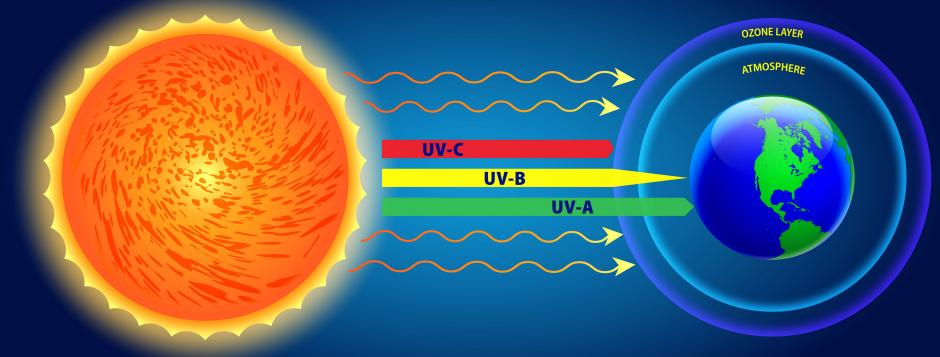


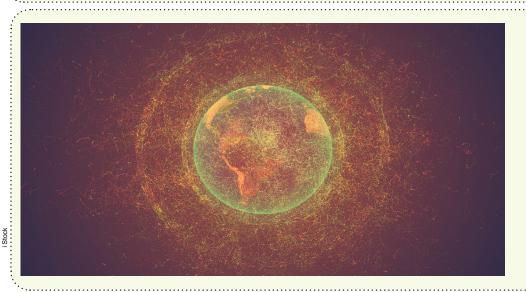
HARIT KHABAR





2025 Theme: "From Science to Global Action"

This theme reminds us how scientific discoveries can lead to global cooperation. In the 1970s and 80s, scientists showed that certain man-made chemicals, especially chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), were breaking down ozone molecules and creating a hole over Antarctica. In response, the world came together to sign the Montreal Protocol in 1987- a landmark international agreement in which almost every country pledged to phase out ozone-depleting substances. This was one of the first times humanity united for the environment, and it has become a model for global action on climate and sustainability.



Healing Ozone Layer May Add More Warming Than We Realized

A new study published in August 2025 in the journal Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics has found that the recovery of the ozone layer, while vital for blocking harmful ultraviolet rays, could contribute about 40% more warming to the planet than earlier estimates suggested.

The research, led by scientists at the University of Reading, UK, shows that ozone's greenhouse effect is stronger than previously thought, making it the second-largest driver of warming after carbon dioxide.

Harit Quiz

- 1. Which human-made chemicals are mainly responsible for ozone depletion?
- a) Carbon dioxide
- b) Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)
- c) Sulfur dioxide
- d) Methane
- 2. Which international agreement helped reduce the use of ozone-depleting substances?
- a) Paris Agreement
- b) Kyoto Protocol
- c) Montreal Protocol d) Basel Convention
- 3. The "ozone hole" is most prominently observed over which region?
- a) Arctic
- b) Antarctica
- c) Equator
- d) Northern Hemisphere
- 4. Which molecule absorbs the majority of the Sun's harmful ultraviolet-B (UV-B) radiation?
- a) O₂
- b) O_3
- c) CO₂ d) N₂
- 5. Which recent human activity poses a new threat to stratospheric ozone according to studies in 2024-2025?
- a) Coal-fired power plants
- b) Space tourism and large satellite constellations
- c) Ground-level vehicle emissions
- d) Plastic production

Answers: 1-b, 2-c, 3-b, 4-b, 5-b

Scientists Warn Rocket Launches Threaten Ozone Layer Recovery

Researchers from University College London (UCL) and ETH Zurich have raised alarms about the environmental impact of increasing rocket launches on the ozone layer. Their studies indicate that emissions from rockets and re-entering space debris could delay the recovery of the ozone layer, which protects Earth from harmful UV radiation. The surge in space activities, including satellite constellations and routine space tourism, releases pollutants that may significantly delay ozone recovery. Experts warn that without international regulations and cleaner propulsion technologies, the environmental consequences could undermine decades of progress in protecting the ozone layer



