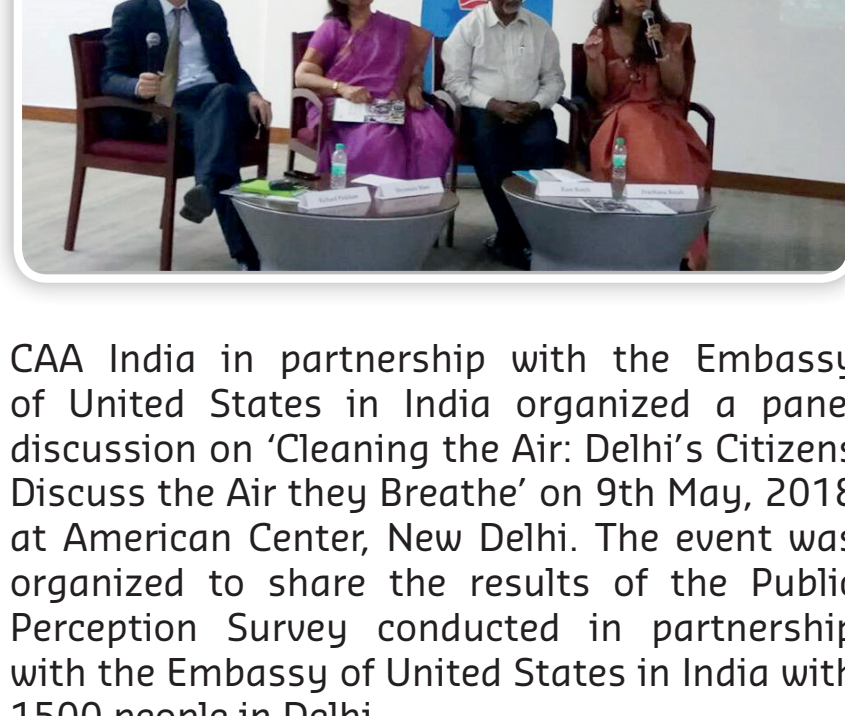


CLEARING THE AIR: DELHI'S CITIZENS DISCUSS THE AIR THEY BREATHE - PANEL DISCUSSION ORGANIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EMBASSY OF UNITED STATES IN INDIA



CAA India in partnership with the Embassy of United States in India organized a panel discussion on 'Cleaning the Air: Delhi's Citizens Discuss the Air they Breathe' on 9th May, 2018 at American Center, New Delhi. The event was organized to share the results of the Public Perception Survey conducted in partnership with the Embassy of United States in India with 1500 people in Delhi.

Mr. Richard Pinkham (Director of Programs, American Centre) moderated the discussion which was focused on how much people were aware of air quality issues. The panel discussion began with a presentation by Ms. Prarthana Borah, India Director, CAA where she shared the results of the study conducted by CAA. The CAA Perception survey results indicate that unsurprisingly, air pollution emerged as the main concern compared to other types of pollution with 40% of respondents feeling air quality had declined in the past year. People also related the impact of bad air on their health and were very conscious of being subject to breathlessness and respiratory disorders. On sources, majority respondents were convinced that vehicles were the chief reason with the burning of solid waste coming a close second.

During the panel discussion Prof. Shyamala Mani, (National Institute of Urban Affairs), emphasized the need for proper solid waste management strategies to prevent open burning as well as dumping of waste if we have to encourage cities to work towards the better air. Dr. Ram Booji, National Programme Officer, UNESCO stressed the need for public awareness so people can drive policy. He said that the best international clean air practices were such where people have pushed policy and this is especially true in the context of clean air.



CITIES CONSULTATION WORKSHOP FOR STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL CLEAN AIR PROGRAMME

The Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India launched the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) in May, 2018. The need for NCAP is felt by MoEF&CC for augmentation of efforts towards mitigation of air pollution in mission mode considering the gaps drawn from the ongoing government initiatives and existing air pollution status in the country. In order to make the National Clean Air Programme participatory, MoEF&CC had invited comments before finalizing the NCAP programme. Clean Air Asia India took the lead to get city level participation and organized a Cities Consultation Workshop for inputs to strengthen NCAP on 14th of May in New Delhi.

