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THE EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Readers
Greetings!



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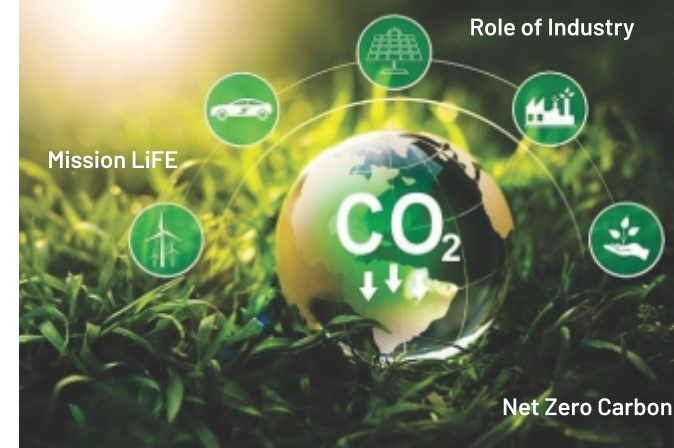
Over the years, India has emerged as one of the fastest growing economies in the world, which has contributed significantly to the global development. But, climate change poses a huge challenge to this development agenda. Although, India's contribution to global warming is relatively lesser, but still India is committed to tackle the climate change by embracing the values of equity & climate justice, while meeting its aspirations for development. Infact, during the COP26 (Glasgow), India introduced the global movement of LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) & announced its commitment to be NET Zero Carbon/ GHG Emissions by 2070. Moreover, during the COP27 (Egypt), India announced its long-term strategy to transition to a low carbon or low emissions pathway to become Net Zero by 2070. In this transition, the industrial sector certainly remains a crucial stakeholder.

In this backdrop, the July (2023) issue of EcoTech Talks intends to share the updates & perspectives on the intersection of Net Zero Goal, Mission LiFE & Role of Industry. We hope that this edition will prompt its reader to think & act towards the NET Zero Goal!

Have a happy reading!
Warm regards

Renu

Let us Think & Act
to achieve the
Net Zero Carbon Goal!



MISSION LiFE & ROLE OF INDUSTRY: THE EXPERT OPINION



Prof. Himanshu Rai,
Director, IIM Indore

A "LiFE" style that nurtures

ईशा वास्यमिदं सर्वं यत्किञ्च जगत्यां जगत्।
तेन त्यक्तेन भुञ्जीथा मा गृधः कस्यस्विद्धनम् ॥

The shloka from the Ishopanishad stresses on cultivating a spirit of non-possessiveness & containment. It emphasizes the importance of detachment & responsible use of resources. It reminds us that we are temporary custodians of the Earth & its resources, urging us to use them with care & responsibility. However, in today's world,

overwhelmed by consumerism & materialism, our lifestyles often become an impediment to the delicate balance of nature. To address this issue, sustainable solutions & a shift towards responsible consumption are crucial.

THE SITUATION

According to the United Nations, GHGs levels are now higher than they have been in 2 million years, resulting in a global temperature rise of 1.1°C since the 1800s. To prevent the worst climate impacts, it is vital to limit global temperature rise to no more than 1.5°C. However, if current CO2 emissions continue, the world's temperature could increase by as much as 4.4°C by the end of the century. Urgent action is needed to reduce emissions & promote sustainable practices.

MISSION LiFE

Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for the Environment) is a global initiative announced by the Prime Minister of India during the COP26 (Glasgow). It aims to create awareness, sensitize individuals, & promote eco-friendly practices & behaviors worldwide. It advocates for a shift from mindless & egoistic consumption to thoughtful, sustainable & rational consumption. The ultimate goal is to transition from a throw-away culture to a circular economy. The mission encourages individuals to become "Pro Planet People" (P3) by adopting a lifestyle that is in harmony with nature. By 2028, the mission seeks to inspire at least 1 billion Indians & Global citizens to take action. Building on India's long tradition & culture of inclusivity & sustainability, the mission also seeks to popularize indigenous innovations & practices like the Zabo system of Nagaland, the stepwell systems of Rajasthan/Gujarat, biodegradable utensils like sal leaves (Pattal) & clay pots (Kulhad) etc., to be adopted by people worldwide in accordance with the "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" philosophy. The project aims for incremental change that progresses from mobilizing citizens worldwide to adopt pro-planet practices to stimulate changes in individual-level demand & consumption patterns, which in turn should gradually influence markets to adjust supply & procurement to the new demands, & ultimately result in large-scale policy level changes.