Floods Fury



Deadly Floods Force Over Two Million Evacuations in Pakistan

Severe monsoon floods in Pakistan have forced the evacuation of over two million people in Punjab and 150,000 in Sindh, killing more than 900 nationwide since late June. Heavy rains, worsened by climate change, have destroyed homes and farms, while rescue efforts face hazards including strong river currents that have claimed additional lives. Authorities and international agencies are providing relief supplies, but officials warn recovery and rehabilitation of thousands of villages and fields will take weeks. Pakistan has declared a climate emergency as the country grapples with recurring extreme weather and rising flood risks.

China's Monsoon Disasters Hit Millions

China's extreme monsoon season in August killed at least 122 people and caused nearly £2.2bn in economic losses, affecting over 10 million people.

Flash floods and droughts damaged roads, homes, and farmland across northern and southern regions, with meteorologists linking the severe weather to climate change.



Bali's Worst Floods in a Decade Kill 14

Severe floods in Bali, Indonesia, triggered by torrential rains, have killed at least 14 people and left two missing, marking the island's worst flooding in a decade. Authorities have declared a week-long state of emergency, warning that heavy rainfall and flash floods, worsened by poor drainage and climate change, continue to threaten the island.

Chemical Pollution a Planetary Crisis Now

Chemical pollution has reached a planetary crisis point, warns a new report by *Deep* Science Ventures, equating its impact with that of climate change. The study reveals

that millions of synthetic chemicals, such as plastics, pesticides, and PFAS, are now widespread in air, water, soil, and even human bodies. These substances, many of which are toxic and poorly regulated, have surpassed safe environmental limits and are linked to serious health issues including cancer and infertility. Scientists urge immediate global action to tackle this escalating threat to ecosystems and human well-being.



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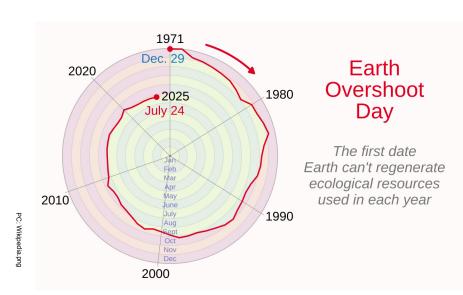
Black Grouse Return to North York Moors:



nearly 200 years, Black Grouse have successfully bred in the North York Moors following a landmark reintroduction effort led by the Game & Wildlife Conservation Black Grouse

Project. The success marks a major milestone in reversing historic declines, made possible through habitat restoration and predator

Earth Overshoot Day 2025 Arrived Earlier, Experts Call for Urgent Action



Earth Overshoot Day fell on 24 July this year, arriving eight days earlier than in 2024 and underscoring humanity's accelerating overuse of natural resources. Earth Overshoot Day is a day each year that marks when humans have used more natural resources than the Earth can regenerate in that year. Experts stress the need for urgent investment in sustainable solutions and emphasize that sustainability is now a financial necessity as well as an environmental imperative.

Global Plastic Treaty Talks Collapse **Amid Deep Divisions**



Talks in Geneva to finalize the world's first plastics treaty collapsed after 10 days, as more than 180 countries failed to bridge divides over production caps versus recycling. Over 100 nations pushed for limits and action on toxic chemicals, but oil and gas producers like Saudi Arabia and Russia resisted. With plastic production at 460 million tons a year and rising, less than 10% recycled, campaigners warn the failure leaves the escalating health, environmental, and climate crisis

On 30th August 2025, Coimbatore, Siruthuli convened a meeting with 35 local stakeholders and residents of the Singanallur project to emphasize their role in ensuring the long-term sustainability of the initiative. During the meeting, it was decided that a committee would be formed to monitor and address the issue of solid waste dumping near the project site, while members would also assist in ongoing project maintenance to support its growth. Additionally, the local community was provided with awareness on the critical need to enhance green cover in the area.



