



Forest and tree cover in India increases by 24.56 pct to over eight lakh square kilometres, says, Environment Minister

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Speaking on the occasion Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar said every day is an environment day for India. He said trees, animals, and birds have always been revered in India. Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Prakash Javadekar has said, India is one of the few countries where forest cover has actually increased in the last decade. On the World Environment Day, Mr. Javadekar said the forest and tree cover in the country has reached 24.56 per cent of the geographic area which is spread over eight lakh square kilometres. He said, India has increased its forest and tree cover by 15 thousand square kilometres in the last six years.

The Union Environment Minister further said, India is home to rich wildlife and biodiversity having 70 per cent Tiger and Asiatic Lions and 60 percent of Leopard global population. He said, substantial increase in the population of big cats in the last seven years reflects the Government's commitment towards conservation of wildlife and environment.

Highlighting the other initiatives of the government, the Environment Minister has said, phase-two of the FAME India scheme is being implemented with budgetary support of 10 thousand crore rupees to facilitate and enhance electric mobility. He said, this will help in generating demands for electrical vehicles in the country. Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles, FAME India scheme was launched in the year 2015 for promoting adoption of electric and hybrid vehicles in the country.

The Coast Guard Karnataka conducted a tree plantation drive in Coast Guard Residential Area and Headquarters by planting 300 saplings in Karwar today to commemorate World Environment Day. Apart from contributing to the environment, the Navy has been playing an important role to mitigate the pandemic in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka. The Specialist personnel of Indian Navy have attended to defects in Oxygen distribution systems in the district. The team from the Navy has assured sustained availability of Oxygen in rural areas.

The Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru has achieved net energy neutral status by saving nearly 22 lakh units of energy in 2020-21. The Bangalore International Airport Limited that manages the airport announced this today on the World Environment Day. The company has said that the Bengaluru airport meets 98 percent of its energy requirement through renewable sources. The MD and CEO of the company Hari Marar has said that various measures are taken to reduce carbon footprint and protect our environment. The airport has increased the consumption from solar power to over 50 million units. Its utility buildings are fitted with solar panels. The South Runway Airfield is the first airfield in India to be fully powered with an LED lighting system. LED bulbs are used for street lights, perimeter lights and airfield lights thus reducing dependency on non-renewable energy.

Source:<http://newsonair.com/2021/06/05/forest-and-tree-cover-in-india-increases-by-24-56-pct-to-over-eight-lakh-square-kilometres-says-environment-minister/>