Participants from five states (including Telangana, Maharashtra, Haryana and New Delhi) and 9 cities participated in the workshop. Attendees included Member Secretaries of State Pollution Control Boards, Municipal Commissioners and participants from academic institutions as well as civil society.

Comments and ideas were generated through interactive knowledge café in which each participant shared their views.

Some of the main points of this report that was generated from the SPCBs and city officials mentioned the need for clear protocols for setting up of monitoring stations, the requirement of monitoring additional pollutants like PM1 and the immediate necessity of assessment, monitoring, and inspection of both manual and CAAQM stations. Since the NCAP mentions indoor air pollution, participants expressed that the SPCB should have a clear- protocols defined for indoor air pollution monitoring and management. The need for public engagement was emphasized especially through the involvement of civil society.

The report of the consultation has been presented to the MoEF&CC for incorporating in the final NCAP draft.

[Click to read our Public Perception Survey](#)

[Click to watch Prarthana Borah talk about how public perception of air pollution is changing.](#)

CITY LEVEL CONSULTATION FOR 'BRIDGING THE KNOWLEDGE GAP ON AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN INDIAN CITIES FOR THE TRI-CITY (CHANDIGARH, MOHALI, AND PANCHKULA)



CAA India organized a one-day consultation for Tri-City (Chandigarh, Mohali, and Panchkula) on 'Bridging the Knowledge Gap in Air Quality Management in Indian Cities' on 16th May at Chandigarh in collaboration with Department of

Environment UT Chandigarh and supported by Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation.

CAA with the support of Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation is implementing the project titled 'Bridging the Knowledge Gap on Air Quality Management in Indian Cities'. The project has been conceptualized with the objective of bridging the knowledge gap on air quality management by providing information, knowledge and technical solutions for policymakers. The intent is that it is expected that this knowledge on air quality, based on evidence and emerging technologies implemented by different stakeholders will help support strategic interventions for improvements in air quality and contribute to more livable and healthy cities.

A one-day consultation workshop was organized for Tri-City (Chandigarh, Mohali, and Panchkula) on 'Bridging the Knowledge Gap in Air Quality Management in Indian Cities' on 16th May at Chandigarh in collaboration with Department of Environment UT Chandigarh. It was inaugurated by Shri Anurag Agarwal, IAS. In his special address, Shri Agarwal stressed on the importance of inter-departmental coordination to control air pollution. The understanding of transboundary issues was also discussed by him during this session.

The workshop was divided into three sessions. The first session focussed on Air Quality Assessment and Monitoring for Chandigarh City where the discussion focused on various issues the city is facing with respect to air pollution, the status of air quality assessment in the city and the results based on the CAST toolkit, a comprehensive assessment developed by Clean Air Asia. The second session, Air Quality Management in Indian Cities, aimed at sharing the experience of AQM practices adopted in other Indian cities. The need for an extensive study as done in Bhubaneswar along with the need to act against multiple sources of pollution with data-driven studies was discussed. The effect of air pollution on health and effective ways to communicate the same to the public was conversed in the third session, Air Pollution, Health Effects and Communicating Impacts.

In his concluding remark, Mr. Santosh Kumar Director (Environment), U.T. Chandigarh acknowledged that air pollution is a complication that requires multi-sectoral action. The need for a detailed Air Action plan coined by him to strategically tackle this issue.



CAA'S PARTICIPATION IN A PANEL DISCUSSION ON AIR POLLUTION AND ITS EFFECT ON HEALTH

CAA India was invited to speak at a panel discussion on Air Pollution and Its Effect on Health organized by the North India Office of the U.S. Embassy and Kala Care Group on May 25, 2018, at Shridharani Art Gallery, New Delhi.

