENDS. TERRE POLICY CENTRE AND SANSKRUTI CENTRE FOR CULTURAL EXCELLENCE HAVE ORGANIZED AN ESSAY COMPETITION AND A MOBILE SHORT-FILM COMPETITION AS PRE-EVENTS TO THE ENVIRONMENT FILM FESTIVAL ORGANIZED IN LONDON ON THE OCCASION OF WORLD OZONE DAY ON 12TH AND 13TH SEPTEMBER 2014.

### ESSAY COMPETITION

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE:  
12-15 YEAR STUDENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD

**FOR DETAILS:**  
[Http://terrepolicycentre.com/pdf/Competitions-for-Youth-Essay-Writing-Contest.pdf](http://terrepolicycentre.com/pdf/Competitions-for-Youth-Essay-Writing-Contest.pdf)

### MOBILE FILM-MAKING COMPETITION

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15-25 YEAR OLDS OVER THE WORLD

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## Rainforests Back bone of the Earth's ecosystem



### From the Editors desk

There are many amazing and beautiful things that Nature has provided us. But the most amazing and beautiful thing is rainforests. Rainforests are the Earth's oldest living ecosystems. These incredible places cover only 6 % of the Earth's surface but yet they contain more than one-half of the world's plant and animal species! A Rainforest can be described as a tall, dense jungle. The reason it is called a "rain" forest is because of the high amount of rainfall it gets per year. The climate of a rain forest is very hot and humid so the animals and plants that exist there must learn to adapt to this climate.

More than two thirds of the world's plant species are found in the tropical rainforests: plants that provide shelter and food for rainforest animals as well as taking part in the gas exchanges which provide much of the world's oxygen supply. At least two-thirds of the world's plant species, including many exotic and beautiful flowers grow in the rainforests.

Rainforests are the source of many items that we all use in our own homes!

We eat several foods from the rainforest and many medicines are made from ingredients found only in these areas. Chocolate, Sugar, cinnamon, rubber, pineapples are the examples of common products which are from the rain forests. Rainforest plants live in a warm humid environment that allows an enormous variation rare in more temperate climates; some like the orchids have beautiful flowers adapted

to attract the profusion of forest insects. The aerial plants often gather nourishment from the air itself using so-called 'air roots'. The humidity of the rainforest encourages such adaptations which would be impossible in most temperate forests with their much drier conditions. The world's rainforests are currently disappearing at a rate of 6000 acres every hour. That means about 4000 football fields per hour. Some species are at risk and those will not reproduce. We need the rain forests to produce oxygen and clean atmosphere to help us breathe.

Forests can be managed effectively without endangering rare species of plants and animals and risking global environmental damage. Companies that harvest timber should not be allowed to "clear cut" large areas of forest and should be required to plant new trees after they cut old trees down. Governments should create large parks and reserves where hunting and logging are not allowed. As a world community, we must be careful not to destroy the resources that people will need in the future.

Number of products that we use in our country come from rain forests and each of us needs to be thoughtful about the way we consume these products, and support companies and programs that make a commitment to safe environment practices.



NUMBER OF THE MONTH

80 %

A WORLD ECONOMY FOUR TIMES LARGER THAN TODAY IS PROJECTED TO NEED 80% MORE ENERGY IN 2050 WITHOUT NEW POLICY ACTION.

Source: OECD ENVIRONMENTAL OUTLOOK TO 2050: The Consequences of Inaction



### INTERESTING VIDEO



THE VIDEO REVOLVES AROUND TWO CHARACTERS, A FATHER AND HIS SON HOLIDAYING ON A TROPICAL ISLAND. WHILE THEY ARE LAZING AROUND, THE FATHER UNKNOWINGLY AND UNINTENTIONALLY HARMS THE ENVIRONMENT IN EACH SEQUENCE, TO WHICH THE MODERN DAY, "ECO-AWARE" CHILD HALTS HIS ACTION

Source: <http://youtu.be/1Y8onPPpCM>





As 'something' added in the companies act, everyone is questioning about CSR. What all activities are added in it? What are we supposed to do? How we are supposed to do? Why we should do? And many more "Why"s.

The EC defines CSR as "the responsibility of enterprises for their impacts on society".