One Health Approach in Action

Recognizing the importance of the One Health approach in wildlife conservation and management, the Society for Wildlife Conservation, Education and Research (Wild-CER), in collaboration with HCLFoundation and Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR), recently organized two capacity-building and awareness programs for the frontline staff of the Maharashtra Forest Department. The sessions, held on 14th and 15th July at the Mohurli and Madnapur auditoriums of TATR, focused on "Diseases of Wildlife and Their Impact on Conservation, with Emphasis on Rabies and Canine Distemper." The key objectives were to familiarize frontline staff with the One Health concept, enhance their understanding of major wildlife diseases, and build capacities for managing rabies, canine distemper, and related threats in forest areas.



International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem

Raising Awareness



International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem was celebrated with he support of HCLFoundation Chinnagollapalem village, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh, and in the backwaters of Kovalam, Chennai. In Chinnagollapalem importance of

bioshield for the fishing community, whose lives and livelihoods are closely linked to coastal vegetation that provides vital ecosystem services such as shoreline protection and enhancement of fishery resources. In Kovalam, a large-scale mangrove plantation programme was conducted, planting 20,000 propagules of Rhizophora, Ceriops tagal, and Bruguiera gymnorrhiza with active participation from the local community.

Planting 10,000 mangroves

DRCSC marked World Mangrove Day under the project "Restoration and Rehabilitation of Mangrove and Social Forestry Ecosystem in the Coastal Sundarbans" by planting 10,000 mangroves across the Hingalgani and Patharpratima blocks. The celebrations also included sensitization and awareness

gaged local chayat representatives, and perfrom the fostering collective responsibility for protecting and restoring systems.



A Night of Moths at Harit Upvan Sorkha



To celebrate National Moth Week 2025, a Light Screening Event was held at Harit Upvan Sorkha, Sector 115, Noida, bringing together document local moth diversity. During the event, over 25 moth the rich and thriving biodiversity of the Harit Upvan Sorkha area.

Lessons in Conservation

In a recent awareness initiative by Development Alternatives, students and teachers from the Primary School in Sidipur village, Uttar Pradesh, participated in a transect walk to the rejuvenated ponds. Organized at the request of the

teachers, the visit aimed to highlight the positive impact of conservation efforts on the health of the ponds. action, encouraging students to actively contribute to maintaining sustainability, thereby fostering a sense of community responsibility for environmental conservation



Hariyali Teej: Celebrating Culture and **Water Conservation**

Hariyali Teej was celebrated in Karauli district villages, emphasizing the cultural and ecological importance of natural resource conservation during the monsoon.



Community members, along Bharat Sangh HCLFoundation, discussions, tree planting, and traditional rituals, reinforcing the link between cultural heritage and water conservation while fostering commitment to protect nature for future generations.

Mere Sapno Ka Talab Initiative

On 20 August, Aroh Foundation, with the support of HCLFoundation, conducted a community awareness program at Gulawati Khurd village, Dadri block, titled "Mere Sapno Ka Talab", to highlight the importance of pond conservation.



Supported by 10 HCLtech volunteers, the campaign included a jal chaupal with 30 community members, water quality testing, a plantation drive at the waterbody, and student engagement activities such as drawing and quiz competitions involving 40 students from Madhyamik Vidyalaya, fostering creativity and awareness among

GenCAN Launches Climate Literacy Challenge in Schools

As part of GenCAN (Generation for Climate Action), an activity-based learning session on climate concepts was organized across four government schools in Madurai.

The participating students are contenders in the National-Level Climate Leadership Challenge and are currently undertaking the first stage- Climate Literacy. Following the session, the students completed a climate literacy quiz to assess their knowledge and understanding.

Those who qualify will progress to the next stage- Climate Audit, where they will evaluate and measure the carbon footprint of their respective schools



Indian Akshay Urja Diwas at Harit Club Eco Corner



To mark Indian Akshay Urja Diwas, understood the critical role of clean where children learned the non-renewable energy sources and a greener tomorrow.

