

Environmental Science & Other Innovations

10 Years of Excellence

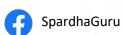
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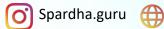


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Environmental Science & Other Innovations:

1. Environmental Science Innovations in India:

Circular Economy Focus by CSIR-NEERI: The **CSIR-National** Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI) continues its focus on the transformative power of the Circular Economy. This includes ongoing efforts in solid waste management and a planned brainstorming workshop in January 2026. CSIR-NEERI emphasizes decarbonization, naturebased solutions, resource efficiency, and green innovations for environmental and climate goals, collaborating with government, industry, and international organizations. They are actively involved in national priority programs Swachh Bharat Mission and river rejuvenation.

Persistent Organic Pollutants Monitoring: CSIR-NEERI has issued a call for nominations for a training program on "Monitoring and Assessment of Persistent Organic Pollutants in the Environment" scheduled for September 1-5, 2025, highlighting ongoing research and capacity building in environmental monitoring.

Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation: Recent current affairs highlight the intensifying humanwildlife conflict in areas like Chandrapur, Maharashtra, due to shrinking habitats and increasing wildlife populations. Innovations in this area include the deployment of AI tracking by forest departments to monitor wildlife movements and reduce conflicts.

Alarming Trends in Alien Plant Species: A report indicates that over 9,831 alien plant species are now established in the Greater Tropics, altering fire regimes and increasing atmospheric CO2, leading to ecosystem homogenization and biodiversity loss. This highlights the urgent need for interdisciplinary studies, strengthened regulation, monitoring, and early detection, especially in India, where alien species control would require significant investment.

Relaxation of SO2 Norms for Coal Plants: Controversially, the Environment Ministry has exempted 78% of India's coal-based thermal plants from installing Flue Desulphurisation (FGD) systems, which were previously mandated to control Sulphur Dioxide (SO2) emissions. This decision has implications for air quality, as SO2 is a significant contributor to particulate matter pollution.

Green Hydrogen Initiatives: India is actively pursuing its National Green Hydrogen Mission, aiming for an annual capacity of 5 million tonnes by 2030. Initiatives include a Green Hydrogen Scheme and Certification environmental clearance exemptions for green hydrogen and ammonia plants. Three key ports—Kandla, Paradip, and Tuticorin—are identified for development as Green Hydrogen hubs.

Sustainable MSMEs: The Indian government has launched new incentive schemes in 2025 to support MSME adoption of green technology. This includes subsidies on energy-efficient machinery, zero-interest loans for solar panel installation and waste recycling, fast-track environmental clearances, and carbon credit support. Industries like textiles, leather, agroprocessing, packaging, and food are leading in green adoption.

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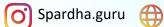


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2. Other Innovations (Technology, Space, etc.):

IBM Launches Power11 in India (AI-Ready Servers): IBM today launched its most advanced Power server, Power11, in India. This new server is purpose-built for enterprise AI, offering real-time ΑI inferencing, high reliability, and seamless hybrid deployment. It also emphasizes reduced energy consumption and IT costs, aligning with sustainability goals. IBM Power11 will be generally available from July 25, 2025.

India to Host Karman Week 2025 (Space & Earth Intelligence): Bangalore, India, will host "Karman Week 2025," a flagship event of The Karman Project, a global foundation for peace and cooperation in space. Hosted by SatSure (an Earth Intelligence company), the event will highlight India's leadership in public-private climate-focused space partnerships, applications, and international cooperation, particularly in space data and AI for global challenges like agriculture and resilience. This marks a significant moment for India's growing private space sector.

"Secure Bharat Mission" for Digital Future with **AI and Zero Trust:** A high-level conference, the "Secure Bharat Mission," is being held today in New Delhi, focusing on strengthening India's digital future with AI and Zero Trust security. The conference aims to examine India's preparedness in navigating the complex cybersecurity landscape, particularly within the public sector and telecom ecosystem. Key themes include leveraging AI for enhanced network security and adopting Zero Trust models.

L&T Technology Services in John Deere Supplier Hall of Fame: L&T Technology Services (LTTS) has been inducted into the John Deere Supplier Hall of Fame for five consecutive years of excellence in the Mobility segment. This recognition highlights their engineering solutions, expertise digital product simulation, embedded software development, cost management, indicating strong innovation in the engineering services sector.

National Cooperative Policy 2025: Union Minister Amit Shah is set to announce a new National Cooperative Policy on July 24, 2025. Prepared by a 48-member committee, this policy aims to revive and modernize the cooperative sector for the next two decades (2025-2045), enhancing its role in achieving a "Viksit Bharat" by 2047.

