

# HARIT KHABAR

April, 2022



Once commonly spotted, the House Sparrow is a rare find today! Know more about the current state of this bird on page 3.



An initiative of HCL Foundation and World Comics India





## Organic Farming is the Natural Farming



Photo: iStock

Organic farming is a style of farming that does not utilise artificial pesticides or manures. Instead, the entire functioning depends on natural pest controls and natural manures based on animal and plant waste material such as cow dungs and neem leaves. Such a type of farming is not new to mankind. It was the most frequent method of farming prior to the advent of artificial pesticides and manure in the 1950s and 1960s.

Modern organic farming has been introduced to counter the environmental damage caused by the usage of chemical fertilisers and pesticides. The benefits of organic farming are reduced soil erosion, no chemical leaching into the surface and groundwater, etc.

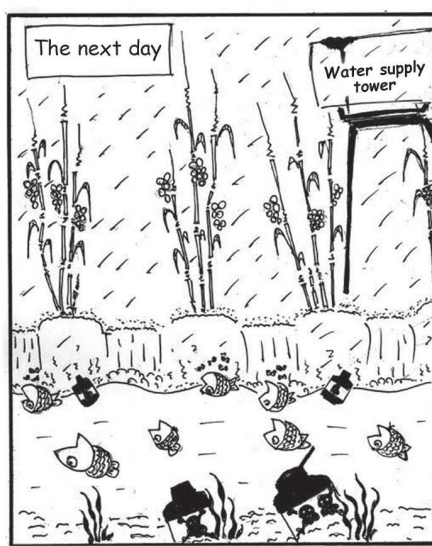
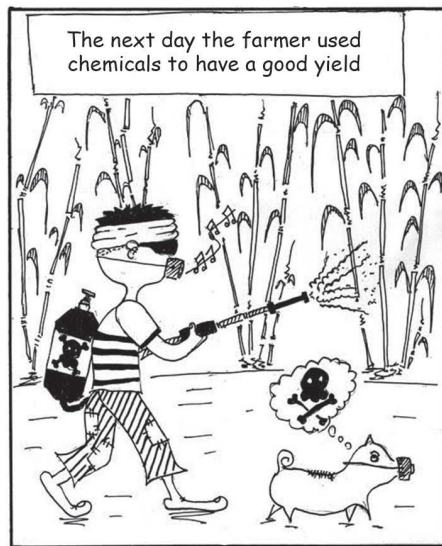
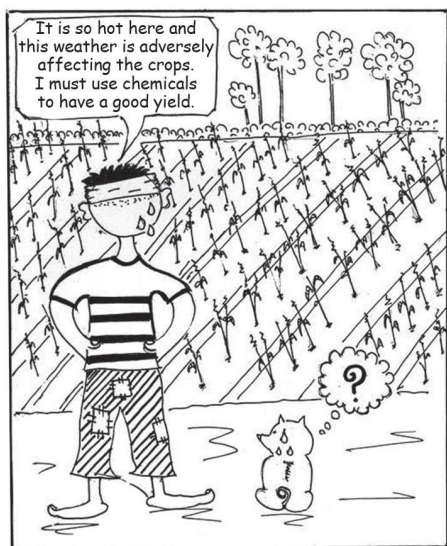
Through conventional farming which includes the usage of artificial pesticides and manures, a large quantity of yield is produced as it is designed to feed the masses. Contrary to this, with organic farming, large quantities of crops cannot be produced. This is why the price of organic products is much higher than ordinary products.



## CHEMICALS



(Ekkasit In-gram)



### Sikkim: 100% organic

Sikkim is the only Indian state with 100% organic farming activities. The state achieved this goal in 2016 and has continued to be on the organic track for the past many years. Starting this transition in 2003, all the farming activities of the state are done without any unnatural or chemical interference. The state has also banned the use and sale of chemical pesticides and fertilizers.

In 2018, Sikkim also won the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) Future Policy Gold award. The announcement with the award mentioned "Sikkim is the first organic state in the world. All of its farmland is certified organic. At the same time, Sikkim's approach reaches beyond organic production and has proven truly transformational for the state and its citizens."



Photo: iStock

Parallel with this, the number of tourists has drastically increased in the state as between 2014 to 2017 the state witnessed a jump of 50% more tourist visits. Organic farming, pleasant weather and beautiful landscape have helped Sikkim in getting more tourism.

### Blessing after disguise for Maharashtra farmers

The Maharashtra government, in the backdrop of a seed germination failure that happened two years ago, is now incentivising farmers to grow a second crop during the rabi season. This move has helped farmers across the state in increasing their incomes.

Dattatreya Doke, a farmer from the Dokewadi village in Bhum taluka of Osmanabad chose to grow soybean as a second crop in the rabi season (sown in December and harvested after April). Doke credited and thanked the state agriculture department's services and guidance which motivated him and other farmers in the village to grow soybean as a second crop.

Doke, today has 42 quintals of the soybean crop to sell at a time when the wholesale crop market prices in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh are proving high returns for the harvest. Doke can easily get Rs 7,200 to 7,500 per quintal when the minimum support price for the soybean crop is just Rs 3,950 per quintal.