Harit Club Eco Corner at Police Lines, energy in ensuring a sustainable GB Nagar, hosted an event organized future. This was followed by a slogan by GEAG, with support from HCLF, and poem writing competition, in that combined learning, creativity, which students shared thoughtful and engagement. The program began and impactful messages on energy with an informative orientation conservation. The program concluded with the key takeaway: save energy, difference between renewable and adopt clean energy, and contribute to



Nurturing Nature: Hyderabad Students Craft Nests for Sparrows

As part of the HCLFoundation's Harit initiative, Eco Roots Foundation organized More than just a skill-building exercise, the initiative aimed to nurture values a two-day eco-friendly nest making workshop in two HCLFoundation-supported schools: Government High School, Sanathnagar, and Government High School, Langer House. The workshops saw enthusiastic participation from nearly 300 students, who not only learned the art of creating nests but also embraced the larger message of protecting sparrows and fostering harmony



of compassion, sustainability, and environmental stewardship among young learners. By engaging students in hands-on conservation activities, the program hopes to inspire a generation committed to safeguarding biodiversity. With the call to "unite for the little sparrow," the workshop emphasized that simple actions, like providing safe nesting spaces, can make a big difference in protecting vulnerable species and promoting coexistence between humans



Drawing a Greener Tomorrow



World Comics India (WCI) conducted a series of Environmental Education Comics Workshops across five schools in Noida in which a total of 200 students participated. These workshops aimed to creatively engage young learners with environmental issues through the medium of grassroots comics.

The sessions began with an introduction to comics and their grammar, covering elements such as panels, speech bubbles, captions, and sequencing, to help students understand the basics of visual storytelling. This was followed by a comics exhibition showcasing a curated mix of stories on diverse environmental themes.



Students also took part in a comics reading session, where they discussed the environmental concerns highlighted in the stories. Finally, the participants created rough visual sketches of their stories, which can later be developed into complete comics. Through this interactive process, the workshops combined environmental education with creativity, encouraging students to think critically and communicate meaningfully about ecological challenges.



49th HCL Day Celebrations Across India

The 49th HCL Day was celebrated on August 11, 2025 with an aim to plant 49,000 native saplings across India, uniting partners, communities, employees, their family members, and other stakeholders in action for the greener planet. The collective effort of 2100+ participants across HCLFoundation location including Gautam Buddha Nagar, Bengaluru, Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore,

Lucknow, Hardoi, Thoothukudi, Pune, Nagpur, and 24 North and South Parganas led to the successful plantation of 49,000+ saplings. HCLTech Chairperson Mrs. Roshni Nadar Malhotra joined in on the celebrations by participating in a biodiversity immersion exercise at Harit Upvan Greater Noida West. Upvan Greater Noida West.



Chennai, Tamil Nadu



Bengaluru, Karnataka



Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu



Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh

Madurai, Tamil Nadu



Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh



Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh



Pune, Maharashtra



Nagpur, Maharashtra



Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu

International Coastal Cleanup Day

International Coastal Clean-up Day (ICCD) is observed globally on the third Saturday of September with the aim of uniting communities to protect and restore marine ecosystems by removing pollution and debris from coastlines. Over the years, HCLFoundation has actively partnered with local communities, HCLTech employees, NGO partners, and environmental institutions to organize large-scale clean-up drives across India. These efforts not only contribute to environmental conservation but also foster a strong culture of volunteerism and community engagement.



West Bengal- South, 24 Parganas



Odisha - Puri



Andhra Pradesh -Kothapatnam

This global initiative brought together 9,466 volunteers including:



- 495 HCLTech staff



- 794 Coast guard



-58 Forest Department



-3254 students, and 1086 Local



- 7 Coastal Police & BSF



 - 25,367 kg of marine debris like plastic bottles, abandoned fishing gear, etc. were removed

The event raises awareness about marine pollution and emphasizes the urgent need to protect ocean ecosystems for future generations.



