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Relevant Websites & Contacts

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EUROPEAN UNION MANAGED TO REDUCE ITS GREENHOUSES GAS EMISSION.

European Union (EU) has managed to reduce the GHG emission in the period starting from 1990 to 2015, without compromising on economic growth. This breaks the myth that there is a link between economic growth and GHG. This can be achieved through the political will which helps in policy making such as moving towards energy efficient appliances and practices and decision to adopt energy efficiency.

EU GDP had grown by 45% between 1990 and 2012, yet they have managed to reduce their GHG emissions by 19%. EU emission trading system also plays a significant role in reaching the emission reduction targets. 50% of the emission reduction was entirely accounted by Germany and United Kingdom. This was made possible due to thrust on energy efficiency, fuel switching from coal and oil to gas for electricity production in U.K.

Europe 20-20-20 strategy [target](#) for climate change and energy

1. Reducing GHG emissions by at least 20% compared with 1990 level
2. Increasing the share of renewable energy by 20% of the total energy consumed
3. Moving towards a 20% increase in energy efficiency

The largest decrease comes from manufacturing industries and construction, public electricity, heat production and household and services. The increase is due to road transportation and [Hydrofluorcarbon \(HFC\)](#) consumption in the industrial process. Emission due to international aviation and shipping have also increased.

Water pollution, made as a result of synthetic fertilizers— having nitrates and nitrogen-based fertiliser in agriculture, has been contained by the [EU Nitrates Directive](#). Reducing the use of fertiliser per cropping area and reducing the cropping area helped in reduction of nitrous oxide emissions from agriculture. Nitrate directive mandates member to establish monitoring stations to keep an eye on the nitrates level in surface water and ground water. In the period ranging from 2004 to 2007 66% of the groundwater monitoring stations have reported nitrates [level below 25 mg/l](#). Two-thirds of the monitoring stations in EU-15, the nitrate levels remain steady or shows a falling trend. 70% of the sites in EU-15 show stable or falling trend of nitrate level for the period between 2000-2003.

[Montreal Protocol](#) on ozone-depleting substance is a successful multilateral agreement that played an important role in reducing the GHG emission in Europe. Substances that are listed in Montreal Protocol happen to be potent green house gases. Banning consumption of CFC led to increased consumption of HFCs, and is regulated under the [Kyoto Protocol](#). Due to the increase in HFC consumption and emission, it becomes the second largest emission after CO₂ with the latter emitted from road transport. Since 1990, HFCs were the only greenhouse gases for which emissions increased and accounted for [2.6% of total EU GHG](#) emissions in 2014.

[Landfill waste directive](#) of EU stressed on the separate collection of waste, recycling and pre-treatment of waste, and landfill-gas recovery by the members of EU. This in-turn led to a reduction of methane emissions from the landfill. Germany and Flemish region have achieved the 2016 target of sending [not more than 35%](#) of bio-degradable municipal solid waste generated using 1995 as base-line year.

[Large Combustion Plant Directive](#) is instrumental in achieving lower emission of air pollutants and greenhouse gases. The Directive set limits on emissions for certain pollutions and encourages improvement in the efficiency of the plants while promoting a switch to cleaner fuels. As a result, since 2006 consumption of fossil fuels had decreased by 23.4%, while improving energy efficiency and promoting a shift from coal and oil to renewable energy. In 2015, SO₂, dust and NO_x emissions have decreased by 68.1%, 68.76% and 34.75% respectively from [2006 levels](#).

‘ILLEGAL MAP USED TO CLEAR PORT PLAN IN ENNORE CREEK’

The Tamil Nadu State Coastal Zone Management Authority (TNSCZMA) has used a fraudulent CRZ map to facilitate industrial activity in Ennore creek, allege activists. "Using this map, the TNSCZMA has diverted around 1,000 acres in the creek to facilitate a proposal by Kamarajar Port Ltd," said Pooja Kumar from Coastal Resource Centre, referring to RTI responses received from the Department of Environment, Tamil Nadu, and the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi on June 22.

On the allegation of using the wrong map, the member secretary, TNSCZMA, H Malleshappa said through the RTI response that he had furnished a map that was 'revised and approved by Government of India in 1997.' Malleshappa's response referred to a letter in 1997, in which the Government of India had permitted the TN government to revise the boundaries of Ennore creek, based on a survey by the Naval

Hydrographer. He was, however, unavailable for comments despite repeated calls.

A subsequent RTI response from the Department of Environment dated July 20, however, exposed that the Department did not approach the Chief Hydrographer to demarcate the backwater areas. "In 1997, the Department of Environment did not approach the Chief Hydrographer to demarcate the backwater areas," the response said. Further it revealed that subsequent to the letter dated 30.9.1997, no modification has been done.