Source – Indian Express



Photo: iStock

### Climate change affecting yield? We got you covered says Kerala Government

Taking into account how climate change and global warming are adversely impacting farmers, the Spice Board for Small Cardamom has introduced weather-based insurance as a supportive initiative. This type of insurance can help farmers in getting claims if their crop gets ruined because of bad weather conditions. The aim behind an initiative like this is to help farmers and make India a major cardamom supplier to the world.

"Climate change and global warming are more threatening than war and that's the biggest challenge for the farmers today. We should be more serious about climate change and the weather-based insurance introduced by the Spices Board for small cardamom is an encouraging initiative in shielding the farmers from such catastrophe," Kerala Agriculture Minister P Prasad mentioned at an event in Kochi in March.

Photo: iStock



## Swiftly Disappearing House Sparrows

It is safe to say that sparrows are the first birds that we started to recognise when we were growing up as we saw many of them in our streets and called them 'Gauraiya'. Sparrows have always considered humans as their friends and the relationship between humans and sparrows dates back 11,000 years, according to a 2018 Royal Society of London report.

Today House Sparrow is on the verge of extinction and listed on the red list of endangered species of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). 'According to some studies, the sparrow population in the country has decreased by 80% in the last three decades', said the deputy director of the Bombay Natural History Society, Vibhu Prakash in an interview with TOI.



Photo: iStock

### How did we reach here?

House sparrow populations are declining due to the unfriendly architecture, toxic fertilisers in our crops, noise pollution that disrupts acoustic ecology, and poisonous exhaust fumes from vehicles according to conservationists. Although there is no solid evidence that the digital revolution has contributed to their declining population, common people believe it to be no accident that the house sparrow began to vanish in the late 1990s, when mobile phones were introduced to India. In light of its declining population, several steps like celebrating **World Sparrow Day** have been taken to raise awareness about the protection of sparrows. The day was first introduced in 2010 by the Nature Forever Society of India and the Eco-Sys Action Foundation of France and is observed on 20th March every year since then. The theme for 2022 World Sparrow Day is "I Love Sparrows".

## Learn Nest-making with the Nest Man of India

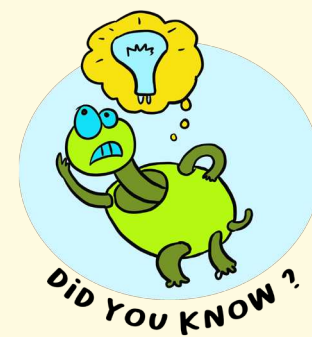


A joint programme of the **HCL Foundation** and **Eco Roots Foundation** called 'Green Window', has proved to be a significant step towards environmental protection and conservation. In preparation for World Sparrow Day 2022, many nest-making workshops were conducted under the 'Green Window' programme in the past year. These workshops were conducted in different schools where students and teachers were taught the simple art of nest making by the Nest Man of

India, Mr Rakesh Khatri. During these workshops, a total of 500 nests were made and children were happy to see sparrows coming to inhabit the nests made by them.

"Everyone must make at least one nest in their life and place it for the birds to inhabit. It is a beautiful feeling to provide someone with a home", Mr Rakesh Khatri said.

### 'Sweet Sparrow Come Back Home'



Kanpur man Gaurav Bajpai with the help of volunteers installed 7,500 wooden nests for sparrows around the city to provide healthy and protective nests to the sparrows. Volunteers started to plant nests around the city in 2014.

"Till now, we have placed around 7500 wooden nests and due to which 70,000-80,000 sparrows have increased in the city," a volunteer said in an interview with ANI.

## A Noble Initiative

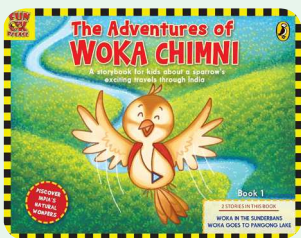
SUMAN CHANDRA RAIZABAD  
ABRC



## Engaging Children's Books To Read On World Sparrow Day

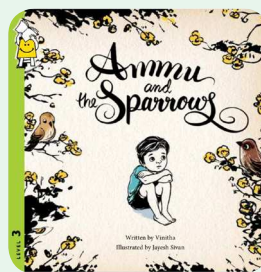
To engage yourself with stories around sparrows, here are four children's books to read

### The Adventures Of Woka Chimni by Preeti Vyas



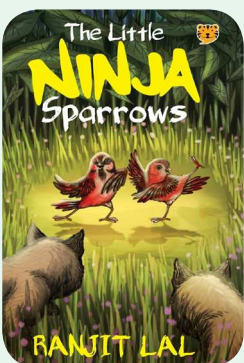
Here Woka Chimni, a cheerful house sparrow from Mumbai, flies and travels to beautiful and natural places throughout India. Woka's love for India and travelling is beautifully depicted through the stories in the book.