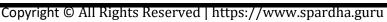
Growth): AI-Powered Search (Perplexity Perplexity, an AI-driven search company led by Indian CEO Aravind Srinivas, has seen rapid growth, reaching an \$18 billion valuation by July 2025. It recently partnered with Bharti Airtel to bring Perplexity Pro to 360 million Indian users, demonstrating the massive adoption of AI innovations in India. Its new AI browser, Comet, redefines user expectations of online assistance.

Ecopreneur Honours: The Times of India is organizing "Ecopreneur Honours" on August 4, 2025, to celebrate individuals, startups, and corporates who are making significant contributions sustainability to environmental conservation through business and technology. This initiative aims to recognize changemakers in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, zero-waste living, and water conservation.

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MCQS

- 1. Which concept is CSIR-NEERI actively focusing on for solid waste management and environmental goals?
- a) Linear Economy
- b) Circular Economy
- c) Disposable Economy
- d) Industrial Economy

Answer: b) Circular Economy

The text "The states, **CSIR-National** Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI) continues its focus on the transformative power of the Circular Economy."

- 2. What technology are forest departments deploying to mitigate human-wildlife conflict in areas like Chandrapur, Maharashtra?
- a) Remote sensing satellites
- b) AI tracking
- c) Traditional traps
- ru Id) Sound deterrents to Limited

Answer: b) AI tracking

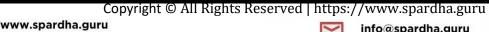
The text mentions, "Innovations in this area include the deployment of AI tracking by forest departments to monitor wildlife movements and reduce conflicts."

- 3. According to a recent report, approximately how many alien plant species are now established in the Greater Tropics?
- a) Over 1,000
- b) Over 5,000
- c) Over 9,800
- d) Over 15,000

Answer: c) Over 9,800

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The text states, "A report indicates that over 9,831 alien plant species are now established in the Greater Tropics..."

- 4. What percentage of India's coal-based thermal power plants has the Environment Ministry controversially exempted from installing Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) systems?
- a) 25%
- b) 50%
- c) 78%
- d) 90%

Answer: *c*) 78%

The text mentions, "the Environment Ministry has exempted 78% of India's coal-based thermal power plants from installing Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) systems..."

- 5. What is India's National Green Hydrogen Mission's aim for annual green hydrogen capacity by 2030?
- a) 1 million tonnes
- b) 2 million tonnes
- c) 5 million tonnes
- d) 10 million tonnes

Answer: c) 5 million tonnes

The text states, "India is actively pursuing its National Green Hydrogen Mission, aiming for an annual capacity of 5 million tonnes by 2030."

- 6. Which company today launched its Power11, a new AI-ready server, in India?
- a) Google
- b) Microsoft
- c) IBM
- d) Amazon

Answer: c) IBM

The headline states, "IBM today launched its most advanced Power server, Power11, in India."

- 7. Which city in India will host "Karman Week 2025," a flagship event focusing on space and Earth intelligence?
- a) New Delhi
- b) Mumbai
- c) Bangalore
- d) Chennai

Answer: c) Bangalore

The text states, "Bangalore, India, will host 'Karman Week 2025'..."

- 8. What is the primary focus of the high-level conference "Secure Bharat Mission" being held in New Delhi?
- a) Promoting digital literacy
- b) Strengthening India's digital future with AI and Zero Trust security
- c) Developing new social media platforms
- d) Expanding rural internet connectivity

Spardhaguru India Private Limited **Answer:** b) Strengthening India's digital future with AI and Zero Trust security

> The text states, "...focusing on strengthening India's digital future with AI and Zero Trust security."

- 9. Which Union Minister is set to announce a new National Cooperative Policy on July 24, 2025?
- a) Nirmala Sitharaman
- b) Rajnath Singh
- c) Amit Shah
- d) Nitin Gadkari

Answer: c) Amit Shah

The text states, "Union Minister Amit Shah is set to announce a new National Cooperative Policy on July 24, 2025." Page | 4

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10. Perplexity, the AI-driven search company, recently partnered with which Indian telecom giant to bring Perplexity Pro to its users?

- a) Reliance Jio
- b) Vodafone Idea
- c) Bharti Airtel
- d) BSNL

Answer: c) Bharti Airtel

The text says, "It recently partnered with Bharti Airtel to bring Perplexity Pro to 360 million Indian users..."

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