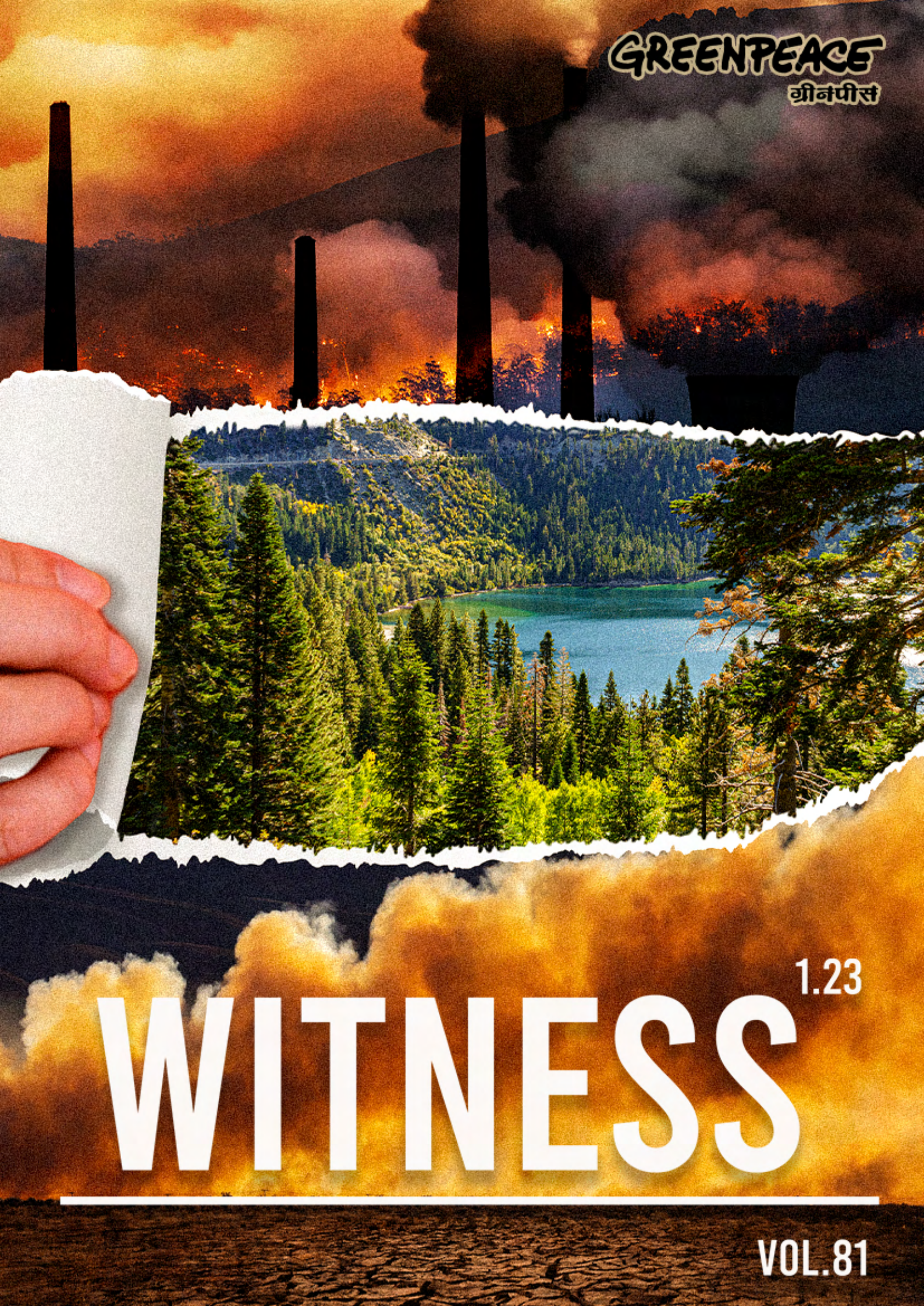


GREENPEACE

ग्रीनपीस



1.23

WITNESS

VOL.81



Binu Jacob

Executive Director
Greenpeace India

As an environmental campaigning group that consists of the Greenpeace team, supporters and volunteers it is not easy to feel positive about the state of our land, air or water. However, despite the multiplicity of challenges surrounding us, we have found encouraging signs of change!

We began the year with a week - long campaign in New Delhi to demand an urgent revision of India's air quality standards from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). We were actively supported by our volunteers, allies and women from the Power The Pedal community - and their voices were heard by the authorities! The CPCB responded to our campaign and assured us that they are working towards revising India's air quality standards in the upcoming months.