### Ammu And The Sparrow by Vinitha R



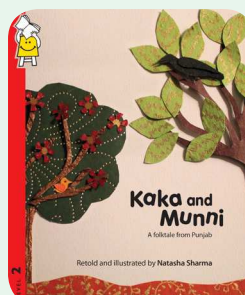
Ammu starts to live with his grandmother, where he gets surrounded by beautiful sparrows. His grandmother teaches him how to feed sparrows with a feeder and how to look after them.

### The Little ninja sparrows by Ranjit Lal



This is a story about two little sparrows that refuse to learn how to fly. They discover the world is a cruel and unkind place. They get trapped and put in a cage. Later they are rescued by an innocent little girl.

### Kaka And Munni: A Folktale From Punjab by Natasha Sharma



The book retells the old folktale about the crow Kaka and the sparrow Munni from Punjab. Munni lays three eggs in her nest, and Kaka, the crow, tries to get those eggs as his meal. This story is about how bravely and beautifully Munni handles this threat from Kaka.

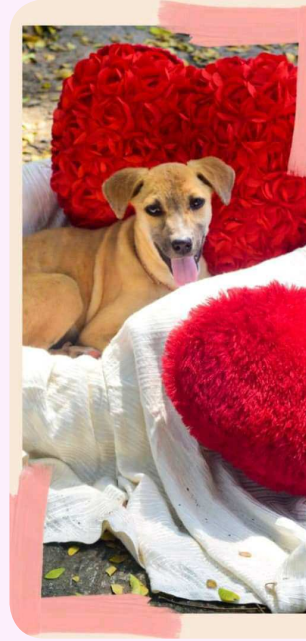


## Showing love to animals this 'Vaal N Tails' day



On Valentines' Day 2022, the **Humane Animal Society (HAS)**, an **HCL Foundation** partner organisation established an online virtual pet adoption campaign, 'Vaal N Tails.' The campaign aimed at promoting the virtual adoption of pets and adopting a pet as a whole. For this campaign, animals from HAS shelters and remote sanctuaries were available for adoption. All the dogs ready for adoption were rescued and treated dogs that are dealing with factors like old age, injuries and deformities.

Once you adopt the pet, you become their virtual parents. The thought behind this initiative is to help those people who want a pet but can't physically have one with them for diverse reasons. Any person who virtually adopts a pet can finance the care of the adopted pet for a period of time of their choice. In addition, virtual parents receive frequent news and updates about their pets and are more than welcome to visit and spend time with them.



GET INTO A LONG-DISTANCE RELATIONSHIP WITH ME

Adopt a furry friend VIRTUALLY!!!



To know more about VIRTUAL ADOPTION

Contact us - +91 93 66 12 72 15

## CUPA's Compassion For Cats

TRAP, NEUTER, VACCINATE AND RELEASE (TNVR)

### Cat Sterilisation

Bringing to you one of the largest sterilisation drives for cats in the country

- The Big Question Why Sterilize?**  
If you stay in a residential complex, it is likely that you might be struggling with a growing cat population.
- To book an appointment call our**  
CUPA OFFICE: 997244078
- write to us!**  
cupaprojects@cupaindia.org  
cupasecretary@cupaindia.org

Success of the project depends on how you come together as a community!

In January 2022, **Compassion Unlimited Plus Action**, better known as CUPA spayed 161 community cats in Bengaluru. The word 'spay' means to sterilize (a female animal) by removing its ovaries.

Spaying a female cat, particularly before their first heat, helps obviate uterine cancers, breast cancer and uterine infections. The same is in the case of male cats also as neutering (castrating) male cats

halts the chances of prostate problems and testicular cancer.

Mostly, spayed and neutered pets live healthier, happier and longer lives. This positive action from CUPA will help in preventing health problems these cats may face. CUPA is a non-profit organisation working towards rescuing animals and providing them with a better and healthy life.

## Beat the Heat with Blue Cross of India



The absence of pure and clean drinking water during the peak heat of summers leads thousands of stray animals and even birds to the verge of dehydration and ultimately to their demise. The Water Bowl Project of **Blue Cross of India** is an annual project to counter this problem. The project aims at helping homeless animals battle the relentless heat during summers.

In this initiative, Blue Cross plants water bowls at different places that can hold four litres of water. These bowls are made by local potters and are painted by Blue Cross volunteers with lead-free colours. As a charitable organisation working in Tamil Nadu, Blue Cross accepts donations like paints, brushes and money for more bowl making. One can also get a bowl from Blue Cross to help the birds and stray animals with water during peak summers by donating 130 rupees.

