



A CAG Initiative

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

May 2020

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the May 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



The Triple Tragedies

In this article, we dwell on the possible reasons for the three accidents that took place on May 7. We find that these accidents show a red card to the draft EIA 2020 notification, and contemplate on victims getting justice and propose a way forward to prevent such tragedies in future.

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Energy efficiency schemes led to savings of around ₹90,000 crore: PWC report

According to the report by PWC, the energy efficiency initiatives by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has led to reduction of 151.74 Million Tonnes of CO₂ (MTCO₂), and total energy savings (demand + supply side) of 23.73 Million Tonne of oil equivalent (Mtoe).

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70% of coal-fired power stations may not meet environmental norms by 2022

At a time when India is opening for privatisation in coal mining to restart the economy stalled by COVID-19, a new report by Centre for Science and Environment has found that 70% of coal fired power plants are likely to fail meeting environmental norms by 2022, five years after their extended deadline to do so.

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Steep fall in emissions during coronavirus is no cause for celebration

Experts warn that the steep fall in global emissions due to COVID-19 may mean nothing to the goal of lowering emissions to fight climate change, as these cuts are likely to be offset as governments push for rapid economic recovery.

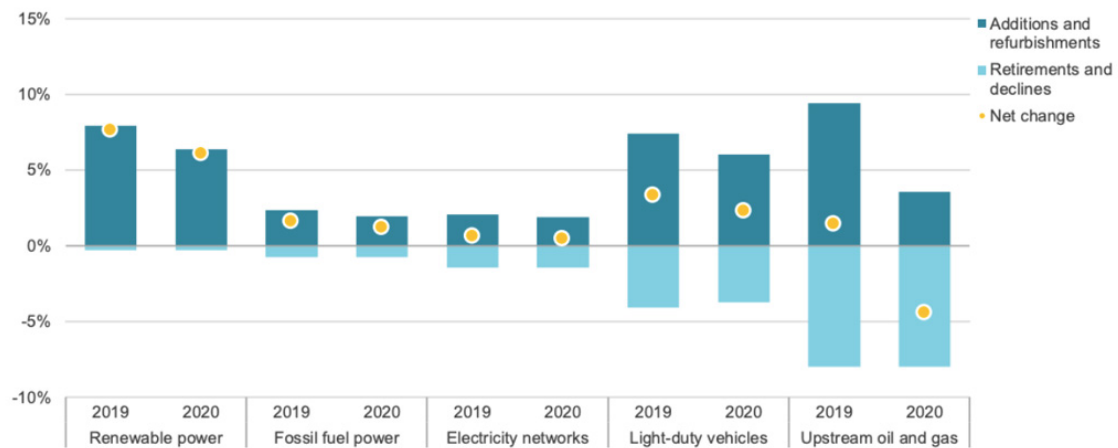
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A climate terrorism assemblage? Exploring the politics of climate change-terrorism-radicalisation relations

Citing the case study of Syrian conflict, the author here argues that a 'climate terrorism assemblage' is formed from a heterogeneous range of geopolitical components like local climate factors, migration, think tanks and academic publications, and a discourse on climate security.

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According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), the COVID-19 crisis is accelerating the phase out and retirement of old plants and facilities (light blue), but also dampening consumer spending on the new and efficient technologies (blue), with a potential net decrease in the upstream oil and gas facilities (yellow dot).

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Actions you can take!

National consultation on Draft Environment Impact Assessment Notification 2020 - Focus on environmental protection and environmental justice

Virtual Meet on June 05, 2020

During lockdown, India has seen attempts at dilution of the environmental laws and fast track clearances to industrial projects in ecologically fragile areas. The draft EIA Notification 2020 was issued by MoEF&CC on March 23, a day before the Prime Minister announced a nation-wide lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic. Through an online notice public comments were invited in the next 60 days (ending May 22), which after representation from various organisations and individuals has been deferred to June 30, by the ministry.

Citizen consumer and civic Action Group (CAG), Environment Support Group (ESG), and Movement for Advancing Understanding on Sustainability And Mutuality (MAUSAM), invite you to debate and discuss all the critical issues and concerns about draft EIA 2020 notification, with a specific focus on environmental protection and environmental justice. Please confirm your participation in the consultation on 5th June 2020, also World Environment Day, on Google Meet, between 3-6 pm, by registering at the link below.

[Register Now](#)



Send your comments on EIA Draft Notification 2020

As India battles the **COVID-19 outbreak**, the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has released the draft Environmental Impact Assessment Notification (EIA) 2020.

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**. For such an important notification that has far-reaching impacts on India's environment and forest protection, the ministry opened it up for **public comments** right in the midst of this **pandemic**.

This move is not only **ill-timed** but also **wrong! Send this email** (before June 30) demanding that the notification be **scrapped immediately**. We're counting on you.

[Sign here](#)



Did You Know?

Exxon *knew* about climate change as early as 1977. What it did was follow the template of tobacco industry and set on the path of climate change denial and create confusion on climate change. It is now called ExxonMobil and is the world's largest oil and gas company.



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](#).

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.

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.

- 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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