Tamil Nadu - Chennai



Karnataka - Honnavar



Ramanathapuram (TN)



Kerala - Cochir

GenCAN Camp Cum Award Ceremony



The 3-day GenCAN Camp and Award Ceremony was successfully held at Pachmarhi from 10–12 September.

Generation for Climate Action (GenCAN) is a 10-month national level climate leadership challenge for schools to reduce their carbon footprint, implemented by Center for Environment Education (CEE) in partnership with HCLFoundation. For GenCAN Phase II, a nature camp cum award ceremony was conducted in Pachmarhi, Madhya Pradesh in which 10 winner schools, 6 Students leaders and 10 mentor teachers were awarded for their meticulous efforts towards climate action. Compendium II highlighting the powerful climate action efforts of winner schools, students & teachers was also released during this event. As a part of the nature camp, 44 students and 16 teachers participated in the activities like nature walk, meditation, journaling, visit to an interpretation center and interactive sessions on climate adaptation, mitigation, and resilience. Overall, 2147 student leaders from 256 schools across 20 states/UTs were part of the 4-stage GenCAN challenges in phase II (FY 24-25).

The camp was filled with fun, nature-based EE activities, inspiring experiences, and meaningful exchanges, making it a memorable learning journey for all participants.





Climate Reporter Harit Champion

North India Battles Devastating Flood Belt After Monsoon Rains

A severe flood belt swept across northern India from the Himalayan foothills of Uttarakhand to the plains of Punjab, Rajasthan, Delhi-NCR, and Jammu & Kashmir following relentless monsoon rains and cloudbursts in August and September. Rivers swelled beyond danger levels, embankments were breached, and thousands of residents were displaced, highlighting the increasing impact of extreme weather events linked to climate change. Transportation networks were disrupted, vast stretches of farmland were inundated, and relief operations were carried out on a large scale to support affected communities.



Uttarakhand

A sudden cloudburst over the Kheerganga river triggered flash floods in Dharali village, Uttarkashi, sweeping away homes, vehicles, and trees. Landslides blocked more than 160 roads, complicating relief efforts, while the Indian Army, ITBP, and state authorities continue rescue operations. Red alerts remain in place as the Centre and Uttarakhand government coordinate to assist affected residents.



Jammu & Kashmir



Heavy rains caused the Jhelum river to breach embankments, flooding urban areas in Pulwama, Budgam, and Srinagar and forcing the evacuation of nearly 9,000 people. Rescue teams are aiding those stranded, while roads and infrastructure have suffered severe damage. Authorities have urged residents to stay alert as continuous rainfall raises the risk of further flooding.

Punjab

Record monsoon rains have submerged vast areas of Punjab, killing 52 people, least displacing over 400,000, and destroying crops, livestock, and homes. Farmers face massive upcoming



wheat sowing, while the state's crucial role in India's food security programme is under threat. Experts warn that climate change and poorly planned development are increasing the frequency and severity of such floods.

India's Bold Move for **Environmental Accountability**

India has introduced the Environment Audit Rules, 2025, aimed at strengthening environmental governance by mandating independent high-impact of and activities. Under these rules, certified auditors, environmental registered through a national certification process, will



assess compliance with laws like the Environment Protection, Air, and Water Acts.

Global Spotlight on India's Dugong Habitat

India's Dugong Conservation Reserve in Tamil Nadu has garnered global attention following its formal recognition by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) at the 2025 World Conservation Congress. Established in September 2022, this 448.34 square kilometer reserve in northern Palk Bay is India's first dedicated to



highlights the as a model for marine conservation, emphasizing its role in preserving biodiversity and promoting sustainable management practices.

listed as "Vulnerable" on the

The IUCN's endorsement

IUCN Red List.

India's Wetland Conservation Triumph



At the Ramsar COP15 Zimbabwe on July 31 2025, India presented conservation achievements, highlighting the rejuvenation of 68,827 small

wetlands in one year through initiatives like Mission Sahbhagita and Amrit Sarovar. The country also showcased the use of GIS mapping and satellite imaging for wetland inventory and stressed the need for sustainable lifestyles. India, with 91 Ramsar sites over 1.36 million hectares, now has Asia's largest and the world's thirdlargest network of wetlands.