ROLE OF INDUSTRIES

Industries have a significant impact on the environment, contributing to

global emissions & having a concerning carbon footprint. The energy supply sector, which includes electricity, heat & other energy sources, is the main cause of global GHG emissions, accounting for approximately 35% of total emissions according to the UN. According to the World Resources Institute, three sectors have grown GHG emissions most rapidly since 1990: industrial processes rose by 203%, power and heating by 84%, and transportation by 78%.

HOW INDUSTRIES CAN CONTRIBUTE

Industries can play a crucial role in supporting the Mission LiFE by addressing the environmental challenges, as follows:

INTERNAL RESOLVE

- Fighting habitual monotony by changing micro-behaviors: As an employer or leader, one can exemplify continual practice for changing one's own small habits & switching to environmentally friendly behaviors to inspire others around them.
- Encouraging environmentally friendly behaviors among employees, such as carpooling, turning off devices when not in use & reducing unnecessary printing, can make a significant impact.
- Conducting regular audits to track & optimize energy, water & fuel consumption can lead to greater efficiency & reduced wastage.
- Allocating research budgets to develop innovative solutions for resource management & adopting green systems can drive sustainability.

EXTERNAL CONTRIBUTION

- Industries can actively participate in & collaborate with authorities in conducting awareness drives & campaigns.
- By dedicating resources to research & development, industries can contribute to the compendium of best practices & share innovative solutions.
- Marketing & promotional campaigns can be restructured to promote responsible consumption behaviors among consumers.
- Establishing industry-specific task forces can facilitate the development of strategic roadmaps to accelerate sustainability efforts.

CONCLUSION

It is crucial for industries to recognize their responsibility towards environment & take proactive steps towards sustainability. As the world faces the urgent need to address environmental challenges, Mission LiFE provides a ray of hope. Industries play a pivotal role in this transformation. Let us embrace the Mission LiFE & strive for a sustainable future, where industries & individuals alike nurture & protect the environment for generations to come.

CARBON OFFSET: AN INDIAN PERSPECTIVE



Dr. Kaviraj Singh
Managing Director
Earthood Services Pvt. Ltd

With extreme weather events and rising sea water levels globally, it is evident that, unlike humans, climate crisis doesn't differentiate between countries. Although India has been one of the front runners in devising solutions and working to meet the climate goals through its ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), combatting climate change needs international cooperation. At 2021's CoP26 summit in Glasgow, we emphasised the same by reiterating the terms of the Paris Agreement, which called for collaborative climate action.

CARBON MARKET

One of the solutions is the Carbon Market, which aims to enable corporates, institutions, & individuals to offset their emissions & contribute to sustainable development. It provides a transparent & secure platform for the trading of carbon credits generated through certified projects.

Several carbon offset standards like Gold Standard, Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) have been established globally to ensure the credibility & effectiveness of offset projects. They generally cover a wide range of project types, including renewable energy and afforestation, while promoting environmental integrity and the upliftment of local communities.

THE INDIAN UPDATE

India has taken significant strides in establishing a domestic carbon market to facilitate carbon offset transactions. PAT (Perform, Achieve & Trade) scheme is one of the largest carbon market initiatives, which requires designated energy-intensive industries to achieve energy efficiency targets. Surpassing these targets allows industries to earn tradable Energy Saving Certificates (ESCs).

The government is developing the Indian Carbon Market (ICM) to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy. Recently, it put forth the plan to establish a national framework for the ICM, under which Green House Gas (GHG) emissions will be priced through trading of the Carbon Credit Certificates. For this purpose, the Environment Ministry has joined the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) & the Ministry of Power to develop the Carbon Credit Trading Scheme. It aims to facilitate the achievement of the NDC goal of reducing the Emissions Intensity of the GDP by 45 per cent by 2030 against 2005 levels.

While developing methodologies for the estimation of carbon emissions reductions & removals from various registered projects, the ICM is also expected to stipulate the required validation, registration, verification & issuance processes to operationalize the scheme.

ARTICLE 6.4

The global carbon market under Article 6.4 of the Paris Agreement, which is similar to the Clean Development Mechanism constituted under the Kyoto Protocol, presents an opportunity for India. It focuses on the cooperative approach to international carbon markets & establishes a mechanism for trading GHG emission reductions between countries under the supervision of the Conference of Parties.