## Spay your pet with Humane Animal Society

### WHY SPAY & NEUTER YOUR PET?

- REDUCE SPRAYING & MARKING
- REDUCE ROAMING
- REDUCE AGGRESSION
- LOWER RISK OF CANCERS
- DECREASE OVERPOPULATION
- INCREASE LIFESPAN UP TO 3-5 YEARS

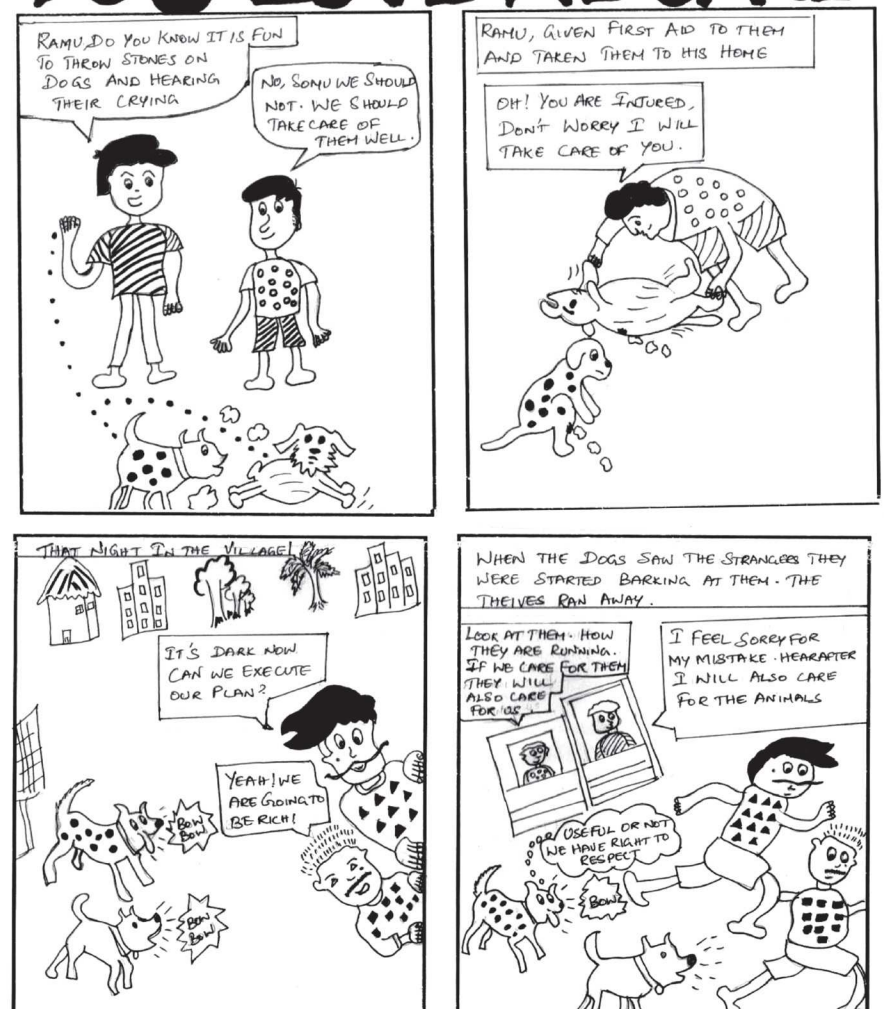
WWW.ILOVEVETERINARY.COM

Every year on the last Tuesday of February, World Spay Day is celebrated. On this day, **Humane Animal Society (HAS)** decided to dedicate and celebrate the whole month of February as Spay month. They used this time as an opportunity to raise awareness and recognise the significance of neutering and spaying. These awareness campaigns were carried out through social media and other online platforms. They also organised a live webinar on 22nd February which included a Q&A segment wherein HAS vets spoke with the audience to make them aware and bust myths about spaying and neutering.

## From Australia to West Bengal!!!

Two kangaroos were spotted near Gajoldoba by officials from the forest department of Jalpaiguri, West Bengal while patrolling around the area. This is a clear case of animal smuggling as kangaroos are only found in New Guinea and Australia. The animals are being trafficked because they are in demand in the illegal pet industry, said Jose Louies, the joint director of the Wildlife Trust of India's Wildlife Crime Control Division.

## YOU LOVE WE CARE



By  
Mrs. USHA SURENDRAR  
- HOPE FOUNDATION



## Treat Forests for Sustainable Production & Consumption

First being celebrated on 21st March 2013, the **International Day of Forest** has been gathering people's attention towards problems like deforestation, forest fires, and all other issues related to forests. The idea behind this day is to promote and protect all types of forests globally. On International Day of Forest, UN's Forum on Forests and Food and Agriculture organise events with local authorities on forest-related topics around the world every year and the theme for this year's International Day of Forest is 'Forests and Sustainable Production and Consumption'.

### Restoring forests in Meghalya this International Forest Day



HCL Grant Environment Category Recipient, **Wildlife Trust Of India** has been working to restore forest cover around the Bagmara-Balpakram in the Elephant Corridor of South Garo Hills, Meghalaya. Team of Wildlife Trust of India are empowering locals of the region for continued and more prolonged conservation efforts by creating Village Reserve Forest (VRF). After the complete restoration, around 150 hectares of village forest reserve will be rejuvenated and the reserved forest in the villages will nurture the native species of the region.