Neelam

SayTrees



'Neelam didi," as she is affectionately called by everyone, hails from Dankaur village in Gautam Buddh Nagar. Once working as a daily wage laborer while raising her children, today she is nurturing nature itself, playing a vital role in transforming a barren patch of land into a biodiversity-rich habitat. Her journey began when Harit by HCLFoundation, along with Green Yatra (later taken up by SayTrees), initiated a CSR-driven afforestation and habitat restoration project on degraded land in Amarpura, Gautam Buddh Nagar.

In June 2010, Neelam started her work on a 12-acre site, supporting activities such as cleaning, fencing, site preparation, de-weeding, planting saplings, watering, protection, and documentation. For the past five

years, she and her fellow members have been deeply engaged in maintaining the site, while also assisting in flora and fauna data collection and documentation.

With over five years of hands-on experience, she can now identify more than 40 plant species, 10 bird species, 15 mammals, and numerous

butterflies and insects. Reflecting on her journey, Neelam shares, "This work has given me a new dimension in life, helping me grow both professionally and personally." She adds, "It has also brought me economic stability, unlike my earlier days as a daily wager." Today, Neelam continues to nurture nature with dedication, working toward a greener and more sustainable future.



Thirumani Venkateswaralu

M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF)



Mr. Thirumani Venkateswaralu, a 45-year-old resident of Yettimondipallipalem hamlet in Chinnagollapalem village, is a traditional leader and fisherman who depends on the coastal waters for his livelihood. With deep roots in his community and a strong understanding of local challenges, he has been actively involved in the implementation of a coastal conservation project for the past three years, working in close coordination with the M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF).

The project, supported by HCL Foundation, was introduced in Chinnagollapalem with the goal of strengthening coastal resilience through the establishment of a coastal bioshield, including mangrove and shelterbelt plantations. However, at the outset, the villagers were skeptical and hesitant to participate. Many misunderstood the intentions of the MSSRF team, fearing they were

forest department officials who might impose restrictions on their land or fishing activities.

Although the community was aware of the growing threats of shoreline

erosion, cyclones, and extreme weather events, there was little interest or motivation to take proactive measures. Recognizing this critical gap, Mr. Venkateswaralu stepped forward to bridge the divide between the project team and the villagers.

With clarity and conviction, he explained the objectives of the bioshield project and its long-term benefits for both livelihoods and the coastal ecosystem. Through continuous dialogue, he gradually earned the trust of his fellow villagers and persuaded influential community members to support the initiative. His leadership proved pivotal in mobilizing consensus, leading the villagers to pass a resolution to begin the bioshield work.

The village elders then met the Mandal Revenue Officer (MRO) to obtain the necessary approvals for planting mangroves and shelterbelt species along the coastline. Once the permissions were granted, the villagers allocated coastal land for the plantations and are now working closely with the MSSRF and HCL Foundation teams to implement the initiative. This collective effort, made possible through his leadership, has united the villagers and strengthened their resolve to protect both their livelihoods and the coastal ecosystem.



