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Edited, printed and published by Samit Aich for Greenpeace Environment Trust which has its office at #60, Wellington Street, Richmond Town, Bangalore - 560025.
Printed at Jyothi Prints, No. 1/5/4, 1st Cross, 4th Main, N.S. Palya, BTM Layout, 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560076.

Follow us on:
“What’s all the fuss about solar power and renewable energy off late?” I’m sure this question has at some point crossed your mind. At the risk of sounding repetitive, the current rate at which we’re going, there isn’t going to be much energy left in the near future. With the rampant destruction of our planet’s natural resources on an alarming rise, the time to act is now. It doesn’t take a fancy formula to deduce that we’re burning up more than we can replenish. It’s a simple case where the supply is not meeting the demand. Luckily for us though, there is a solution at hand – one that’s as old as time. The Sun.

We’re living in a ‘smart’ age where technology does everything for us. An age where inter-planetary travel is possible! All these incredible advancements must mean we have our basic needs in order, right? Unfortunately, not. Our most primary need – energy, is not met. I guess we’re not that ‘smart’ after all. With the abundance of sunshine in our country, it’s only logical that we tap this limitless source to quench our growing energy demand. The decisions we make today are proportionate to the state of tomorrow, for better or worse.

So in this modern world we live in, where the sky is no longer the limit, it’s up to you and me to make the right decisions; forests over coal, life over strife and people over profit.

It’s always a pleasure to see a green initiative taken by the government. The Delhi Government invited us to discuss a solar energy policy for Delhi and resulted in three significant outcomes:

1) The Delhi Government wants Greenpeace to participate in RWA (Residents’ Welfare Association) meetings where solar energy issues will be discussed with the public.

2) The Additional Secretary to the CM asked us to provide a business model and solar potential figures which were incorporated in the draft Renewable Energy (RE) policy.

3) The CM has shown an interest to take part in the RE conclave as long as she is in Delhi.

As a part of our Switch On the Sun campaign, hundreds of people on World Environment Day, took part in a first of its kind Bike-a-thon, organised by Greenpeace. The event was an attempt to highlight that Delhi residents have the capacity to generate their own uninterrupted and clean supply of electricity by installing solar panels on their rooftops.

People all over are waking up to the need for energy independence. Success here will result in a positive impact on the nation.

Support our campaign at switchonthesun.in.
OUR INITIATIVES

People are what keeps us growing in strength and empowering the people, results in a strong foundation. That was the idea behind the launch of our new initiative – Greenpeace Extra. It’s an online tool that enables individuals or communities to start and run a campaign by providing the platform and reach under the Greenpeace umbrella. The notch in the belt are increasing as the people are becoming more proactive.

HOW SAFE IS YOUR FOOD?

After a tedious three years of campaigning against the Biotechnology Regulatory Authority of India (BRAI) bill, it was recently introduced in the Lok Sabha. The bill is now under review by the Standing Committee for a period of 90 days.

Since this bill is highly controversial and will impact every citizen, we along with many other groups and individuals have demanded a time extension for the deadline on public consultation. To show our opposition to the bill and launch the nation-wide campaign against BRAI, Greenpeace along with the Coalition for a GM-Free India and other groups, organised a dharna at Jantar Mantar which had major farmer union leaders along with solidarity from the BJP, AAP and the Left.

The launch of the campaign garnered support from people not only in Delhi but around the country as well. As long as we keep the fight going and stay united, we’re sure to emerge victorious from this crucial battle against genetically modified food.

YOUR SPACE

It all started two years back. I was doing a research project for my college and I chose Greenpeace as the subject. Since then, it has been an amazing journey. I started a detailed research on the organisation and couldn’t help but be amazed at the work they have been doing. Slowly and gradually, I got too involved in the project and there was no looking back.

I continued my research for two years and then contacted Greenpeace India for a summer internship. Being from a fashion institute, it was quite a surprise. While my internship should have been in some fashion brand, here I was, excited to finally be a part of the organisation.

Once I entered the organisation, I realised that there was much more to it than I knew. All the people involved share a strong passion towards saving the environment. It was more like a family than office. I have not always been an environment friendly person; proudly say that I have transformed into a much better person. I actually take care about saving the resources as much as I can.

Apart from the immense knowledge and experience that I have gained here, I have been inspired to save the planet. I’ll make sure I do my bit and spread the message. After all, it’s our planet too.

FOR THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE.

Out of sight is invariably, out of mind. We decided to change that equation with an attempt to reach out to the villagers in the troubled regions in Mahaan, Central India with the launch of our very first Mobile Radio.

‘Radio Sangharsh’ is Greenpeace India’s initiative on mobile radio. This is a platform for individuals of the region to voice their unheard stories, cultural tradition and various troubles they face. Their stories then travel far and wide to the rest of the country, policymakers and media.

We’re in the final phases of rolling out and will eventually hand it over to the people of Mahaan and similar places. Being a decentralised communication medium, this has great potential and was only possible with your support. Now, everyone will know the unfiltred truth.