The people of New Delhi also participated in our Growing Together project, where we organised a series of organic farm visits for our volunteers, school children and urban consumers to understand the journey of their food and how locally - procured organic food can fight climate change. In Patna, six farmers' collectives from across Bihar came together for a two - day Organic Farmers' Market to boost the demand for diverse, local and organic food. Both events received highly positive responses from urban consumers.

A historic UN Ocean Treaty has finally been agreed upon after almost two decades of negotiations in which Greenpeace has played a pivotal role. It provides a pathway to establish marine sanctuaries so that countries can turn their commitment to protecting 30 percent of the ocean by 2030 into a reality. We in India had also written an open letter to the Ministry of Earth Sciences to lead global deliberations on this issue and truly deliver on socio-environmental justice.

The 'Power The Pedal' communities in New Delhi and Bengaluru have grown as more working women cyclists have joined to reclaim their mobility space. The excitement within the community is palpable and their will to change the system is inspiring. In an attempt to capture the experiences and insights of these women, we are conducting a series of focus group discussions with them. These women continue to be active participants in various activities including cycle rallies, public actions on air pollution, and political advocacy for better mobility. We can only feel grateful and inspired that with continued efforts from our donors and supporters, we are building a community that can make a difference!



GROWING TOGETHER: TOWARDS URBAN NUTRITIONAL SECURITY, REDUCING EMISSION FROM THE PLATE

Growing together seeks to create a more sustainable and just food system. To help communities understand their food journey and to eat right we conducted three farm visits in Delhi.



Everyone thinks that organic farming is very expensive and cannot be afforded by everyone. But the reality is that it gets expensive after it enters the market. By supporting organic farmers, it will not only benefit us but also the consumers, as they will know exactly where their vegetables are coming from."

- Wasim, Teacher - Vivek Modern Public School

The three-day farm visit saw a varied range of participants, including school kids, teachers, young volunteers, urban consumers, people from Resident Welfare Associations, organic farmer groups, etc. They had the privilege of getting their hands on picking vegetables, learning to use farming tools and make natural fertilizers, buying fresh produce from stalls, helping prepare lunch, and savouring a nutritious meal made from ingredients sourced from the farm.

Through Growing Together, Greenpeace India is bringing Delhi's consumers to the farm to experience the delicacy of organically grown produce firsthand and to encourage them in making informed decisions about what they eat and how to fight climate change.

FARMERS FROM RURAL BIHAR TAKE PATNA BY A STORM

Post the launch of our Community Supported Agriculture in Patna, we organised Organic Farmers' Market on 28 January 2023 in collaboration with Patna's only five-star hotel, Hotel Maurya and Sustainability Shoppe. More than 6 farmers' collectives from Bihar's - Simultalla, Kedia, Tari Dabil (Jamui), Durdih (Lakhisarai), Kohbar (Gaya), Dalsinghsarai (Samastipur) and Punpun (Patna) participated in the market with their products. During this fortnightly held, two-day market, products like grains, besan, ragi atta, pulses, oyster mushrooms, ghee and readymade food items including laddoos and momos made of millets and mahua, doodh pitha, snacks and fritters made of banana flowers and millets, banana chips, shakes and a few fresh fruits were sold. This market is also trying to inculcate the culture of plastic-free package-free buying as buyers are incentivised for bringing their bags and vessels. Hotel Maurya even procured precooked food items and served them to their clients that received a rave response. The first Organic Farmers' Market received a positive response with more than 150 urban consumers visiting the stalls.

The success of this farmer's market is a step towards reducing the gap between farmers and consumers while also promoting sustainable agriculture and healthy food for all.



WE'RE BACK AT CPCB!



April 22, 2022

More than 10,000 people supported and signed the petition which was submitted to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) for action. The petition urged the government to take action, demanding the CPCB revise the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) based on the updated WHO air quality guidelines.

We waited, patiently,
for CPCB to take action.

● 288 DAYS LATER



We are back at Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi to nudge them towards their pending action.