Environmentalist Nityanand Jayarman from Save Ennore Creek Campaign said, "The RTI revealed that Malleshappa's claim that 1997 map had replaced the 1996 map showing the creek as a protected zone was false." Kamarajar Port Ltd, however, denied using either of the maps. "We use an IRS map given by Anna University in 2011," said a top representative of the port. This map, however, did not match with the

Government of India-approved map from 1996. Nityanand added, "The illegal approvals given for encroachments within the creek by the SCZMA puts nearly 1 million people at risk for disastrous flooding. The campaign will pursue criminal prosecution of the officials involved in the fraud."

The matter has been brought to the notice of the Environment Secretary, the Chief Secretary and the State Disaster Management Authority by Coastal Resource Centre. Already 1,090 acres of the 6,500-acre creek have been encroached upon. An additional 300 acres have been degraded by fly-ash discharged from North Chennai Thermal Power Station. Kamarajar Port Ltd, however, denied using either of the maps. They said, "We use an IRS map given by the Anna University in 2011," said a top representative of the port.

[The New Indian Express](#), July 25 2017

CPCB has issued directions under section 5 of the E(P) Act to the units for installation of Online monitoring system for strengthening monitoring and self regulation. Highly polluting industrial sectors, known as 17-categories of industries in the country, Grossly Polluting Industries (GPI) under Ganga Basin and Common treatment/ facility units are directed to install online monitoring devices.

INDIA WILL TAKE AT LEAST 6 YRS TO CAP EMISSIONS FROM POWER PLANTS

India wanted to cap toxic emissions from power plants by December. It's now discovering that target is at least 6 years from its reach. The Central Electricity Authority has asked for the environment ministry's December deadline to be extended, according to Ravindra Kumar Verma, chairman of the CEA.

"There's no way the present deadline can be met," Verma said. "We are very serious about it, but one has to consider that it's a very complex process. We have to maintain power supplies to people, which is our biggest priority. I am hopeful that the environment ministry will appreciate the challenges." The emission upgrades, estimated by an industry lobby group last year to cost as much as 2.5

trillion rupees (\$38.8 billion), have been delayed as power companies battle stressed finances and are under pressure to reduce costs amid an increasingly competitive electricity market.

"The industry needs a regulatory assurance that the costs can be recovered through tariffs," said Ashok Khurana, director general at New Delhi-based Association of Power Producers, an industry group that represents the interests of non-state power generation companies. "Without that clarity, no bank is going to fund these projects."

Ten of the 20 global cities with the highest level of PM2.5 – small particles that are the greatest health risk – were in India, according to data compiled by the World Health Organization published last year. Plants will need

to be shut down while installing sulfur dioxide control units, which requires coordinated scheduling to avoid any grid imbalance to ensure uninterrupted power supplies, Verma said.

"The industry needs a regulatory assurance that the costs can be recovered through tariffs," said Ashok Khurana, director general at New Delhi-based Association of Power Producers, an industry group that represents the interests of non-state power generation companies. "Without that clarity, no bank is going to fund these projects."

The delay is frustrating environment groups that are asking for greater urgency in the matter, citing the health hazards caused by coal plants in India.

[The Economic Times](#), July 21, 2017

BUILDING NEW COAL-FIRED POWER STATIONS SHOULD BE MARKET'S DECISION, TURNBULL SAYS

Malcolm Turnbull says it is better the market decides whether or not to build a new coal-fired power station in Australia rather than delivering that outcome through government intervention. The prime minister was asked at an economic forum in Melbourne on Thursday whether the government would intervene to see new coal plants constructed, or whether it would leave that decision to the market.

Nationals, including the deputy prime minister, Barnaby Joyce, favor the construction of new coal-fired power, or the retrofitting of existing coal assets to extend their operating life, and have tied the future of coal to the resolution of a new national energy policy following the Finkel review.

The Minerals Council of Australia is also campaigning behind the scenes in Canberra to ensure "clean" coal is in the mix as the government responds to

the Finkel review.

"There is an important role for government in energy policy, obviously, but the goal should always be for investment decisions to be made by the market, by participants in the market, on economic grounds," the prime minister said.

He said there were opportunities for various technologies to be supported, either through the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility, or through the Clean Energy Finance Corporation "but the aim has got to be I think, always, that you get the best outcome for consumers – and markets deliver that".

The prime minister's disposition in favour of a market solution echoes similar comments in recent weeks from the Liberal frontbencher Craig Laundy, who said the government was not interested in building new assets, and the energy minister

Josh Frydenberg, who has signalled the government will support coal-fired power if the market supports it.

The prime minister was asked on Thursday whether he favoured the central recommendation of the Finkel review – a new clean energy target – and he didn't provide a definitive answer. He said the government had asked for more analysis on the policy.

Some Liberals are still opposed to the clean energy target – and the internal dissent has delayed a resolution of the issue.

Given the delay in Canberra, the Labor states have taken a preliminary step towards going it alone on a clean energy target that would apply after the current renewable energy target ends in 2020.

[The Guardian](#), July 20 2017

ENERGY ECONOMICS GROUP SAYS EXPORT MARKET FOR AUSTRALIAN COAL WILL DECLINE

As Australia mulls the building of its biggest-ever export thermal coal mine, its biggest foreign buyers look set to reduce their consumption, driving down the price of Australian coal, and the profitability of its mines.