THE DUALITY

Amid all the climate change buzz, one significant concern is economic growth, because the huge population still reels under poverty & needs assistance. India's rapidly growing economy necessitates increased energy consumption, resulting in higher emissions. Incidentally, the concept of carbon offset kills two birds with one stone. While on the one hand, it incentivizes organisations to emit lesser GHGs for different products & services, on the other hand, it provides employment & growth opportunities to people in project areas. This way, carbon offsetting allows India to balance economic growth with climate action by investing in emission reduction projects.

But there exists a need to address the distributional impacts of offset projects. Prioritizing local community engagement, job creation & sustainable development, especially in marginalized regions, will prove fruitful in the longer run. It will help in avoiding negative social & environmental impacts, while also ensuring sustainable development & equitable access to benefits. These concerns should be integral to India's carbon offset strategies. Also, rigorous monitoring, reporting & verification mechanisms are essential to avoid greenwashing & maintain environmental integrity & transparency.

India, as one of the largest & fastest-growing economies, must actively engage in carbon offset initiatives to contribute to global emission reduction

goals. By adhering to credible offset standards, fostering a domestic carbon market with robust verification procedures & effectively implementing Article 6.4, India can harness the potential of carbon offset.



Prof. (Dr) Kamna Sachdeva
School of Sustainability
Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship
University, Delhi.

DECARBONISING THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR: ACHIEVING THE NET ZERO CARBON GOAL

The manufacturing, energy production, agricultural operations, transport & building heating system contributes on an average, 51 billion tons of GHG emissions into the atmosphere each year. The planet's carrying capacity has also been exceeded. It is accepted fact that each economic activity is associated with carbon/GHG emissions & leading to warming of globe.

Post COP27 India has adopted its first long term commitment of decarbonisation. This plan provides clear directions to different sectors of economy to decarbonise by 2070. However, the target is very aspirational & clear sector-wise strategy is indeed required. As per Mc-Kinsey Report Oct-2022, India's gross GHG-emission is 3274 million Ton (MnT) & net-emission was 2959 MnT, where share of industry alone is approximately 30%. Hence task is humongous to fulfil, however national government has taken many steps to cater this. The nationally determined commitments (NDC) revision, in the light of supporting cleaner production initiatives including tax concessions & incentives for clean energy transition will definitely prove helpful. The mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) is a great mission leading to lifestyle change of millions. This is promising citizen centric approach of carbon free world. This will also help in changing the outlook of Indian industries.

Possible priority areas where focus is required, to meet our timely targets could be:

1. Promoting innovation in integrating green hydrogen with renewable energy sector, such projects need to be promoted & support ecosystem should be created.
2. PAT like schemes has huge energy saving potential, however lack of clarity persists even after its three phases of implementation. Government needs to streamline policies around this scheme, to make it simpler at operational level.
3. More corporates should come forward to make commitments to support the government's climate policy. Commitment to promote green business by aligning their businesses with blockchain technologies for more transparency & smart technologies.
4. Convenient funds mobilisation towards green transport, infrastructure & green hydrogen production is also required. India's G20 presidency will surely help us to mobilise funds towards greener future. Huge investments are required to achieve NET-ZERO targets, without international funding & tech support this may be extended little more.

Net zero must be aligned with broader sustainable development goals, the transition must be "Just", which implies an equitable net-zero transition, socio-ecological sustainability & the search of wide-ranging economic opportunities. In addition to this green skilling of workforce, reskilling & upskilling is integral for achieving low carbon growth pathways.

GREEN FACTS & UPDATES

- The emission contribution of entire Southern Asia is 4% (against its share of 24% of global population), while the emission contribution of North America & Europe is 10 times more (against its share of 13% of global population): IPCC report (2022).
- India's per capita emissions of 2.46 tCO₂e in 2019 are well below the global average of 4.79 tCO₂e.
- The energy sector accounts for nearly 40 % of India's GHG emissions, followed by other sectors like Mobility, Industrial manufacturing, Infrastructure & Agriculture respectively: WEF Report (2021).
- India has submitted a report to UNFCCC, on its Long-Term Low-Carbon Development Strategy (LT-LCDS) on 1st November, 2022.
- Draft Green Credits Programme Implementation Rules, 2023 have been notified for public consultation by MoEFCC (India) on 26th June, 2023.
- Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, 2023 has been notified by Ministry of Power (India) on 28th June, 2023.

