



A CAG Initiative

# stoppwatch

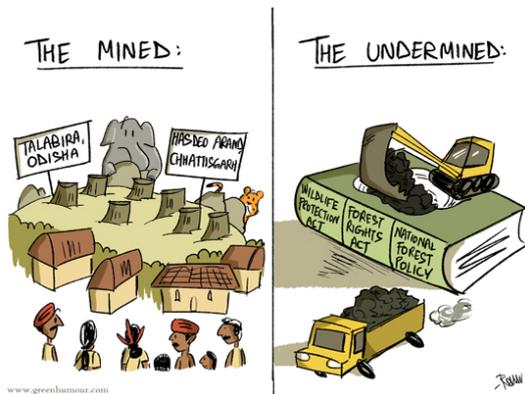
Educating & Informing Stakeholders on Energy,  
Environment, and Thermal Power Plants

June 2020

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the June 2020 edition of *St(o)ppwatch* newsletter! This is our monthly dispatch of updates and insights on issues surrounding coal-based power plants, air pollution, climate change, and the environment in general. We hope you will enjoy reading this issue of *St(o)ppwatch*.

## Editorial



### Coal Block Allocation - Scuttling of the voices of people and the environment

The government of India has chosen coal as the driver of economic recovery post COVID-19 and for self reliance. This article discusses the sinking voices of the people and the environment that seems to have been ignored in this decision.

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### World Environment Day – Isn't Every Time A #timefornature?

The authors make a compelling case for imbining compassion for nature and reminds the government of its powers and duties towards environmental protection in India.



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## Draft EIA Notification 2020 : Areas Of Concern

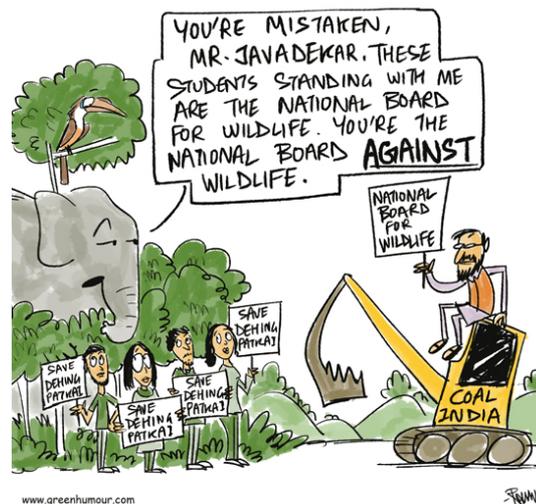
According to the author, the problems with the draft EIA notification 2020, the manner in which it was introduced amid COVID-19, and the weak essence of legality to the draft leave no option but to reject it in totality.

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## The Hidden Cost of Mining Coal in Assam

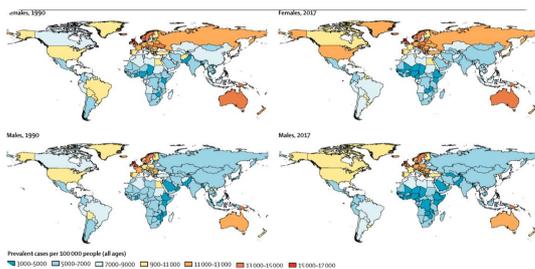
'Fragile and sensitive soil terrain, presence of elephant dung and elephant food species, and movement of heavy vehicles and machinery for illegal coal mines already decimating the forests, and miners operating on long expired leases'- findings of a committee whose report never became public.