Japan, South Korea and Taiwan together buy about 30% of the world's exported thermal coal, including 70% of Australia's export coal.

China, the world's biggest buyer of foreign coal, is forecast to continue to reduce imports after reaching its peak in 2013. And India aims to virtually cease thermal coal imports.

In Japan, decreased electricity consumption and growth in re-

newable energy was dampening post-Fukushima plans of a boom in coal-generated electricity, Buckley said, with two proposed plants already cancelled in the first three months of 2017. That was likely to be the tip of the iceberg in the next few years, he said. In May, Taiwan updated its eight-year green energy development plan, which forecast a decline of one-third in its reliance on coal.

The election of president Moon Jae-in brings major changes to South Korea's energy sector, and comes at a time when Taiwan's president Tsai Ing-wen is also pressing for a radical electricity sector transformation.

"Seaborne thermal coal import

demand peaked in 2014 and is facing increasing headwinds. This is a structural decline reflecting the combined pressures of increasing climate policy actions, ever more cost effective renewable energy and growing air pollution concerns."

The news follows the release of industry-funded analysis suggesting the construction of Adani's huge Carmichael mine – which would be Australia's biggest-ever coal mine – would drive down the price of export thermal coal, reducing production from elsewhere in Queensland and in New South Wales.

[The Guardian](#), July 11 2017

The Paris Agreement is an agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) dealing with greenhouse gases emissions mitigation, adaptation and finance starting in the year 2020. As of August 2017, 195 UNFCCC members have signed the agreement, 159 of which have ratified it.

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Citizen consumer and civic Action Group (CAG) is a non-profit, non-political and professional organization that works towards protecting citizens' rights in consumer and environmental issues and promoting good governance processes including transparency, accountability and participatory decision making.

G20 SHARE OF GLOBAL POWER CONSUMPTION AND SHARE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY (RE) INSTALLED CAPACITY— GREENPEACE, 2017

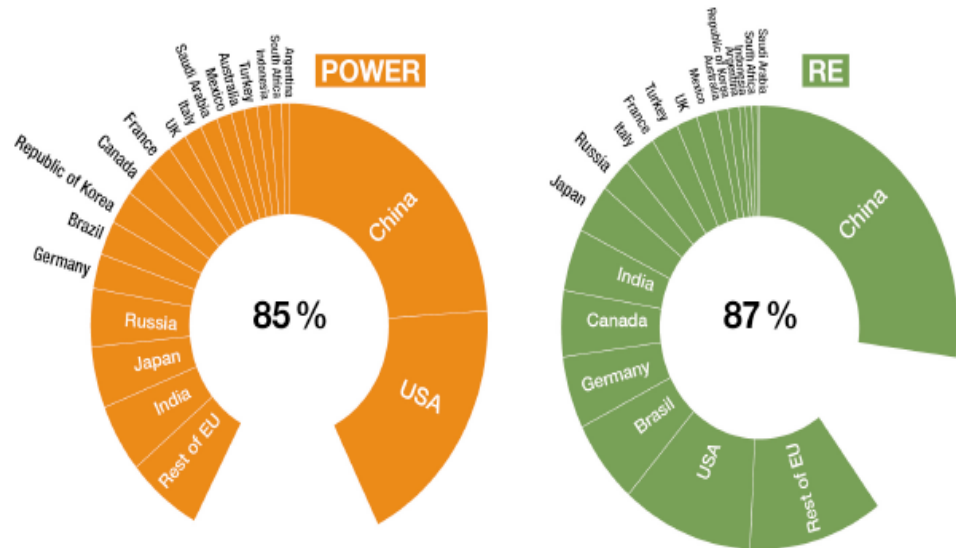


Figure 2: G20 share of Global Power Consumption and share of renewable energy (RE) installed capacity^{16,5}

REGULATIONS AND CASES

- Conservation Action Trust; Debi Goenka Vs Ministry of Coal & Ors, “Regarding shutting down of mining operations in mines where coal fires are currently burning with immediate effect”, 24th July 2017, [Click here](#)
- Gurcharan Singh Matharu Vs CPCB; Punjab Pollution Control Board & Ors, “Regarding industrial pollution caused by Matharau Chemical Industries”, 6th July 2017, [Click here](#)

PUBLICATIONS

- NITI Aayog, IEE Japan, (2017), “Energising India” [Online], New Delhi, [Accessed on 16 July 2017] [Click here](#)
- World Bank Group,(2017), “The Little Green Data Book”[Online], Washington, [Accessed on 16 July 2017], [Click here](#)

MISCELLANEOUS

- Too low to be true? How to measure fuel consumption and CO2 emissions of plug-in hybrid vehicles, today and in the future by International Council on Clean transportation, [Click here](#)
- Question raised in Rajya Sabha on Pollution from thermal power plant on July 24th 2017, [Click here](#)