### A Tripartite Celebration!



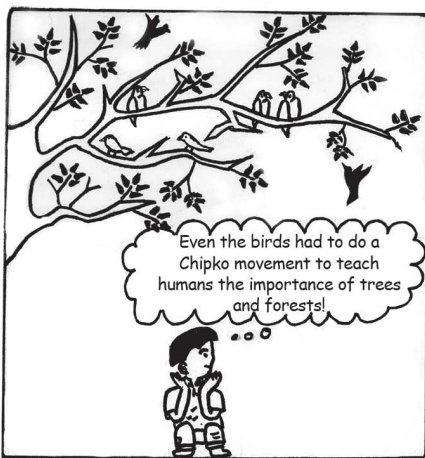
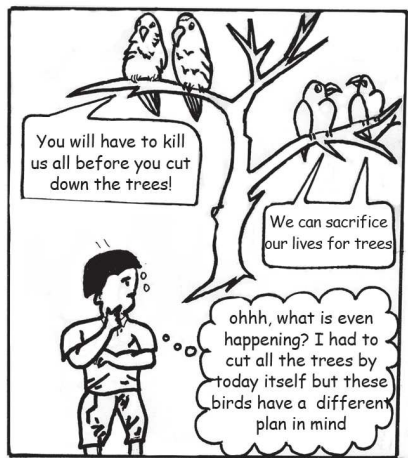
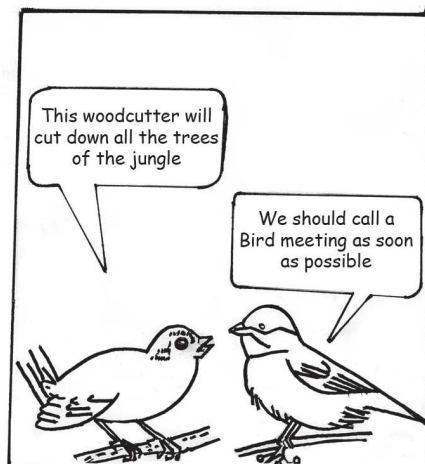
To celebrate the International Day of Forest 2022, the **National Mission for Clean Ganga**, HCL Foundation and **INTACH**, have planned to plant 2,500 Rudraksha saplings plantation in Uttarakhand (Garhwal and Kumaon mid-altitude regions). The joint project aims to treat the catchment of the River Ganga with a focus on improved livelihood generation sources

through afforestation and till date, 6,800 Rudraksha and 900 associated species have been planted across 27 acres of land.

This project was initiated in the backdrop of the significance of forests. All biodiversity and ecosystems of our planet can not exist without forests. Forests regulate the amounts of oxygen and carbon dioxide present in the atmosphere. They influence rain patterns and prevent soil degradation and erosion. They are home to about 80% of all terrestrial biodiversity and according to United Nations, around 160 crores of people are dependent on the forests for their livelihoods, medicines and more.

## CHIPKO

JYOTI RASTA-N&O



### Indian Forest Facts

- India's forest cover is spread across 8.09 lakh sq km. A total of 24.62% area of India is under forest cover.
- 17 states and union territories have more than 33% of their geographical area under forest cover.
- Madhya Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Chattisgarh, and Odisha have the highest percentage of the geographical area under forest cover.
- Andhra Pradesh is the state with the highest increase in forest cover recently, as forest area of 647 sq km increased in the state.
- Arunachal Pradesh is the state with the most reduced forest area recently according to Forest Report 2021. As per the report, the state lost 257 sq. km of forest in the past two years.

Source – Forest Report 2021

## Bhutan: A Carbon Negative Country

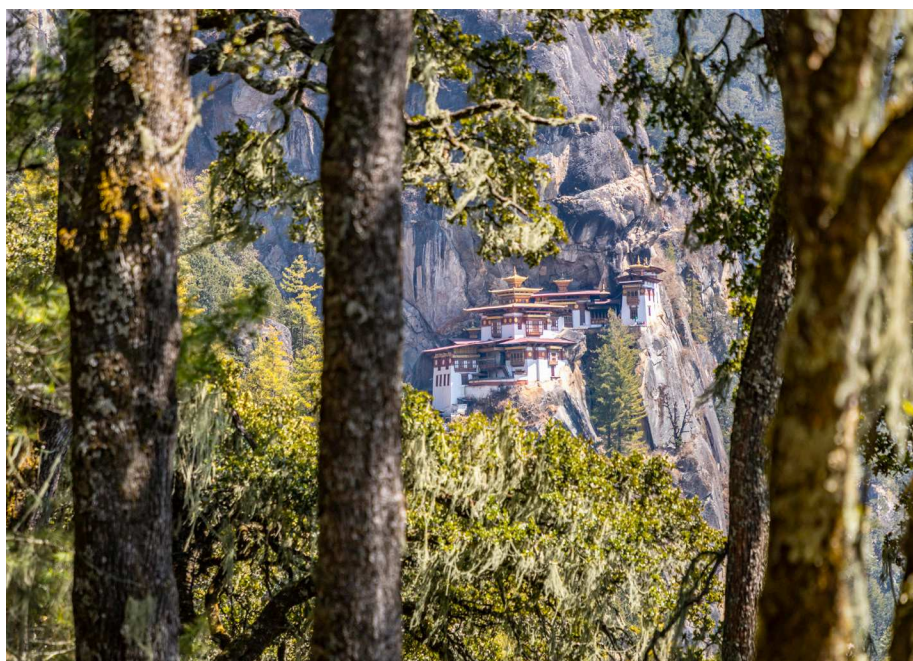


Photo: iStock

It is no coincidence that Bhutan, a carbon-negative country, is also the greenest country in the world with 70% of its land under forest cover. According to the Intergovernmental Panel On Climate Change (IPCC) 2018 report, Bhutan's net carbon emission is 2.2 million tons per year, but due to its heavy forest cover, it absorbs three times the amount of carbon dioxide it produces, which makes it a carbon sink. The country has planned its forest cover and infrastructure in such a way that all the wildlife can roam safely and freely throughout the country.