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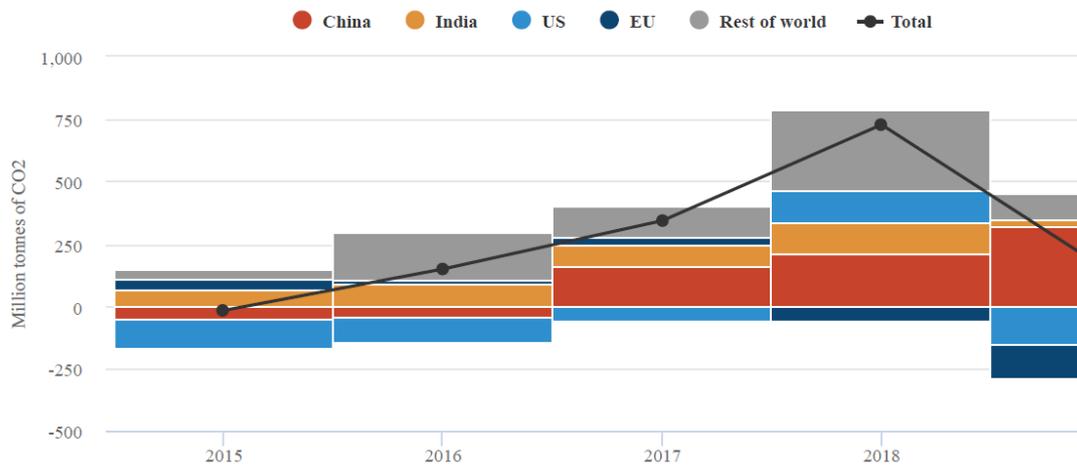
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## Prevalence and attributable health burden of chronic respiratory diseases, 1990–2017: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017

Between 1990 and 2017, South Asia had the greatest mortality rates and Years of Life Lost (YLL) due to chronic respiratory diseases.

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According to the Carbon Brief analysis of the new data from global oil giant British Petroleum (BP), at 28 MtCO<sub>2</sub> (orange), India's CO<sub>2</sub> growth in 2019 was the lowest in the last two decades

Chart reproduced from Carbon Brief under [Creative Commons License](#).

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## ***Actions you can take!***

### **Send your comments on EIA Draft Notification 2020**

On June 30, Delhi High Court, while responding to a petition filed by environmentalist Mr Vikrant Tongad, deferred the last date for filing objections to the draft EIA notification 2020 to August 11.

17,000 Indians have already taken a stand on the draft EIA notification 2020 despite being in lockdown. We need at least 10,000 more emails sent to let the Environment Ministry know that they are doing wrong by prioritizing business over the environment!

From excluding new industries that should have environmental clearance to reducing the number of public consultations, the draft EIA 2020 notification goes against the need of the hour to strengthen environmental laws.

Send this email (before August 11) demanding that the notification be scrapped immediately. We're counting on you. [bit.ly/3fmYF29](https://bit.ly/3fmYF29)

[Sign here](#)



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### ***Did You Know?***

*New research has found that in the last three decades (1989 to 2018) Antarctica has warmed three times more than the global average. This record heat was a result of natural swings in Antarctica's climate working in sync with human caused global warming.*

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*Power plant in  
your  
neighbourhood?*

Use our monitoring [tool](#) to see if the plant is adhering to prescribed standards.

For other tools and tips to strengthen your campaigns, see [here](#).

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### **About CAG:**

Citizen consumer and civic Action Group (CAG) is a non-profit, non-political, professional organization working towards citizen's rights in consumer and environmental issues and promoting good governance including transparency, accountability, and participatory decision-making.

### **About Thermal Watch:**

An initiative to assist local communities around existing and proposed coal-fired power plants on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, by developing and disseminating information toolkits that they can use. In addition to that, we create awareness about the existing compliance processes to push for better compliance by power plants to prescribed environmental standards.

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If you would like anyone to receive our newsletter, ask them to write to us, and we will be happy to add them to our mailing list.

If this mail was forwarded to you and you liked it, we would love to have you as our

subscriber, please use this [form](#) to sign up for St(o)ppwatch.

We would love to hear from you! If you have any feedback, please drop us a line at [tpp@cag.org.in](mailto:tpp@cag.org.in).

- Team Thermal Watch

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St(o)ppwatch is an initiative of Thermal Watch team at Citizen consumer and civic Action Group (CAG).*

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