#BEAGREENWARRIOR: OUR UMBRELLA CAMPAIGN FOR SUSTAINABILITY



- #BeAGreenWarrior: A Green Campaign by H.M.E-Waste Management.
- Key Inspiration: Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment)
- Main Objective: To Mobilise the people to take up Environmentally Conscious Lifestyle & become Green Change-Makers.
- HME's Green Resolution (2023): To sensitise and mobilise atleast ten thousand people to become Green Warriors, thereby contributing towards Mission LiFE.
- All the green activities of H.M.E. have been planned under the banner of #BeAGreenWarrior.

#KNOWTHERULES

- An initiative to raise awareness about the New E-waste Management Rules (2022) & its Amendment Rules (2023). These New Rules are enforceable w.e.f. 01st April, 2023.
- Specific details of these new e-waste rules & its official gazette link have been disseminated through informative posters on our social media



ECOTECH TALKS: A GREEN PLATFORM FOR SUSTAINABILITY UPDATES

- The first issue (April, 2023) of our quarterly newsletter on Sustainability and Waste management: EcoTech Talks, has been officially announced on the Earth Day (22nd April, 2023).
- Key focus of April issue: Updates and perspectives on the New E-Waste Rules (enforceable w.e.f. 1st April, 2023).

ANNOUNCEMENT!



GREEN MESSAGE BY GREEN WOMEN LEADER

- On the occasion of Earth Day (22nd April, 2023), Mrs. Shammi Talwar (Brand Ambassador: MCD Central Delhi Zone; Member: MCD City Level Task Force Team) shared her Green Message with us for motivating the youth to take up 'Green Life Style & Actions' for a Greener Earth!



#KNOWABOUTMISSIONLiFE

- An initiative to raise awareness about the Mission LiFE & LiFE actions.
- Informative posters on 'Objective of Mission LiFE' & 'LiFE Actions for E-waste reduction' have been disseminated via our social media.



AWARENESS DRIVES FOR CO-CREATING CULTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY

During the second quarter (April-June: 2023), we have collaborated with 8 new Green-Warrior Institutions and conducted awareness drive on 'Mission LiFE & E-waste Management' by involving multiple beneficiaries, multiple pedagogies & multiple resources.



21st April, 2023: Awareness drive for the faculty members & students of Army Institute of Education (AIE: Greater Noida, U.P.) to mark the Earth Day celebrations.



29th April, 2023: Awareness drive for the field supervisors, site engineers & managerial staff of Larsen & Toubro (L&T: Chandrawal Project Site, Delhi).



16th May, 2023: Awareness drive for the field supervisors, site engineers & managerial staff of Larsen & Toubro (L&T: Dwarka Project Site, Delhi).



1st May, 2023: Awareness drive for the faculty members of Km. Mayawati Government Girls P.G. College (KMGGPGC: Badalpur, U.P.).



8th May, 2023: Awareness drive for the teachers & students of Jamia Snr. Sec. School (Jamia Nagar, Delhi).



18th May, 2023: Awareness drive for the teachers & students of St. Andrews Public School (Ghaziabad, U.P.).



6th June, 2023: Awareness drive for the faculty members & students of Apeejay Stya University (ASU: Gurugram, Haryana) to mark the World Environment Day celebrations.



8th June, 2023: Awareness drive for the managerial and field staff of Swayam Swachhta Initiative Pvt. Ltd. (SSIPL: Okhla Phase-3, Delhi).

GREEN EXCHANGE FOR MISSION LiFE: STAKEHOLDER'S MEET AT RSPCB



HME team participated & contributed inputs during the 'Stakeholder Sensitization Workshop on e-waste' organized by Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board (RSPCB) at their Head Office (Jaipur, Rajasthan) on 26th May, 2023. It was attended by RSPCB Chairman, Member Secretary and E-Waste Recyclers. All the participants also took the Mission LiFE pledge.