10 Eco Nook Harit Poster 11

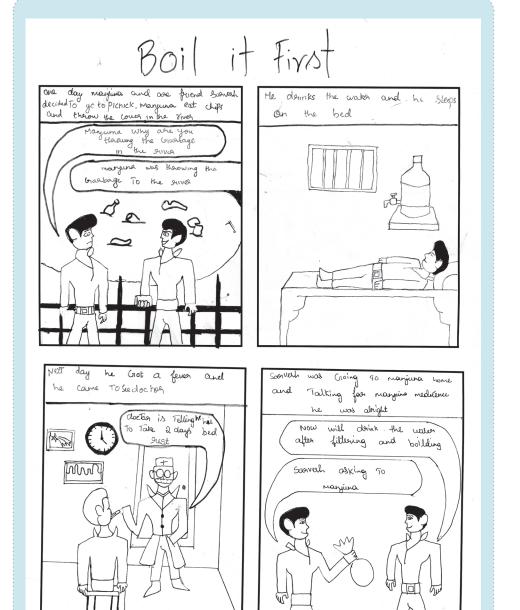
YES!! ITS HIGH TIME



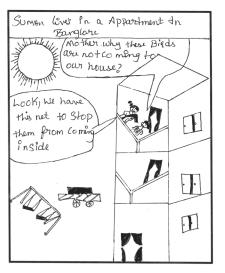




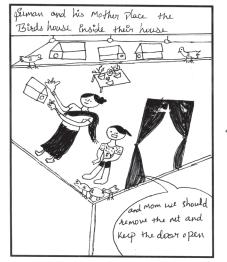


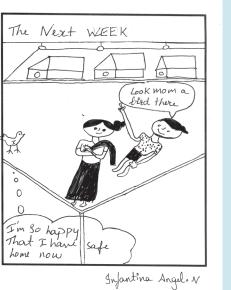




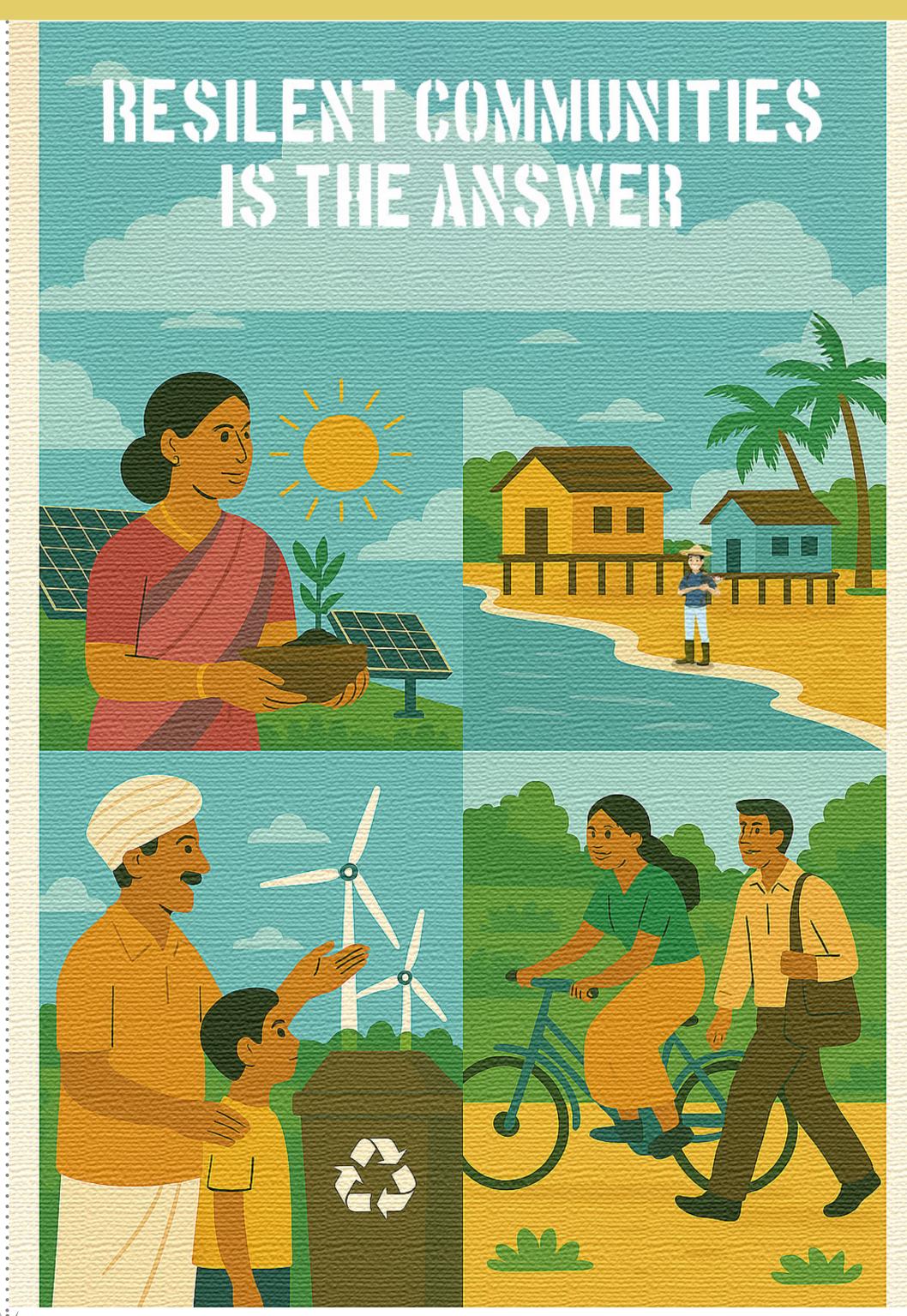












Movie Recommendation: Chasing Coral (2017)

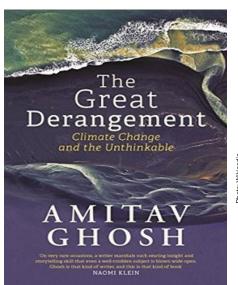


(Available on Netflix)

Chasing Coral is a powerful documentary that reveals the hidden impact of climate change beneath the ocean's surface. It follows a team of divers, scientists, and filmmakers as they capture stunning time-lapse footage of coral reefs transforming before our eyes due to rising sea temperatures. The film blends breathtaking visuals with human stories, making the global crisis of coral bleaching both vivid and deeply moving. A compelling watch, it reminds us of the urgent need to protect our planet's fragile marine ecosystems.

Book Recommendation: The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable by Amitay Ghosh

In this thought-provoking work, Amitav Ghosh examines why climate change, the defining crisis of our time, is so absent from contemporary literature, politics, and collective imagination. Blending history, culture, and personal reflection, Ghosh argues that our failure to grapple with the realities of a changing climate is not just political but also deeply cultural. The Great Derangement challenges readers to rethink how we tell stories, confront crises, and imagine a future in which humanity and the planet can survive together.



NATURE ALWAYS











H. KUSHAL

Harit Quiz

1. The Paris Agreement (2015) aims to keep global temperature rise this century well below:

a) 1.5°C

c) 3°C

b) 2°C

