News

Impact of climate change on wind energy industries in India

Photographed by: CleanTechnica

A study by Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS) suggests that annual energy production from wind in India has declined by 13% in past forty years. In fact, 63% of the total annual energy production from wind is dependent on the wind of monsoon. The researchers of SEAS also implicate that temperature of Indian Ocean has risen in last few decades due to climate change subjecting to observed changes in annual monsoon pattern due to which wind energy industry suffers a great deal. *(For more details please visit - https://india.mongabay.com/2019/03/study-shows-climate-change-impacts-wind-energy-industry/)*

Hindu Kush Himalayan glaciers shrunk by 27%

Photographed by: thehindu.com

The Himalaya is considered as water tower of Asia as enormous amount of water is locked in thousands of glaciers. Due to climate change, water availability in north India in future seems to be empty. A recent study suggests that thickness of the glaciers in Hindu Kush Himalaya region has melted by 27%. Half of the area of the glaciers today is estimated to be melted away by 2060. As per previous study, the area of glaciers in Hindu Kush Himalayan region was 97000 sq km and was projected to be half melted by 2070. The same team of researchers repeated the study recently by simulating Global Glacier Evolution Model with all the glaciers in the region (96000 glaciers with 97000 sq km area), it was projected to be half depleted by 2060. The study signifies the rapid shrinking of glaciers in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region proclaiming a massive water crisis in north India in coming years. *(For more details please visit - https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/climate-change/hindu-kush-himalayan-region-contains-27-less-ice-than-estimated-study-63228)*

Water crisis for Madhya Pradesh: Narmada on verge of extinction as six big dams, sand-mining, pollution threaten its survival

Photographed by: The Financial Express

Narmada, being one of the largest rivers in the peninsula, biggest source of water in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, it is the fifth largest river in India and the largest in Madhya Pradesh. Narmada has six big dams and several power projects but it faces environmental threats due to illegal sand-mining, pollution, deforestation and river linking project. Water Resource Institute (WRI) has categorized Narmada as one of the six major rivers in the world that faces existential crisis. The tributaries of the Narmada are drying up due to illegal sand mining. It is suggested

that shrinking of Narmada basin is also due to huge dependency on the river. The report indicates that more than 28% of dams built on Narmada-Tapti River have almost dried up with less than 10% of their holding capacity. Only 14 reservoirs out of 53 have sufficient water level now. Around 29 cities in the Madhya Pradesh are dependent on the river whereas almost every part of the state gets irrigated from the river. Not only common people but agriculture sector is also getting affected due to shrinking of Narmada. *(For more details please visit - https://www.firstpost.com/india/drying-rivers-of-madhya-pradesh-narmada-on-the-cusp-of-extinction-with-six-big-dams-sand-mining-pollution-threatening-its-survival-6221291.html)*

Ground frost runs to south India

Photographed by: Skymet Weather

Frost is formed when water vapor is condensed by cool air leading to formation of droplets on the ground. As temperature drops between 4-0^{o}C, the water droplets on the ground turns into ice crystals. It is usually confused with snowfall by people. Skymet Weather suggests that frost is commonly seen in winter season in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan when minimum temperature falls below 4^{o}C. It also predicts that ground frost can also be observed in Punjab, Haryana, Delhi-NCR, Uttar Pradesh including Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. However, it is surprising to come across with the fact that ground frost in recent times has been observed in south India as well. A report indicates that a sheet of ground frost was observed encompassing the hills of Kerala's Munnar, Kannimala, Chenduvara, Sevenvalley, and Nallathanni for many days with temperature as low as -3^{o}C. Ground frost blocks the respiration of plants leading to its decay or loss. The report highlights that several tea plantation owners have suffered losses due to frosting. Indian Meteorological Department predicts ground frosts in the hills of Nilgiris, Coimbatore, and Dindigul district. *(For more details please visit - https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/climate-change/frost-bites-states-across-india-62723)*

Bad water quality in rivers threatens human health quality in Mumbai

Photographed by: dnaindia.com

Recently, water quality monitoring units in Mumbai have shown the water quality of Mumbai as 'Bad' and between 'Bad to very bad'. A majority of these units monitor rivers such as Tansa, Vaitarna, Bhatsa, Ulhas, Kalu, Patalganga, Surya, Kundalika, Amba, Vashishthi and Savitri which replenish the ground water and reservoirs that fill water supply network of the Mumbai. In 2017-2018, 'bad' category reading monitors rose from 2% to 6% and 'bad to very bad' category reading monitors increased around 3% to over 6%. Bad water quality in Mumbai has raised concerns for water supply bodies, as they have to treat the water multiple times before the supply. *(For more details please visit - https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/bad-water-quality-spikes-in-rivers-feeding-citys-dams/articleshow/68339465.cms)*