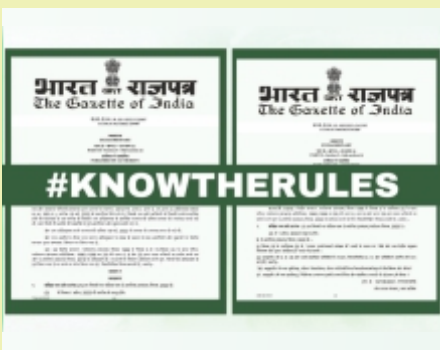
PROMOTING GREEN ACTION ON WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY



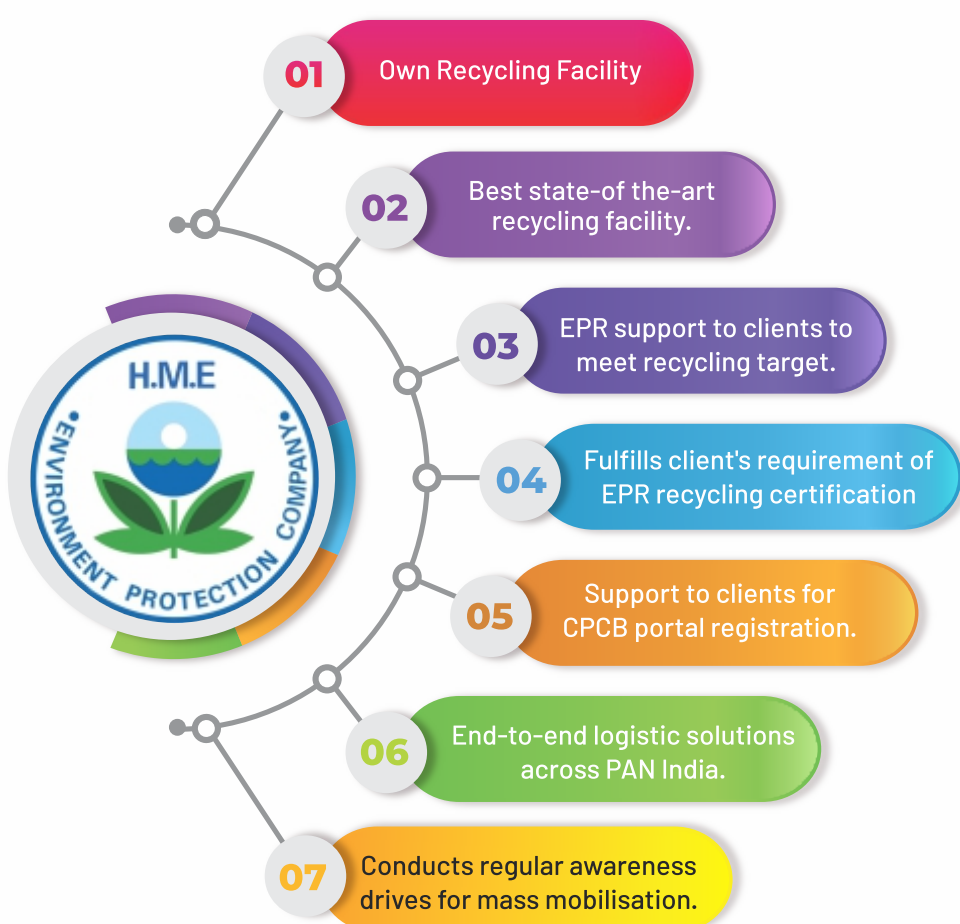
In order to promote 'Green Action for Greener Planet', our team celebrated the World Environment Day (5th June, 2023) by facilitating Mega Tree Plantation Drives at Apeejay Stya University (Gurugram, Haryana) & MCD School (Wazirpur JJ Colony, Delhi; Mediated by PACE NGO). These 2 drives were supported by Larsen & Toubro (Dwarka & Chandrawal Project site: Delhi), in which around 3100 saplings were planted.

WHAT'S NEXT: BE READY FOR MORE!

- Mega Tree Plantation Drives, supported by Larsen & Toubro (Chandrawal & Dwarka Project Sites: Delhi), will be organised for various identified educational institutions & community areas of Delhi-NCR: To Promote Decarbonisation & Net Zero Carbon Goal.
- Digital initiative #Act4NetZeroCarbon: To raise awareness and promote actions for achieving the Net Zero Carbon Goal.
- Digital initiative #KnowTheRules will be continued: To further raise awareness about the New E-waste Management Rules (2022) & its Amendment Rules (2023).
- Digital initiative #KnowAboutMissionLiFE will be continued: To further raise awareness about Mission LiFE for promoting environmentally conscious lifestyle.
- Awareness drives on Mission Life & E-waste Management will be done at various identified Universities, Colleges, Institutions & RWAs of Delhi-NCR: To especially sensitise and mobilise the youth to take up green action..



H.M.E-WASTE MANAGEMENT



We are here for you, to help you out!



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Design By: Mr. Sudesh Kumar
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