The WBCSD defines CSR as "the continuing commitment by business to contribute to economic development while improving the quality of life of the workforce and their families as well as of the community and society at large."

Concluding the above statements we may say that the CSR approach is holistic and integrated with the core business strategy to address social and environmental impacts of businesses. CSR needs to address the well-being of all stakeholders and not just the company's shareholders. Philanthropic activities are only a part of CSR, which otherwise constitutes a much larger set of activities entailing strategic business benefits.

### The Act

On 27 February 2014, the MCA stated that Section 135 of the Act which deals with corporate social responsibility will come into effect from 1 April 2014.

### What is included in CSR?

Many corporates view CSR as just another form of indirect expense or government regulation. But, CSR is important to protect and grow the goodwill and reputation, defend attacks and increase business competitiveness.

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## What is CSR?

-Mohit Kalani, Project Coordinator, TERRE

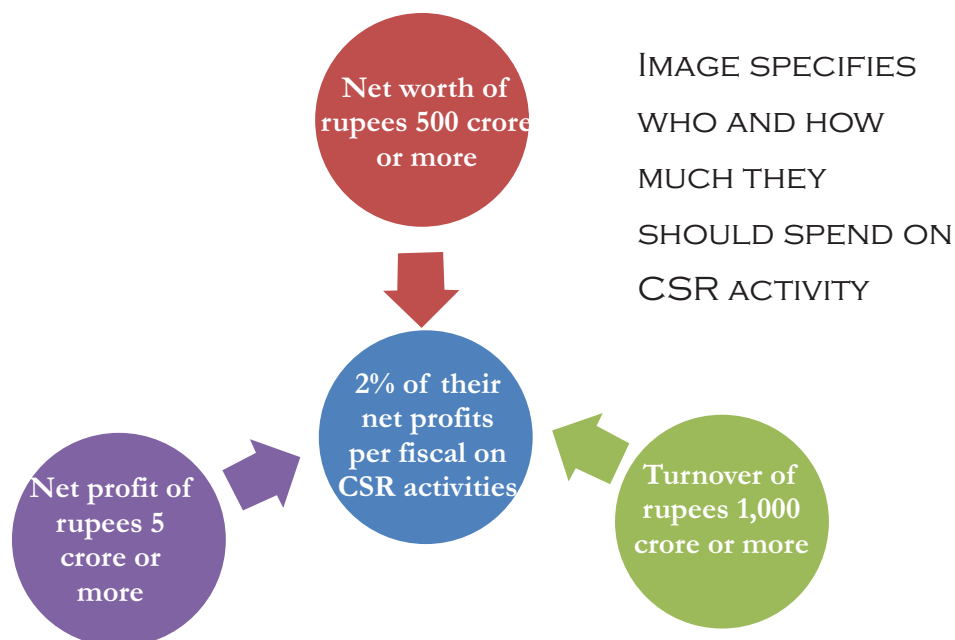
CSR programs range from community development to development in education, environment and healthcare, etc.

For example, CSR includes providing improved facilities to the customer and employees like medical aid, sanitation facility, building schools and houses, empowering people through activities like training and workshops. Providing decent standards of living to someone also come under CSR activity.

One may join hands with Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) like TERRE and use their expertise in devising programs which address wider social problems. This helps corporates

to work efficiently without investing their manpower in the activity. For example, JSW Foundation organizes "JSW-Times of India Earth Care Awards". For this TERRE Policy Centre works as an outreach partner, which has helped the initiative to reach out to the participants across 7 countries.

Similarly there are many sectors in which CSR activity can be done. TERRE Policy Centre helps the corporate to invest their CSR funds in their field of interest with proven impact. We have already worked with many professionals to meet both the goals - Government regulations and satisfaction through society upliftment.



