



CERCA Newsletter: September 2020

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Greetings from CERCA!

Covid Lockdown is taking a toll in terms of mental fatigue. Hope you and families are safe. As social distancing and work-from-home becomes the new normal, finding solutions to this problem becomes equally important. To take care of yourself and beat this fatigue, it is important to accept the difficult emotional experience and the fact of going through these uncertain times. Instead of attempting to make the future predictable, it is important to focus on activities that you can control on a daily basis. Amidst all the professional and personal work, one should take out some Me-time where one can do things that keeps our minds calm and relaxed.

CERCA Team

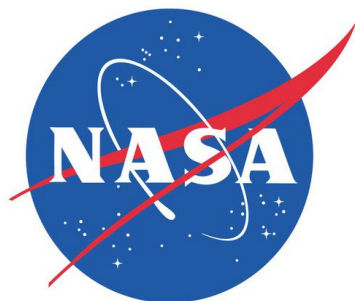
CERCA Events



Celebrated International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies

CERCA, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi organised a Webinar on Clean Air Goals for India on 7th September 2020 from 10:00 AM to 12:45 PM on the occasion of International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies.

NASA Citizen Science Project



This project aims to explore the use of low-cost sensors in measuring air pollution through the engagement of citizens. Adequate ground-based measurements of air quality do not exist in most of the country. Satellite data are used to fill this gap, but satellites cannot provide data at nighttime. To provide the required temporal coverage at a minimum cost, low-cost sensors became very popular in the last few years.

IIT Delhi signed MoA with Bihar State



Pollution Control Board

The Bihar State Pollution Control Board has signed a 'Memorandum of Agreement' (MoA) with IIT Delhi on 8th August 2020 for setting up of a geographical information system (GIS) based platform for air quality management in the state. Prof. Sagnik Dey, from Centre for Atmospheric Sciences and Coordinator CERCA IITD, will be leading this project with his counterpart Mr. S.N Jayaswal of Bihar State Pollution Control Board, Patna.

CERCA in the News



First International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies

The Indian Institute of Delhi (IITD) Centre of Excellence for Research on Clean Air (CERCA) also organized a webinar on the topic of “Clean Air Goals for India: What did we achieve and where should we go?”



In Bengal, real-time satellite data to be used for round-the-clock air quality management

Till date satellite data has been used by scientists for research, but this is for the first time that real-time satellite data would be used for air quality management in cities on a day-to-day basis, said coordinator of the Centre of Excellence for Research on Clean Air (CERCA).



Scientists use lockdown to get data on unpolluted Delhi air

The shutdown is not limited to a particular sector like industry or vehicles. Neither is it a city-level shutdown. It is a pan-India shutdown, so chances of pollution coming from outside has also been minimized. We are gathering data as this an

opportunity that Delhi will not get in years to come,said Coordinator of CERCA at IIT Delhi.

Opinion Papers



Is pollution deliberate?

To solve the problem of pollution and climate change, we must understand our role in it. How does our economy affect pollution? What is the scale at which we need action? Any action done consciously is deliberate. Do we drive or ride in cars consciously? If yes then pollution is deliberate.....

Research Outcomes



Temporal and spatial variability of carbonaceous species (EC; OC; WSOC and SOA) in PM_{2.5} aerosol over five sites of Indo-Gangetic plain

A year-long offline based study was performed at five sites of Indo-Gangetic plain to get the spatio-temporal variation in elemental carbon (EC), organic carbon (OC), water-soluble organic carbon (WSOC) and secondary organic aerosol (SOA) in PM_{2.5} fraction.

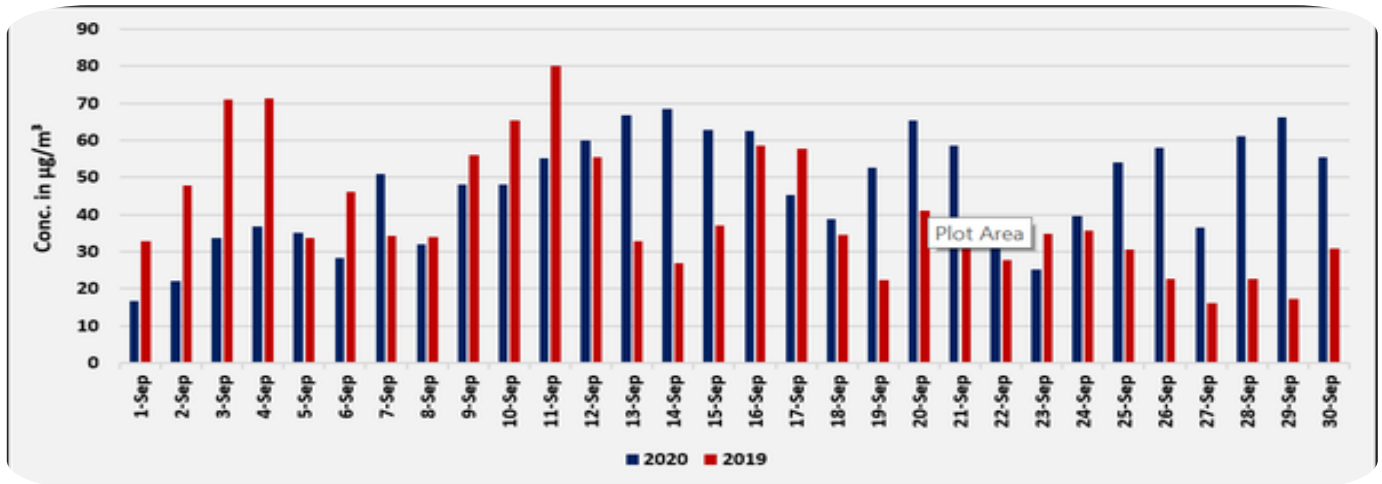


Air pollution episodes during the COVID-19 outbreak in the Beijing-Tianjine-Hebei region of China: An insight into the transport pathways and source distribution

Although anthropogenic emissions decreased, polluted days still occurred in the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei (BTH) region during the initial outbreak of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Analysis of the characteristics and source distribution of large-scale air pollution episodes during the COVID-19 outbreak (from 23 January to April 8, 2020) in the BTH region is helpful

for exploring the efficacy of control measures and policy making.

Delhi Air Quality Trend for 24 hr. Daily Average



About 15% increase in PM_{2.5} levels in September 2020 in comparison to September 2019 have been observed.

Data Source: CPCB

News Highlights



Central Govt to hold review meeting on air pollution measures, stubble burning on Oct 1

To review the progress of air pollution control initiatives and the problem of stubble burning, environment secretaries of Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan along with officials from the Union Environment Ministry and representatives of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) will hold a meeting on October 1, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar said on Tuesday.

Source: The Print & Guardian

Haryana: Study to assess sources of pollution in four cities to begin this winter

A study to comprehensively assess the sources of air and noise pollution in Gurugram, Faridabad, Sonipat and Panipat is likely to commence this winter. The exercise, known as a source apportionment study, is expected to last at least 18 months from the date of commencement. The study is being commissioned by the Haryana State Pollution Control Board(HSPCB) under the aegis of the Centre National Clean Air Programme (NCAP).

Source: Hindustan Times



Reducing air pollution has made the planet warmer

China efforts to reduce air pollution has made the planet warmer, according to a new study

Source: Air quality [news.com](#)



President Xi's bold carbon neutral goal inspires climate change mitigation globally

Chinese President Xi Jinping, in his recent address to the United Nations General Assembly, pledged to achieve carbon neutrality before 2060 and also called for a global green revolution in the post-COVID era.

Source: CGTN

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