d) 5°C

2. What is the main reason wildfires are becoming more intense in many parts of the world?

a) Deforestation alone

- c) Too many tourists
- b) Climate change causing hotter, drier conditions d) Volcanoes erupting
- 3. Which Indian state is home to the Sundarbans mangrove forest, a **UNESCO World Heritage site?**
- a) Kerala

c) Gujarat

b) West Bengal

- d) Odisha
- 4. In India, the Chipko Movement of the 1970s became famous because villagers:
- a) Hugged trees to prevent
- c) Stopped hunting in forests
- them from being cut down
- b) Built mud dams to save rivers
- d) Campaigned against mining
- 5. Which environmentalist is known as the "Father of India's Green Revolution"?
 - a) Medha Patkar
- c) Sunderlal Bahuguna
- b) M.S. Swaminathan
- d) Anil Agarwal

Answers: 1-b, 2-b, 3-b, 4-a, 5-b

WORD J X K T A N A WNOMEOPUNCD OFAPLDAJOFO IOMLYFISHL CSCSUWLEADP HTUMHAONIH T O P A U X M L A N E A H O S T T L E Q T I B A R M U R K O P B TPOSEMATCR

About the publication

HCLFoundation and World Comics India's collaborative initiative 'Harit Khabar' is a quarterly 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 HCLFoundation's distinct flagship programme 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 HCLFoundation

HCLFoundation delivers the corporate social responsibility agenda of HCLTech in India through its flagship programmes and special initiatives. It is a not-for-profit organisation that strives to contribute towards national and international development goals, bringing about lasting positive impact in the lives of people, through long-term sustainable programmes.

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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