Bhutan has established itself as a nation based on these four pillars: environmental protection, culture preservation, sustainable socio-economic development and good governance. The country's constitution is solely formed around sustainable development as it demands that at least 60% of the total land of Bhutan should be under forest cover all the time. Bhutan charges every visitor \$65 to contribute to sustainable development. With rampant deforestation and rising temperatures all over the globe, Bhutan sets an example for the world to learn from!



## Groundwater - Making the invisible visible

Observed on 22nd March every year since 1993, **World Water Day** seeks to bring our attention to the significance of freshwater. With 2.2 billion people in the world with no access to safe and potable water according to the UN, World Water Day is a step toward raising awareness and taking action against the global water crisis. The theme of the World Water Day 2022 is Groundwater, making the invisible visible. Did you know that according to the UN and National Groundwater Association (NGWA), almost all of the liquid freshwater in the world is groundwater and India extracts the most amount of groundwater in the world? Considering the global water crisis, let us know more about the situation of Groundwater in India.

### Alarming Groundwater Crisis Of India



Photo: iStock

The reality around groundwater depletion in India is quite upsetting. Being the 7th largest and 2nd most populated country, India uses more groundwater water than China and USA combined. As per the Ministry of Jal Shakti, India extracts 393 Billion Cubic Metres of groundwater every year.

WaterAid analysed India's groundwater crisis in a detailed manner and noted that India is yet to adopt using treated water or any other water source than groundwater. Surface water received from the monsoon is hardly kept and stored for future use.

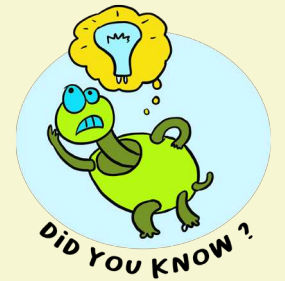
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Being the 13th most water-stressed country in the world, the groundwater levels in northern India constantly declined at a rate of 8 centimeters per year from 1990 to 2014 according to an aqueduct report published by World Resources Institute. Continuing on this, according to the Fifth Minor Irrigation Census Report, which is

published by the Ministry Of Jal Shakti the groundwater levels of India have decreased by 61% between 2007 and 2017 and of the total groundwater extracted, 89% was used in irrigation activities.

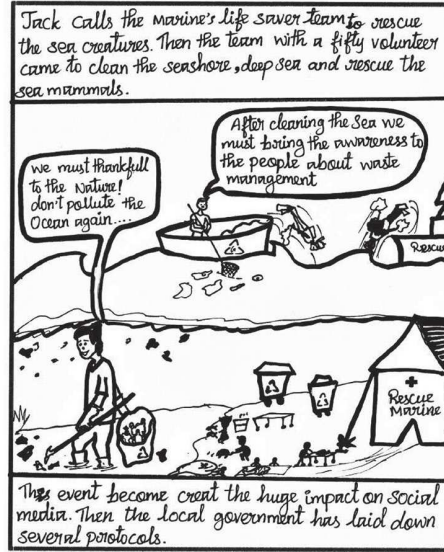
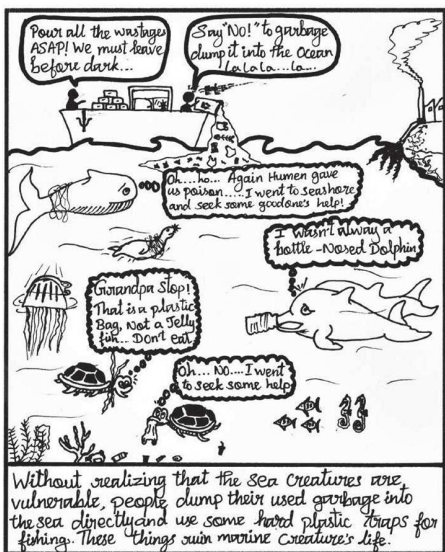
### Water Wastage Can Send You To Jail For 5 Years

According to guidelines from Central Groundwater Authority (CGWA), people wasting fresh, potable, or groundwater can encounter imprisonment of up to five years or a heavy fine of up to rupees 1 lakh or both if the person is not aligned with the structure made by local civic authorities to carry out the order. The notification came under Section 5 of the Environment Act to cope with the directions laid down by National Green Tribunal in November 2019. All this happened after a petitioner sought to make potable water misuse and wastage a punishable act in our country.



