

World Environment Day, 2020

The School of Environmental Sciences celebrated the World Environment Day, 5th June 2020. On this occasion, a webinar was organized on the theme 'Time for Nature' in collaboration with JNU-ENVIS Resource Partner. Time duration of the webinar was two hours. Panelists included international experts and professionals working in the field of Environment. These were- 1). Professor Peringe Grennfelt, Former scientific director at IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute and adjunct professor at Gothenburg university, Member of the Royal Academy of Agriculture and Forestry in Sweden, 2). Dr Sharath K Pallerla, Director, Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi, 3). Dr Sunita Narain, CEO, Center for Science and Education (India), 4). Prof S R Wate, Former Director, CSIR-NEERI, Ngapur and former Chairman, CSIR-RAB, India, 5). Prof N H Lin, National Central University, Taoyuan, Taiwan, 6). Dr Ilora Ghosh, Associate Professor (Toxicology), SES, JNU. Professor Umesh Kulshrestha, Dean and ENVIS-Coordinator moderated the panel discussion. The activities of a new student outreach programme called Young Holistics (YoHo) were presented. The YoHo program also helps the students in their all-round development. There are around 30 activities of the YoHo program. The Leads of three activities had organized their events which were described by each Lead during the celebration. It was attended by more than 650 participants, through Webex platform and Facebook live broadcast. Also, the participants were from different parts of the country and included university students, researchers, faculty members and professionals.

Webinar Theme : Time for Nature
Date : 5th June 2020 | Time : 1200 - 1400 IST

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

 Prof. Peringe Grennfelt Member Royal Academy of Agriculture & Forestry, Sweden	 Dr. Sharath K. Pallerla Director (Policy), MoEF&CC Govt. of India	 Dr. Sunita Narain CSE, India	 Dr. Satish Wate Former Director, CSIR-NEERI & Chairman, CSIR-RAB
 Prof N H Lin National Central University, Taoyuan, Taiwan	 Prof. Umesh Kulshrestha Dean & ENVIS Coordinator SES, JNU	 Dr. Ilora Ghosh Associate Professor (Toxicology) SES, JNU	 YoHo Leads

Registration link:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScI-eE8oHzXGjyY8KmkdC92MFWhzjbcBfLWLC84Hi6KL-Q/viewform/viewform>
e-certificate will be provided to participants

Organized by:
JNU ENVIS Resource Partner on Geodiversity & Impact on Environment
School of Environmental Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi

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WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

Programme Schedule

Speaker	Time
Inaugural Address By Prof. U.C. Kulshrestha, Moderator ENVIS Coordinator/Dean, SES, JNU	12:00 - 12:15 IST
Prof. Peringe Grennfelt Member Royal Academy of Agriculture & Forestry, Sweden	12:15 - 12:30 IST
Dr. Sharath K. Pallerla Director (Policy), MoEF&CC Govt. Of India	12:30 - 12:45 IST
Dr. Sunita Narain CSE, India	12:45 - 13:00 IST
Dr. Satish Wate Former Director, CSIR-NEERI & Chairman, CSIR-RAB	13:00 - 13:15 IST
Prof. N H Lin National Central University, Taoyuan, Taiwan	13:15 - 13:30 IST
Dr. Ilora Ghosh Associate Professor (Toxicology), SES, JNU	13:30 - 13:45 IST
Concluding Remarks by Prof. U.C. Kulshrestha	13:45 - 13:48 IST
Young Holistic Leaders Mr. Yogender Singh, Ms. Ankita Katoch & Ankita Singh	13:48 - 13:55 IST
Vote of Thanks by Ms. Swati Singh Programme Officer, JNU-ENVIS, SES, JNU	13:55 - 14:00 IST

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Fig.1: Poster and schedule of the Webinar widely circulated on social media platform

Prof. Umesh Kulshrestha, Dean & ENVIS Coordinator, SES, JNU - He welcomed all the eminent speakers and the participants. Gave a brief introduction of all the speakers. Highlighted the importance of the World Environment Day and this year's theme 'Time for Nature'. He then invited first speaker Prof. Peringe Greenfelt to deliver his talk.