The panel moderated by Mr. Stewart Davis, Programme Head North India Office who highlighted the need for individual action for clearing the air. The panelists included Ms. Lesley Onyon, Advisor, World Health Organization, Fulbright alumni Dr. Nitish Dogra and Ms. Prarthana Borah, India Director, Clean Air Asia. They discussed about growing air pollution crisis and its adverse effect on the health of the future generation.

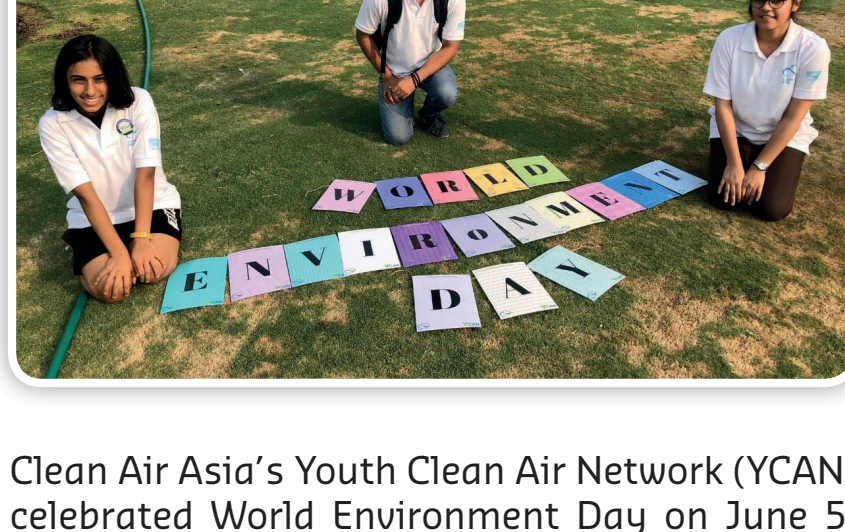
During the discussion, Ms. Prarthana Borah mentioned about the study conducted by CAA on Air Quality in 490 cities of Asia out of which 460 cities were developing cities and 90% of the cities did not meet the WHO standards of Air Quality. She briefed that the issue is not just about AQ but because the cities are developing and have a bad unplanned urban development which leads to an unorganized increase in vehicles on the streets, construction and brings us to the sources of Air Pollution. She also emphasized that "Unless we realize we are a part of the problem, we cannot be the part of a solution."

Ms. Lesley Onyon related air pollution with the economic development of a developing country like India. She emphasized the fact that household air pollution is the key issue in the country and more than 60% of the household depends on cooking by burning wood, coal or chullah. She also mentioned the fact that every year more than 7 million deaths occur due to exposure from households and ambient air pollution.

Dr. Nitish Dogra talked about the health impacts of Air Pollution on human beings. He stated that we should start putting the things in perspective and while realizing the health impacts of Air Pollution we should also start mainstreaming the issue of Air Quality.

The panel discussion was followed by an Art Exhibition 'GREY' wherein the Artists from different regions painted their perception of Air in their city and portrayed on a piece of art. On the same note, Ms. Prarthana Borah (India Director, Clean Air Asia) expressed, "It's interesting that we are moving out of the Air Quality space and discussing the issue with artists for the first time and in a room full of people who have their own different perceptions and ideas because from there we might get the solution to the problem".

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY CELEBRATION



Clean Air Asia's Youth Clean Air Network (YCAN) celebrated World Environment Day on June 5, 2018, in Central Park, New Delhi. YCAN members and youth from different colleges participated in this fruitful discussion. The main agenda of organizing the event in open was to go beyond traditional boundaries and discuss the issues that affect people on a daily basis.

Individual steps taken by the participant towards the betterment of environment was also a part of the discussion. WHO's report of most polluted cities of the world which comprises of Delhi was also a part of the discussion. Breathing in Delhi's air is equivalent to smoking around 20 cigarettes a day was one of the most heart-wrenching fact mentioned by one of the participants.

