Environment News Futures

Andaman, Nicobar Islands May Not Be Inhabitable in Future Due to Rise in Sea Level: IPCC

New Delhi: Islands like Andaman and Nicobar might not be inhabitable in a few years due to rise in sea level and increase in climatic events like cyclones, said one of the key authors of a global report on climate change on Wednesday. The Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (SROCC), prepared by the intergovernmental panel on climate change (IPCC), has cautioned that warming of oceans will increase the frequency and severity of climatic events like cyclones in India.

Alpine Glacier at Risk of Collapsing Due to Climate Change Threatening Italian Valley

September 25, 2019—Colleen Barry/AP

Milan: Italian officials sounded an alarm on Wednesday over climate change due to the threat that a fast-moving melting glacier is posing to a picturesque valley near the Alpine town of Courmayeur.

Courmayeur Mayor Stefano Miserocchi closed down a mountain road and banned access to part of the Val Ferret, a popular hiking area outside of town on the southern side of the Mont Blanc massif. Those moves came after experts warned that a 250,000-cubic-meter mass of the Planpincieux glacier was at risk of collapsing. The glacier, which spreads 1,327 square kilometers (512 square miles) across the mountain, has been moving up to 50 centimeters (nearly 20 inches) a day.

"There are no models to tell us if it will fall entirely or in pieces," the Mayor told Sky TG24. "We need to keep an eye on the monitoring."

65 Countries Start Working Towards Net-zero CO_2 Emissions by 2050, Big Emitters Remain Undecided

Bangladesh Lifts Ban on Hilsa Export to India

September 26, 2019

Bangladesh Government will allow 500 tons of Hilsa fish to be exported to India prior to the eve of Durga Pooja. Bangladesh accounts to nearly 75% of world Hilsa production. The government of Bangladesh had imposed ban on its export to India due to its over-exploitation.
About Hilsa
Hilsa is an endemic species. Read More…
Month: Current Affairs – September, 2019
Categories: Art & Culture • Environment & Biodiversity • Persons In News
Tags: Bangladesh • Environment • Hilsa • India Imports

50 kilowatt "Gandhi Solar Park" Inaugurated by PM at UN Headquarters

September 25, 2019

In a first of its kind symbolic effort by India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a 50 kilowatt 'Gandhi Solar Park' at the Headquarters of United Nations (UN). The gesture highlights India's willingness to go beyond the talk on climate change.
Key Highlights
PM inaugurated the solar park at UN Headquarters New York City, United States. Read More…
Month: Current Affairs – September, 2019
Categories: Environment & Biodiversity
Tags: Gandhi Solar Park • Narendra Modi • Solar Panels • UN Headquarters • United Nations
Quick Facts: Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) of Gujarat September 24, 2019 The Gujarat government has launched country's first 'Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS)' which is being described as world's first market for trading in Particulate Matter (PM) emissions. ETS was launched in Surat ETS) to encourage and incentivize the industrial units to cut air pollution. Even though trading mechanisms for pollution control do exist in many parts.

Russia Formally Joins Paris Agreement on Climate Change

September 24, 2019

Russia has formally accepted the 2015 Paris agreement on Climate Change. The Prime Minister of Russia Dmitry Medvedev has recently signed a document in this regard. As per the document Russia will now allocate financial resources towards developing countries for prevention of and adaptation to climate change.
Key Highlights United Nations Climate Action

A New Way to Turn Heat into Useful Energy

Capturing heat that otherwise would have been lost

September 23, 2019—Ohio State University

Scientists have figured out how to capture heat and turn it into electricity. The discovery could create more efficient energy generation from heat in things like car exhaust, interplanetary space probes and industrial processes.

US and Canada Have Lost More Than 1 in 4 Birds in the Past 50 Years

September 19, 2019—Cornell University

Data show that since 1970, the US and Canada have lost nearly 3 billion birds, a massive reduction in abundance involving hundreds of species, from beloved backyard songbirds to long-distance migrants.

Otherworldly Worms with Three Sexes Discovered in Mono Lake

Eight species of nematode discovered in the lake's harsh conditions

September 26, 2019—California Institute of Technology

The extreme environment of Mono Lake was thought to only house two species of animals—until now.

Caltech scientists have discovered a new species of worm thriving in the extreme environment of Mono Lake. This new species, temporarily dubbed Auanema sp., has three different sexes, can survive 500 times the lethal human dose of arsenic, and carries its young inside its body like a kangaroo.

Machu Picchu: Ancient Incan Sanctuary Intentionally Built on Faults

September 23, 2019—Geological Society of America

The ancient Incan sanctuary of Machu Picchu is considered one of humanity's greatest architectural achievements. Built in a remote Andean setting atop a narrow ridge high above a precipitous river canyon, the site is renowned for its perfect integration with the spectacular landscape. But the sanctuary's location has long puzzled scientists: Why did the Incas build their masterpiece in such an inaccessible place?

T. Rex Used a Stiff Skull to Eat Its Prey

3D models shows how ligaments and joints in the skull of a Tyrannosaurus rex work

September 25, 2019—University of Missouri-Columbia

A Tyrannosaurus rex could bite hard enough to shatter the bones of its prey. But how it accomplished this feat without breaking its own skull bones has baffled paleontologists. That's why scientists are arguing that the T. rex's skull was stiff much like the skulls of hyenas and crocodiles, and not flexible like snakes and birds as paleontologists previously thought.