1:17 PM

umesh

Satish Wate

ENVIS JNU SES (host)

Dr. Sharath Kumar Pallerla

Speaking: umesh

Fig.2: Prof. Umesh Kulshrestha, Dean & ENVIS Coordinator, SES, JNU

Prof. Peringe Grennfelt, Member Royal Academy of Agriculture & Forestry, Sweden- He talked about 'Today's Environmental Problems in a historical perspective: Air Pollution'. Discussed about air pollution problem in chronological manner from 1970's onwards and major air pollution events around the world were highlighted. He established the importance of history in connection with today's environmental problems. Professor Grennfelt advocated the importance of science supported policy decisions and shared his experience about long range transport of pollution and the LRTAP. His lecture very well provided the linkages of environmental problem with Sustainable Development Goals.

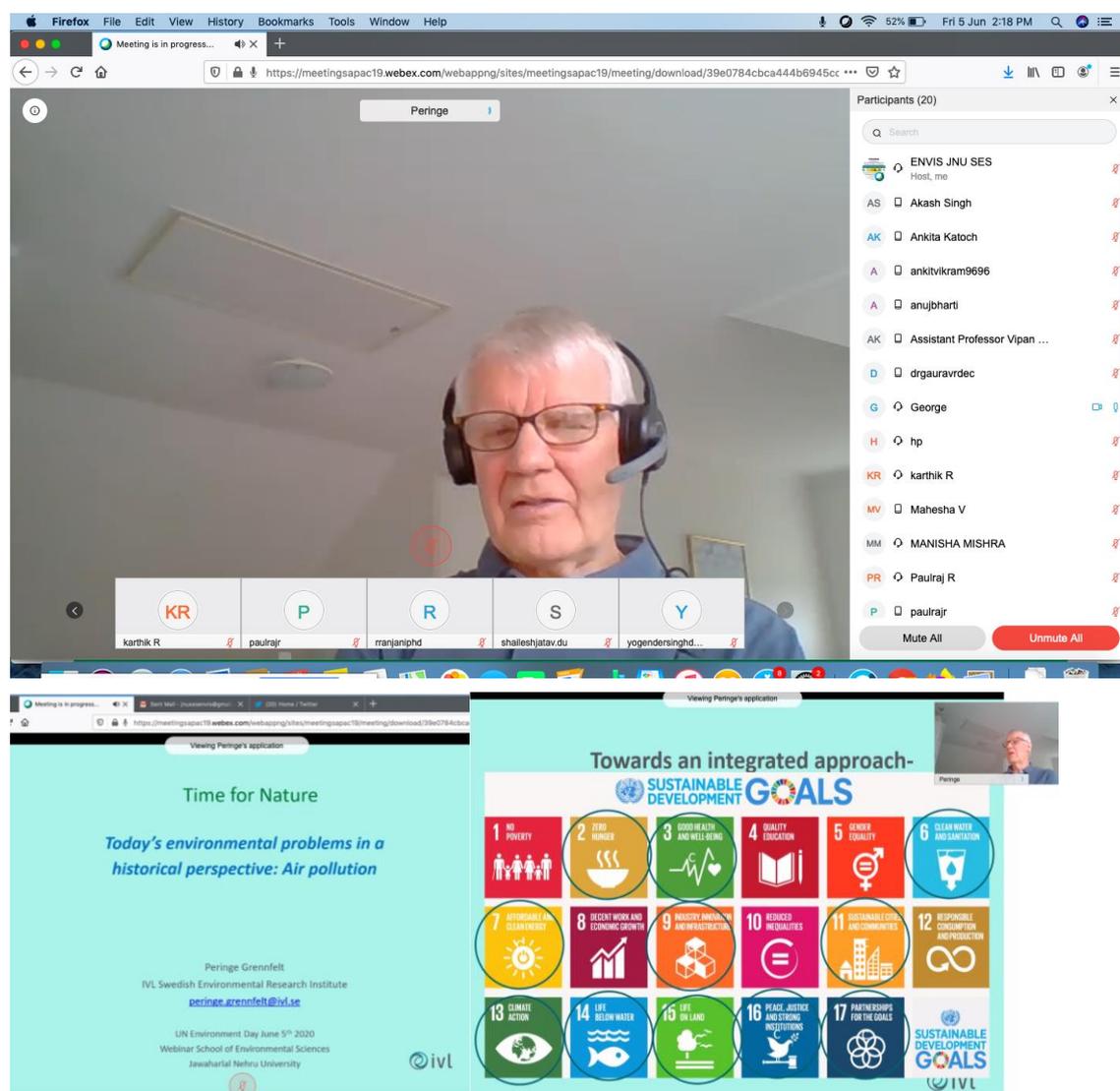


Fig.3: Prof. Peringe Grennfelt, Member Royal Academy of Agriculture & Forestry, Sweden

Dr. Sharath K. Palleria, Director (Policy), MoEF&CC, Govt. Of India - He commenced his talk by saying " Let's nurture the nature so that we can have a better future." Discussed Indian Biodiversity, 7-8% of globally recorded species and four biodiversity hot spots found in India. Over 47,000 species of plants and 100,000 species of animal have been recorded. India has divided into ten bio-geographic zones based on which conservation planning is

been taken up. Talked about various national reports and various legal instruments for conservation and sustainable use.