The whole discussion revolved around the theme of this year's World Environment Day 'beat plastic pollution' along with Air Quality issues. Participants were introduced to terminologies used in Air Quality space such as AQI, PM10, PM2.5 etc.

Also, the city volunteers in Patna and Kochi also celebrated this day by hosting similar events in their cities.



ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION ON AIR ACTION PLAN FOR BHUBANESWAR CITY

Clean Air Asia in India in partnership with Odisha State Pollution Control Board, is preparing an air quality action plan for Bhubaneswar city. A multi stakeholder roundtable discussion was organised on 26th June 2018 in Bhubaneswar to generate feedback on the Draft Clean Air Action Plan. Relevant stakeholders from the city administration, such as the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, Bhubaneswar Smart City Limited, Bhubaneswar Development Authority, the Transport Department, Traffic Police were present to comment on the feasibility of the draft as well as generate inputs on the way forward.

Sri S. Mohapatra, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Forest & Environment Department, Govt. of Odisha presided over the event. He stressed the need for a clean air policy at the city level in Odisha and the need to seriously take up the matter.

Bhubaneswar being a non-attainment city, the need for a clean air action plan was strongly felt by the city administration. In his special address, Dr. Kishan Kumar, IAS, Commissioner, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation mentioned that in order to achieve the goals of meeting the national ambient air quality standards, pedestrians and cyclists should be given the same importance as private vehicles owners while planning the development of the city. In order to do so equitably distributed & well-paved roads, shaded cycle tracks, walkways & landscaped street sides should be the first priority of the concerned authorities. Dust emissions too are an important issue when addressing city development and the construction and demolition rules must be strongly implemented.

Sh. Debidutta Biswal, IFS, Member Secretary, Odisha State Pollution Control Board moderated a very interactive discussion of officials which led to inputs to the draft. The draft was made keeping in mind the special needs of the Bhubaneswar city and ongoing activities of the city administration. A revised draft will be prepared by CAA India and submitted to the OSPCB.

CAA IN NEWS

Focus on other cities too: Experts

Times News Network
New Delhi: While Delhi's overall air quality has improved in the last year, experts say that the city's air quality remains poor. They say that the city's air quality is still a concern and that the government needs to take more steps to improve it. They also say that the city's air quality is a concern for the entire country and that the government needs to take more steps to improve it.

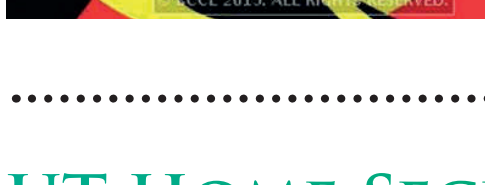
GREEN VOICES

Prarthana Borah, director of Clean Air Asia, said, "We have started acknowledging the problem, which is a good step. We need to do much more in terms of enforcement. A long-term mechanism needs to be drawn too."

'PROPER WASTE MANAGEMENT NEED OF HOUR'

Arsh Behal | TNN | Updated: May 17, 2018, 11:06 IST

CHANDIGARH: In order to raise awareness about air pollution and come forward with an air quality action plan for City Beautiful, Clean Air Asia along with the department of environment in association with Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation organised held an air quality management conference here on Wednesday.



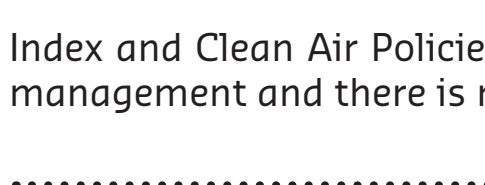
The chief guest at the conference was UT home secretary Anurag Agarwal whereas numerous representatives from different departments of the city namely the MC, road and transport, environmentalists, department of environment, health, scientists, Institute of Microbial Technology NGOs among others were also present.