### SAVE SEA CREATURES'S LIFE

G.Karchana, MSW, Palvri, Dindigul District, Tamil Nadu.



### 'HCL Harit' - the way towards better water bodies



HCL Foundation, under their distinct flagship programme 'HCL Harit', has immensely worked towards improving water quality, water holding capacity and groundwater replenishment through water body rejuvenation and conservation.

Here are some achievements of the HCL Harit Programme:

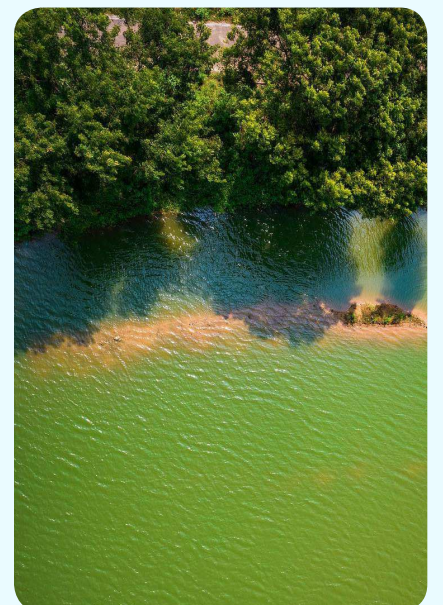
- More than 75 water bodies treated
- More than 2000 acres of water body area treated
- 120+ acres of invasive species patch eradicated from water bodies
- Around 5.4 billion litres of water holding capacity increased.
- 11 km stretch of Periyar channel restored in Madurai, which is an inlet to Vandiyur Tank.

### Siruthuli's Mission - Rejuvenate Coimbatore!

Siruthuli, an NGO operating in Coimbatore has worked extensively to revive water bodies around the city of Coimbatore. On the occasion of World Water Day, let us take a glimpse at their journey of rejuvenating water bodies.

Siruthuli has cleaned and desilted 13 out of 24 system tanks of Coimbatore, developed three percolation ponds, constructed more than 650 rainwater harvesting facilities and three check dams, and desilted 19 ponds. They managed to increase water storage capacity to 7 million cubic meters and cleaned more than 30 channels in the Noyyal River ecosystem.

"What started as a quest to restore Coimbatore's fast depleting water tables is now an ever-growing, much embraced and well-knit community of civic conscious citizens, green at heart. Change seekers who became the change. Who stops at nothing to ensure the world is a better place for the upcoming generations - an organisation, now a public movement!", Siruthuli mentioned in its Facebook post.





## Delhi: The Pollution Capital of the World



Photo: iStock

In the recently put out index prepared by IQAir of Switzerland, Delhi has managed to top the most air polluted capital of the world chart out of 92 capitals yet again. This did not come out as a surprise as Delhi has been topping the chart for the past three years. The index also notes that other than Delhi, 62 out of 100 most air-polluted cities are in India, and if we consider the top 15 air polluted cities, a staggering 10 cities are in India.

The level of air pollution is measured by the presence of the lethal and microscopic PM2.5 pollutants and according to the World Health Organisation, the safe limit for its presence is 5 micrograms per cubic meter. None of the cities in India met this level and the average presence of PM2.5 pollutants in India is 58.1 micrograms per cubic meter, more than 10 times the safe limit.

The number for Delhi goes even further to 96.4 micrograms per cubic meter, almost 20 times the safe limit. To tackle this serious issue, we would require systematic measures such as shifting to clean energy, waste management, a robust public transport network, etc. and individual efforts like cycling. Small efforts such as cycling will not only positively impact our health but can also prove to be a significant step towards climate action.

### Environmental Benefits of Cycling

- You contribute nothing to air pollution as you emit no greenhouse gases through cycling.
- The average cost of buying and maintaining a cycle is about 1% of the cost of purchasing and maintaining a car, so ultimately, you don't contribute to the dumping of waste vehicle parts that require dismantling or recycling.
- Cycling does not require big and wide road lanes or big parking spaces, so left spaces can be used for plantations or other activities.
- Adopting cycling as your way of commuting will help reduce noise pollution and congestion on roads as well.
- 290 gigagrams (Gg) of PM2.5 emitted by vehicles in India running on fossil fuels can cut significantly with the adoption cycles as the mode of transport.

Source – Queensland Government, DownToEarth

### Cycling Infrastructure - a welcome step



Photo: iStock

The government in Delhi is working towards improving the cycling culture and infrastructure as it will revamp 540km of city roads with cycling lanes under its new cycle sharing project. Also, the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) is establishing 16-km exclusive cycling lanes in Dwarka. In another new project for Delhi's Dwarka, DDA has plans to provide 5,000 bicycles and 250 docking ports. Similar projects for South Delhi are also in place, where 82 e-bike stations will be developed this year.

The idea of developing cycle infrastructure is influenced by many foreign cities like Paris, New York, London, Hangzhou, Amsterdam, etc, which have invested heavily in cycling infrastructure.