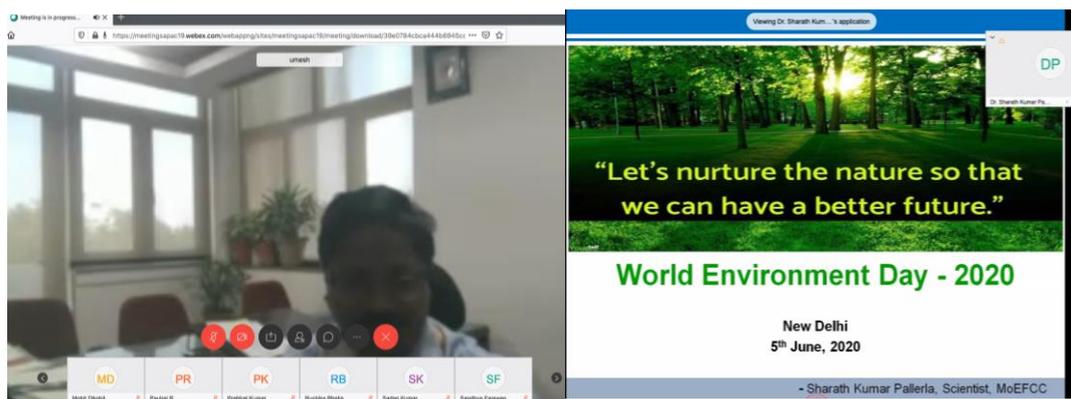


Fig.4: Dr. Sharath K. Palleria, Director (Policy), MoEF&CC, Govt. Of India

Dr. Sunita Narain, Center for Science and Environment, India- Commenced her discussion by asking how do we protect our environment. Discussed various burning environmental issues like increased frequency and rapidification of cyclones due to change in temperature of earth and sea. Dr Sunita talked about extreme rain events, locust attack, how low economic groups are becoming victims of climate change. She said we want clean air to breath as well as economic development. Green stimulus for public transport, green combustion. She put emphasis on `the conservation has to move towards a green economy and in the hands of local governance especially in rural areas.