[Read More...](#)

UT HOME SECRETARY, SHRI ANURAG AGARWAL ADDRESSING AT THE "WORKSHOP FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN INDIAN CITIES BRIDGING THE KNOWLEDGE GAP" AT HOTEL LALIT, IT PARK, CHANDIGARH



May 16, 2018 06:32 PM



Chandigarh, 16 May, 2018: A workshop on City Consultation for Tri-City (Mohali-Chandigarh-Panchkula) with the agenda of "Air Quality Management in Indian Cities Bridging the Knowledge Gap" was organised today at Hotel Lalit, IT Park, Chandigarh by Clean Air Asia and Department of Environment UT Chandigarh and supported by Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation.

The first session of the day tried to assess the data on air quality for Chandigarh city. This was done through two presentations. The first was made by Dr. Vasundhara Bhojwadi, India Program Manager (Air Quality), Clean Air Asia. The presentation shared the results of the Clean Air Scorecard Tool (CAST) that was developed by Clean Air Asia. The tool assess air quality management along three axes: Air pollution and health index; Clean Air Management Capacity Index and Clean Air Policies and Action Index. Chandigarh is a 'developing city' with regard to air quality management and there is room for improvement.

[Read More...](#)

छोटे शहरों का एयर पॉल्यूशन कम करने के लिए क्लीन एयर एशिया बना रहा है प्लान

अभी हाल में ही सर्वे में सामने आया है कि वर्ल्ड में सबसे ज्यादा प्रदूषित शहरों में इंडिया के 14 शहर शामिल हैं।



इस बारे में क्लीन एयर एशिया की इंडिया डायरेक्टर प्रार्थना बोरा ने moneybhsakar-com को बताया कि छोटे शहर अपने शहर का पॉल्यूशन लेवल कम करने के लिए उनके एनजीओ क्लीन एयर एशिया के साथ मिलकर काम कर रहे हैं। उनके साथ इन शहरों की गवर्नमेंट बॉडी जैसे नगर निगम, राज्य सरकारें भी मिलकर काम कर रही हैं। इनमें लखनऊ, नागपुर, देहरादून, भुवनेश्वर जैसे देश के करीब 30 शहर शामिल हैं। इस लिस्ट में ज्यादातर टियर वन और टू शहर शामिल हैं। क्लीन एयर एशिया इनके लिए पॉल्यूशन लेवल कम करने के लिए एक्शन प्लान बना रहा है कि किन तरीकों को आजमाकर यह शहर अपना पॉल्यूशन कम कर सकते हैं।

[Read More...](#)

Money Bhaskar | Last update : June 20, 2018 03:57 PM IST

नई दिल्ली। अभी हाल में ही सर्वे में सामने आया है कि वर्ल्ड में सबसे ज्यादा प्रदूषित शहरों में इंडिया के 14 शहर शामिल हैं। वर्ल्ड हेल्थ ऑर्गेनाइजेशन की हालिया रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक कानपुर लिस्ट में टॉप पर है। इस लिस्ट में कानपुर, दिल्ली, लखनऊ, आगरा, जयपुर और जोधपुर जैसे शहर लिस्ट में शामिल हैं। एयर पॉल्यूशन लेवल कम करने को लेकर देश के करीब 30 शहर एनजीओ क्लीन एयर एशिया के साथ काम कर रहे हैं। क्लीन एयर एशिया इन शहरों के लिए पॉल्यूशन लेवल कम करने के लिए एक्शन प्लान बना रहा है।

शहर पॉल्यूशन लेवल कम करने के लिए बना रहे हैं एक्शन प्लान

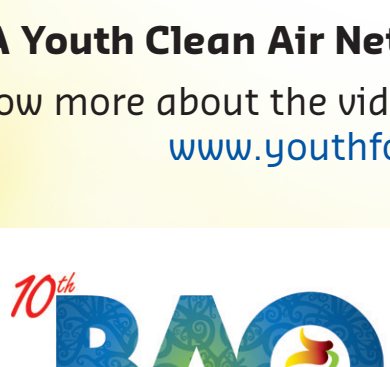
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Clean Air Asia & Embassy of The United States of America

Present

A Youth Clean Air Network Video Challenge

To know more about the video challenge, click on the link:
www.youthforcleanair.com



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