### What is the full form of G.M.O.?

- A) Genetic Mutated Object
- B) Genetic Mutated Olefins
- C) Genetically Modified Organisms
- D) Gross Modified Organism

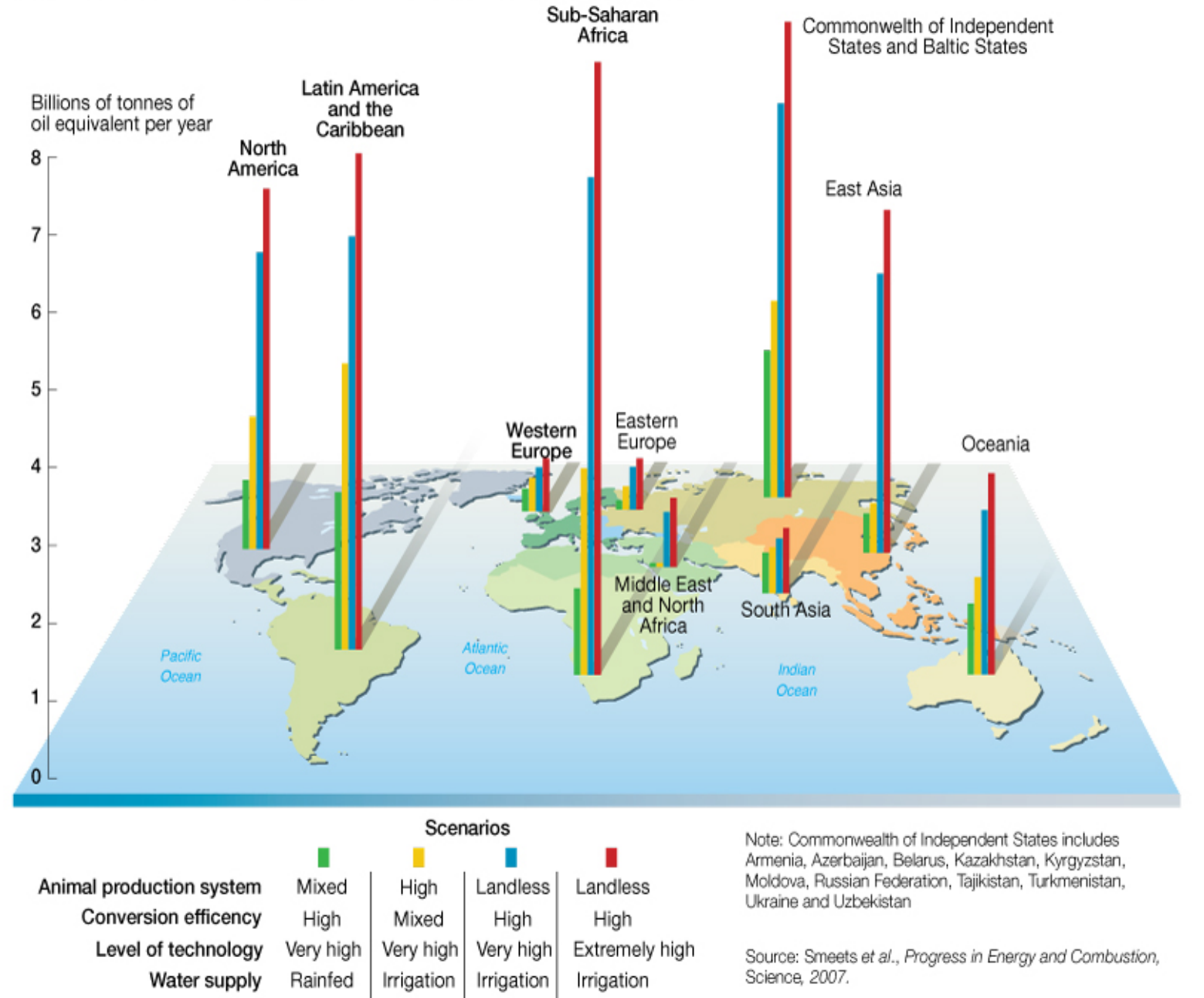
The answer to last quiz is We received few answers, but none was correct. The scientific name for mosquito larvae eating fish is *Gambusia affinis*.