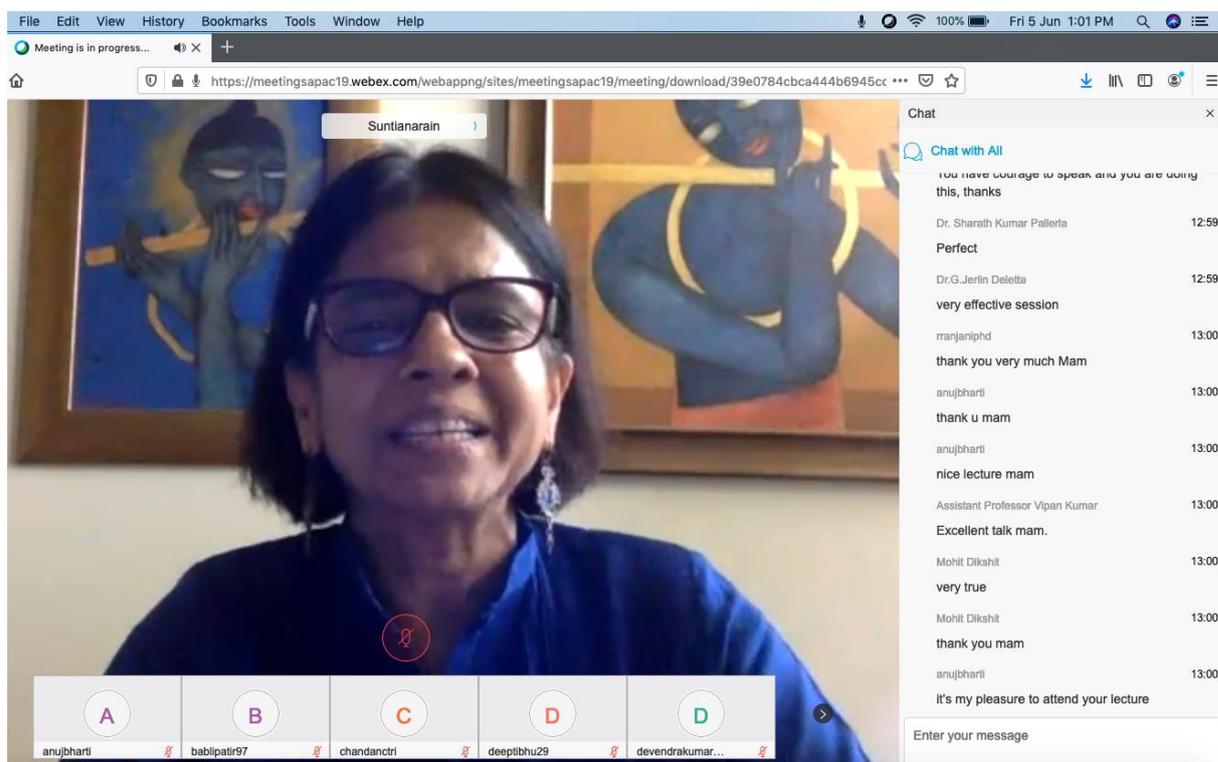


Fig.5: Dr. Sunita Narain, CSE, India

Dr. Satish Wate, Former Director, CSIR-NEERI & Chairman, CSIR-RAB- He said that if you protect nature, nature will protect you. He highlighted that we depend on the environment for air, water, soil, food, minerals etc. He discussed about five the components of environment. Prof Wate talked about recent chemical factory accidents and how severally

they impact our environment. He said we should become sensitive to environment, in order to properly understand it. He advocated for risks assessment exercise very similar to the impact assessment. He also highlighted the need of mitigation steps and preparation of management plans.

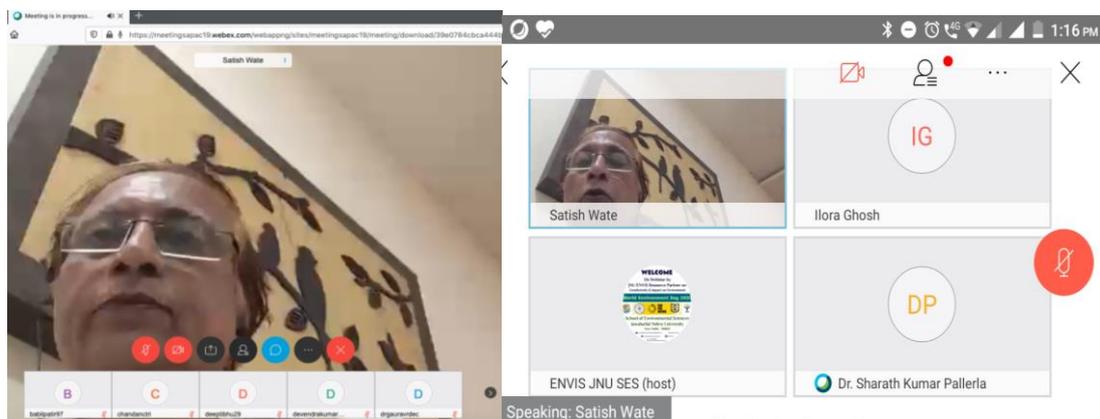


Fig.6: Dr. Satish Wate, Former Director, CSIR-NEERI & Chairman, CSIR-RAB

Prof. N H Lin, National Central University, Taoyuan, Taiwan - Discussed about his 7 SEAS project which started in 2007. This project investigates the impacts of aerosol particles on weather and the total SE Asian environment. Prof Lin talked about Biomass-burning haze in South-East Asia and shared case study of Chrang Mai in northern SEA. He concluded by sharing outcome of the project, some of the outcomes are international agreements and successful coordinated actions.