### Health Benefits of Cycling

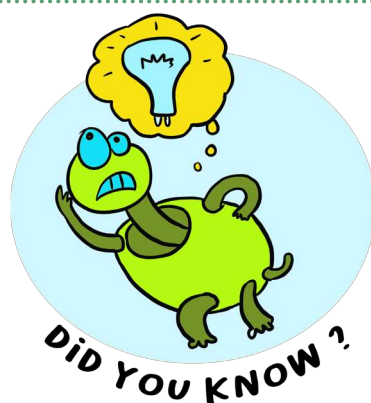
- Cycling improves your immune system.
- Cycle helps you to maintain your ideal body weight.
- Cyclists have significantly better lung health than others.
- It reduces the risks of developing heart diseases and cancer.
- Cycling directly results in a better mood and better mental being.
- Cycling to work is the best way to exercise without leaving any carbon footprint.



Photo: iStock

### First Cycle Highway of Asia

The first cycle highway of Asia was developed in Uttar Pradesh, India. It is truly state of the art and one of a kind project of recent times. The cycle highway is 7 feet wide and 207 km long, running between Agra and Etawah, connecting 92 villages. The project was developed by Uttar Pradesh Public Works Department.



### Hottest march in 122 years

Marching towards heat, the country broke previous records regarding rising temperatures in the month of March. According to a statement released by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), the average maximum temperature of 33.10 degrees Celsius recorded in March 2022 was the highest since 1900.



## Interactive Comics Exhibition opens up debate on Environment

The month of March witnessed two Grassroots Comics Exhibitions organised jointly by **World Comics India** and the **HCL Foundation** at two different learning centres run by **RASTA** NGO in Barola and Sarfabad, Noida.



Children read the comics and discussed about the environment in detail covering several key environmental issues such as rainwater harvesting, waste management, deforestation, etc.

The environment was lively at both the centres as 70 and 66 children participated in the exhibitions in Barola and Sarfabad respectively.



The exhibition aimed to popularise and illustrate the Grassroots Comics medium as a communication cum pedagogical tool, that can improve environmental education transactions at the primary and secondary levels of education. The exhibition at the Sarfabad centre commenced with RASTA staff members narrating their own comics to children. Ms Himani, Ms Asha, and Ms Shalini were extremely delighted to share their stories with the children.

The exhibitions were successful in raising discussions on the environment and concluded with World Comics Staff distributing grassroots comics format and copies of Harit Khabar to everyone present. RASTA staff members were elated and proud to see their comics published in the newspaper.



While reading and narrating the comics to all their fellow mates, they became the ambassadors of the comics as they could easily relate to the stories. The exhibitions helped in giving children an idea about various topics that fall under environmental action, and further children started to come up with their original ideas such as avoiding plastic, using jute bags and reusing plastic bottles to grow plants in them etc.

### Grammy to Environmentalist & Music Composer



Album artwork: Shashank Akella, Harris Backer

Ambassador at the COP14, Kej raised public awareness about the challenges of land degradation, desertification, and drought. Kej has been working extensively towards building environmental consciousness through music and his previous work 'Shanti Samsara – World Music for Environmental Consciousness' was launched at the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference by the Indian Prime Minister – Narendra Modi.

Former Environment Minister of India, Jairam Ramesh expressed that "We need more artists like Ricky Kej to take up the cause of the Environment in such an effective manner".

Ricky Kej, an environmentalist and a music composer, won his second Grammy Award on 3rd April in the Best New Age Album category for his masterpiece – 'Divine Tides' that he created with the rock-legend Stewart Copeland. The album includes nine songs and eight music videos that together reflect a resilient, sustainable and harmonious world.

Nominated as a United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Land

### Straight from the Artist

In his acceptance speech at the Grammy Award ceremony he said – "when we think about the world as one family the only thing that comes to our mind is living in peace within the human species, but we have to go further than that and we have to live in peace with all entities on this planet whether it is the animals, the wildlife, the forests, the elements of nature that is the water we drink, the air we breathe, the land we walk on." "Divine tides is all about co-existence," he said.



Photo: Ricky Kej

#### About the publication

HCL Foundation and World Comics India's collaborative initiative 'Harit Khabar' is a monthly newspaper that aims to educate people on environmental issues and challenges and raise community participation towards the cause of the environment. This publication has been launched to provide a platform to various partner organizations working in collaboration with the HCL Foundation's distinct flagship programme HCL Harit - The Green Initiative to showcase their work and accomplishments and also to create a network between them. Through Harit Khabar we aim to stir meaningful debates on critical issues concerning our environment and ecosystem, accessibility to environmental education and public participation in decision-making processes in the country.

#### About HCL Foundation

HCL Technologies implements its Corporate Social Responsibility agenda through its CSR arm, the HCL Foundation. Various flagship programs and special initiatives of the Foundation endeavor to contribute toward national and international development goals, bringing about lasting positive impact on people and the planet through long-term sustainable programs.

#### About World Comics India

Advancing Grassroots Comics as an alternate tool of communication to local communities, World Comics India has been continuously working for the past 20 years. Many successful mass campaigns have also been organized using this medium of communication.

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