If you know the answer, send in your entry to us at : [info@terrepolicycentre.com](mailto:info@terrepolicycentre.com)

## Quick Question



## World bioenergy technical potential in 2050



Credit: GRID Arendal  
For more information: [http://www.grida.no/graphicslib/detail/world-bioenergy-technical-potential-in-2050\\_8e1e](http://www.grida.no/graphicslib/detail/world-bioenergy-technical-potential-in-2050_8e1e)

# World bioenergy technical potential in 2050

STUDIES INDICATE THAT GLOBAL BIOENERGY USE IS APPROXIMATELY 10 PERCENT OF THE GLOBAL ENERGY MIX, WITH A GROWTH RATE OF 1.3 PERCENT PER YEAR. FUTURE PROJECTIONS FOR THE SUPPLY OF BIOENERGY ARE SHOWN IN THE FIGURE. THE ANALYSIS IS BASED ON FOUR SCENARIOS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS, BASED ON TECHNICAL POTENTIALS THAT DIFFER DEPENDING ON AGRICULTURAL EFFICIENCY, PRODUCTION SYSTEMS, TECHNOLOGY AND WATER SUPPLIES. THE SCENARIOS SPAN A WIDE RANGE OF GLOBAL BIOENERGY POTENTIALS, AND EXPERTS ARGUE THAT THE HIGH-END PROJECTIONS PLAY DOWN TECHNICAL CONSTRAINTS SUCH AS AVAILABLE LAND OR REALISTIC YIELDS. IT SEEMS THE POTENTIAL OF BIOENERGY CROPS IS AT THE LOWER END OF THE RANGE AND IS ASSOCIATED WITH INTEGRATED OPTIMISATION. RESEARCHERS SAY THAT FUTURE CAPACITIES OF BIOENERGY, AND BIOFUELS IN PARTICULAR, LIE IN RESIDUES FROM AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY.





### Israel Bombards Hamas Symbols, Power Plant in Gaza

Israeli forces pounded Hamas symbols of control and Gaza's only power plant in one of the heaviest bombardments in the three-week conflict, trying to raise pressure on the Islamist group to accept Israel's terms for a cease-fire.

A strike early Tuesday engulfed the power plant in flames, forcing it to shut down and leaving many of the Palestinian territory's 1.8 million people without electricity. To Gazans, the attack on such a vital lifeline seemed aimed at weakening Palestinian support for the extended conflict both sides say they are ready to fight.

[Http://online.wsj.com/articles/israel-pounds-hamas-infrastructure-in-gaza-1406625853](http://online.wsj.com/articles/israel-pounds-hamas-infrastructure-in-gaza-1406625853)

### U.S. GMO crop companies double down on anti-labeling efforts

One year after the launch of a social media effort to allay consumers' concerns about the safety of foods made from genetically modified crops, U.S. companies that develop GMOs have further committed to a multimillion-dollar campaign to defeat attempts to add GMO labels to such foods.

"We are not going to sit down for that (labeling)," Cathleen Enright, spokeswoman for the effort, said in an interview. "We want people to know how their food is grown ... we support a right to know. It is the mechanism that we can't abide."

[Http://in.reuters.com/article/2014/07/29/us-usa-gmo-labeling-idINKBN0FY1J720140729](http://in.reuters.com/article/2014/07/29/us-usa-gmo-labeling-idINKBN0FY1J720140729)



### Australia scraps carbon tax: Tony Abbott makes his country a 'global pariah' after legislation is passed by Senate

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[Http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/australia-scraps-carbon-tax-tony-abbott-makes-his-country-a-global-pariah-after-legislation-is-passed-by-senate-9613291.html](http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/australia-scraps-carbon-tax-tony-abbott-makes-his-country-a-global-pariah-after-legislation-is-passed-by-senate-9613291.html)

### Was Six-Million-Year-Old Turd Auctioned for \$10,000 a Faux Poo?

This past Saturday, a private collector paid \$10,370 at auction for what was touted as a six-million-year-old turd. Billed in the auction house catalog as fossil feces measuring "an eye-watering 40 inches in length" and believed to be "possibly the longest example of coprolite ever to be offered at auction"—the squiggle certainly looked the part. News services from NPR to the Daily Mail commented on the impending sale of such a singular piece of prehistory. But looks can deceive.

The item in a sale held by I. M. Chait in Beverly Hills, California, came from the Wilkes Formation in southwestern Washington State. These Miocene sites preserve what's left of a roughly six-million-year-old swamp, replete with plant material as well as peculiar lumps of mineral that are often appraised as coprolites—the scientific word for fossilized dung—by fossil dealers. They suspect that turtles, crocodiles, and mammals deposited the ancient scat.

[Http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2014/07/140729-dinosaur-coprolite-paleontology-dung-fossil-auction/](http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2014/07/140729-dinosaur-coprolite-paleontology-dung-fossil-auction/)



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