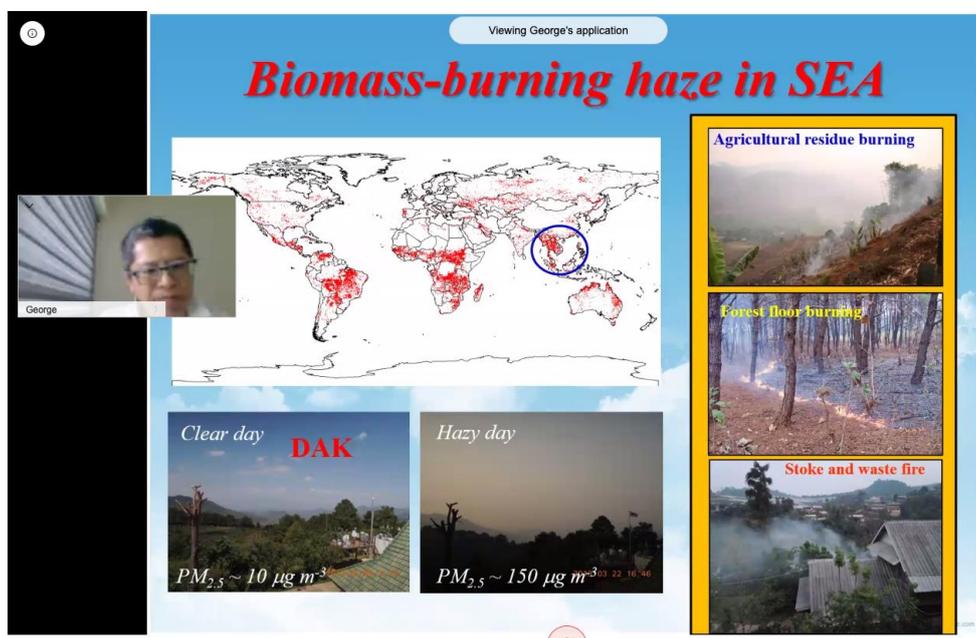


Fig.7: Prof. N H Lin, National Central University, Taoyuan, Taiwan

Dr. Ilora Ghosh, Associate Professor (Toxicology), SES, JNU- She focused that understanding the environment should be our motto. Protecting environment to reduce further pandemic risks. She discussed in detail about Coronavirus Disease 2019 by SARS-CoV-2. Introduced the participants to common signs of infections, myths and truths about coronavirus. She discussed major causes of this devastating pandemic. She talked about mutants of coronavirus, how repeatedly and independently they mutate. Dr Ilora explained the

toxicity in Coronavirus patients and how higher dosages of medication can lead to renal failure. She concluded that environment should be protected and environmental problems like Climate change should be addressed if we want to protect ourselves from any further pandemics.

World Environment Day: Human Health Relevance in Today's Scenario

Dr Ilora Ghosh
Associate Professor
**Environmental Toxicology and
Human Health**





Viewing Ilora Ghosh's application

Some Myths and Truths.....

- **Old and people with pre-existing medical conditions** appear to be most vulnerable to becoming severely sick.
- **Antibiotics do not work** against virus
- **Hand wash** with soap and water or with sanitizers like alcohol best choice to overcome contamination. Hand dryers is not effective in killing virus
- **UV can't sterilize living system**
- **Using rubber gloves** are **not** the solution, rather washing hand is more reasonable
- **Thermal scanner can't detect** infected without fever, as it takes 2-14 days to sick and develop fever
- **Spraying alcohol or chlorinated substances can be harmful** to soft tissues
- Any package **must be disinfected** as well as keep for hours then, may be handled
- **No evidence of pets** can be infected or spread it
- **Vaccines against pneumonia** or Haemophilus influenza type B **do not provide** any protection
- **No evidence** of frequent gargling or saline nose wash protect from infection. It may help to recover from common cold
- Spices boost immunity but can't promise protection from new disease
- Garlic, ginger are healthy food that may have some antimicrobial properties, but **no evidence** of protection of such outbreak found still now
- Sesame oil does **not kill** the coronavirus

Fig.8: Dr. Ilora Ghosh, Associate Professor (Toxicology), SES, JNU

Young Holistic (YoHo) Leaders; Mr. Yogender Singh, Ms. Ankita Katoch and Ms. Ankita Singh -They updated about the various activities for Environment Day Celebrations like Poetry, Quiz and Summary writing competition conducted by their respective groups. Results of these competitions were also declared.

Vote of Thanks was extended by **Ms. Swati Singh, Programme Officer, JNU ENVIS RP**. She also appraised about the various online competitions like Poster Making, Photography and Painting conducted by JNU ENVIS RP to celebrate World Environment Day. Results of these competitions were also announced.

Session came to an end with distribution of e-certificate to all the participants. Very positive feedback was received from the participants.
