


Current Affairs of the Day

Malaria vaccine: India needs it too, say experts

The anti-malaria vaccine, Mosquirix, has been developed by pharma major GlaxoSmithKline (GSK). It has been termed as partially effective due to low efficacy.

1. Malaria experts say that India should prepare to get the first vaccine against the disease so as to immunise people in select states, despite its declining disease burden. The World Health Organization (WHO) has recently approved the vaccine.
2. India contributed to the largest drop in cases in the WHO's South-East Asia region — six million from approximately 20 million. This is according to the WHO's latest World Malaria Report.
3. But the cases can flare up at any time. Malaria is sensitive to rain, precipitation and other such weather conditions that have been erratic.
4. Insecticides sprayed to get rid of the malaria parasite as well as mixed into bed nets were a source of environmental pollution.
5. The nets are a big problem as they are treated with insecticides treated with polyester. It is an environmental hazard and their disposal is a big problem. Vaccines were required in India to get rid of these, he added.



RTS,S/AS01 FACTS

- FIRST vaccine to prevent malaria among children
- FIRST malaria vaccine to receive a positive review by a stringent regulatory agency
- FIRST malaria vaccine recommended by global experts for pilot introduction in Africa
- FIRST malaria vaccine to reach children in Africa through routine immunization in selected areas
- FIRST vaccine recommended by WHO for phased introduction in selected areas of Africa

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Study finds high level of pharma contaminants in Cauvery

1. A new study has found that the waters of the Cauvery river in south India are polluted by a range of emerging contaminants that include pharmaceutically active compounds, personal care products, plastics, flame retardants, heavy metals and pesticides, among many others.

2. Of these, pharmaceutical contamination was found to be particularly serious

as their presence in water bodies even in minuscule amounts can harm human beings and the ecosystem in the long run.

3. In the study, a team of researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras (IIT-M).





Air thick with pollutants

Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra were the largest emitters of PM2.5 as of 2015, according to a study by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW). The study analysed emission estimates from five datasets that track air pollution. U.P. emerged as the top emitter in all the five datasets. Domestic fuel used in households was the leading contributor of emissions, followed by industrial production. In 18 of the 36 States/UTs, households contributed over half the emissions.
By The Hindu Data Team



1 Emissions in U.P. ranged between **588 and 976 kilotonnes per year (kt/year)** while in Maharashtra they ranged between **415 and 592 kt/year**

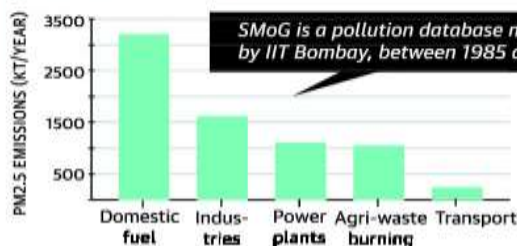
2 In Punjab and Haryana, a significant share of the emissions was caused by **agricultural waste burning**

3 Emissions due to domestic fuel use/residential sector accounted for **44% of the total emissions**

1. TOP EMITTERS | The table shows PM2.5 emissions (in kt/year) in all States/UTs recorded by the databases*. Barring TERI, for which the latest data were for 2016, the other sources have data until 2015. A State which features among the top-five emitters in a database is shaded . Those which are ranked from 6 to 15 are shaded and those ranked 16 or lower are shaded . Only Maharashtra and U.P. feature among the top five emitters across all data sources

State	EDGAR	ECLIPSE	REAS	SMoG	TERI
U.P.	661	887	588	816	976
Maharashtra	549	549	415	592	429
M.P.	450	471	403	584	366
WB	572	438	285	338	307
Odisha	369	312	291	376	525
Rajasthan	363	435	311	452	377
Tamil Nadu	357	363	365	403	270
Bihar	329	520	308	343	404
Chhattisgarh	317	273	189	417	495
Gujarat	274	333	304	393	586
Punjab	189	152	128	776	340
A.P.	329	342	251	328	221
Karnataka	305	343	256	381	256
Telangana	198	178	169	250	184
Haryana	145	171	122	270	222
Jharkhand	154	412	180	243	152
Assam	173	142	90	134	175
Kerala	81	125	87	102	100
J&K	63	49	46	60	70
HP	32	30	17	29	71
NCT of Delhi	30	76	9	34	32
Uttarakhand	28	47	26	52	110
Meghalaya	15	24	14	17	40
Tripura	14	10	10	8	41
Manipur	13	19	11	12	33
A.P.	10	13	6	13	41
Nagaland	9	17	9	9	35
Goa	6	3	2	5	35
Mizoram	6	8	5	4	33
Sikkim	3	2	1	1	29
Puducherry	3	46	2	2	

2. LEADING POLLUTANT | The chart shows the five major sources of PM2.5 emissions in the country according to SMoG



3. STATE-WISE SHARE | The table shows the % share of various sources of PM2.5 emission among States with an emission burden of over 200 kt/year, according to SMoG. The leading source of emissions is shaded . In 11 of the 16 States listed, domestic fuel or the residential sector was the leading contributor. This sector accounted for more than half of the total emissions in Bihar, U.P., West Bengal and Rajasthan. Agricultural burning accounted for nearly 80% of PM2.5 emissions in Punjab

State	Domestic fuel	Industrial production	Transport	Power plants	Agri waste burning
Bihar	79.8	11.4	3.5	2.3	3.0
U.P.	66.9	17.0	3.1	8.0	4.9
WB	60.6	12.3	3.9	20.9	2.3
Rajasthan	53.3	28.4	3.9	12.1	2.2
Karnataka	47.1	31.0	3.8	10.5	7.6
Jharkhand	46.1	18.4	2.5	30.6	2.5
Maharashtra	44.7	27.7	3.9	15.4	8.2
Tamil Nadu	44.4	28.0	4.2	19.5	3.9
Gujarat	41.7	39.1	3.4	12.6	3.2
M.P.	39.5	21.7	2.6	22.7	13.5
A.P.	35.6	29.8	4.7	22.3	7.6
Haryana	35.1	13.6	3.2	10.8	37.3
Odisha	34.1	43.8	2.9	16.4	2.9
Telangana	33.7	31.1	3.1	26.2	5.9
Chhattisgarh	18.9	28.1	1.2	48.8	2.9
Punjab	10.2	5.2	0.8	4.3	79.4

*EDGAR: Emissions Database for Global Atmospheric Research | ECLIPSE: Evaluating the Climate and Air Quality Impacts of Shortlived Pollutants | REAS: Regional Emission Inventory In Asia | SMoG: Speciated Multipolluter Generator | TERI: The Energy and Resources Institute



<p>Practice MCQ</p>	<p><i>Q. Recently, the Union government set up the National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL). Consider the following statements in this regard</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>1. It has been constituted as a Bad bank under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949</i><i>2. It is wholly owned by the central government</i><i>3. It will resolve future stressed assets only</i> <p><i>Which of the above is/are incorrect?</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>a. 1 and 2 only</i><i>b. 2 and 3 only</i><i>c. 1 and 3 only</i><i>d. 1, 2 and 3</i>
<p>MAINS DAWP</p>	<p><i>Q. Data based revolution is a big possibility in Indian agriculture but it has many challenges. Discuss.</i></p>