● Feb. 4, 2023

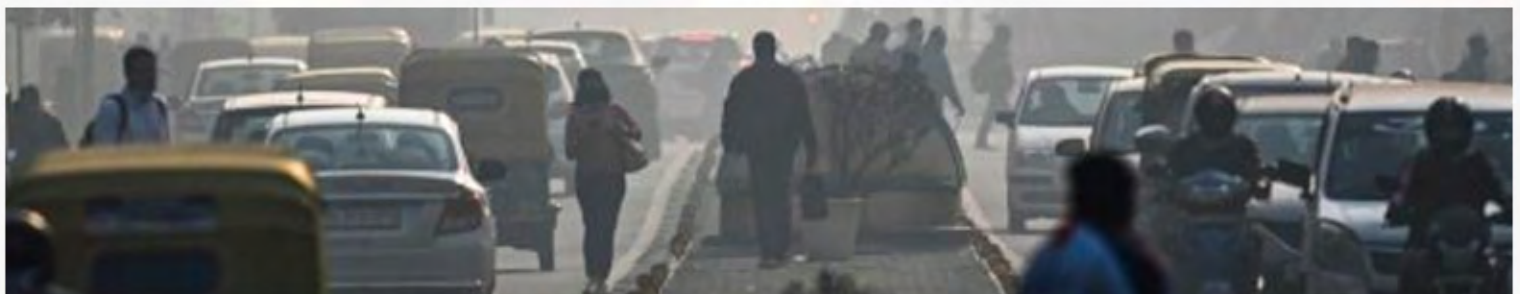


In 2022, for the first time in fifteen years, WHO updated its air quality guidelines reducing the concentration of safe levels of pollutants significantly. The current concentration of pollutants in our cities is way beyond the WHO level. To urge the government to take action, we rolled out a petition across the country for people to sign and more than 10,000 of you showed your support for Clean Air.

As CPCB made no updates, we continued our conversation with the officials and asked them to 'raise their standards' along with the support of many youth changemakers, women cyclists from the Power the Pedal community and prominent health advocates. We will not stop until we have **#AirPollutionSeAzadi**.

Additionally, to highlight the impact of air pollution in Delhi, we conducted an action in the streets of Delhi which portrayed what our future would look like if we continued at our current rate of fossil fuel consumption. Greenpeace Volunteers donned Hazmat suits and Gas masks and participated in everyday activities like grocery shopping, travelling in rickshaws, hanging out with friends and much more to show that - This is our future. Future where mundane tasks would require extra gear to protect ourselves from the toxic environment around us.

We are racing towards a point of no return with rising air pollution. Will you show your support?



OUR WOMEN CYCLISTS' COMMUNITY IS GROWING!

We're excited to share that our women's cycling community is growing. With more than 500+ women cyclists, the community is fighting air pollution while cycling to reclaim their space on the road.

We conducted *focus group discussions* with women from lower economic communities in Delhi and Bangalore to understand the issues they faced during their commute and how to strengthen the mobility systems in our city. Women came together and raised key issues like -

- ▶ Lack of infrastructure for cycling
- ▶ Lack of road safety
- ▶ Lack of public toilets for long-distance commutes



During these discussions, women shared their experiences on the road. The prominent issue that they raised was the - fear of an accident. One of them shared that while going to work, a car ran over her leg and drove off. She lay there unconscious and was later rushed to the hospital. Such experiences make women wary of taking charge of their mobility. Some of the key ideas that women put forth during the discussions, that would help ease their commute were:

- ▶ Cycle lanes
- ▶ Reduction of speed limits for cars and two-wheeler for a safer commute
- ▶ Lack of public toilets for long-distance commutes

INDIA RANKS AS THE 8TH MOST POLLUTED COUNTRY: IQAIR

The 5th Annual World Air Quality Report released by IQAir reveals the abysmal state of India's air quality. India has been ranked 8th in the list of countries with the worst air quality index, and 12 of the 15 most polluted cities in Central and South Asia are in India.



Bhiwadi, Rajasthan topped as India's most polluted city.



Delhi was the second most polluted capital city worldwide.



Tarakeswar and Digboi were two of the least polluted Indian cities.



Roughly 60% of Indian cities showed air pollution levels 7 times more than WHO

[READ THE FULL REPORT](#)



There is smoke all around and we have forgotten the feeling of being in an open, fresh environment, inhaling fresh air. We have been experiencing breathlessness. The moment we step out in the open we start feeling breathless. My children are also facing problems due to the quality of the air. They fall sick very quickly and frequently.

- Kusumlata, Cyclist, Delhi

HUMAN-CAUSED CLIMATE CHANGE IS WIDESPREAD, RAPID INTENSIFYING : IPCC REPORT

A ccording to the report, climate change is here, and it's about to get much worse, faster than thought. Between 2010 and 2020, human mortality from floods, droughts and storms was 15 times higher in highly vulnerable regions, compared to regions with very low vulnerability.

Government and policymakers must work to keep the temperature below the 1.5 °C target. Crossing this limit would unleash far more severe climate change effects on people, wildlife and ecosystems. At higher temperatures, humanity will be exposed to life-threatening climatic conditions.

Solutions exist for slashing more than half of the global emissions in just 7 years.

The biggest net emission reductions by 2030 can come from: Solar and wind energy, protection of forests and other ecosystems, climate-friendly food systems and energy efficiency

[READ THE FULL REPORT](#)

"THERE IS A RAPIDLY CLOSING WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY TO SECURE A LIVEABLE AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR ALL."

GLOBAL NEWS

PEOPLE POWER HELPED PROTECT THE OCEANS

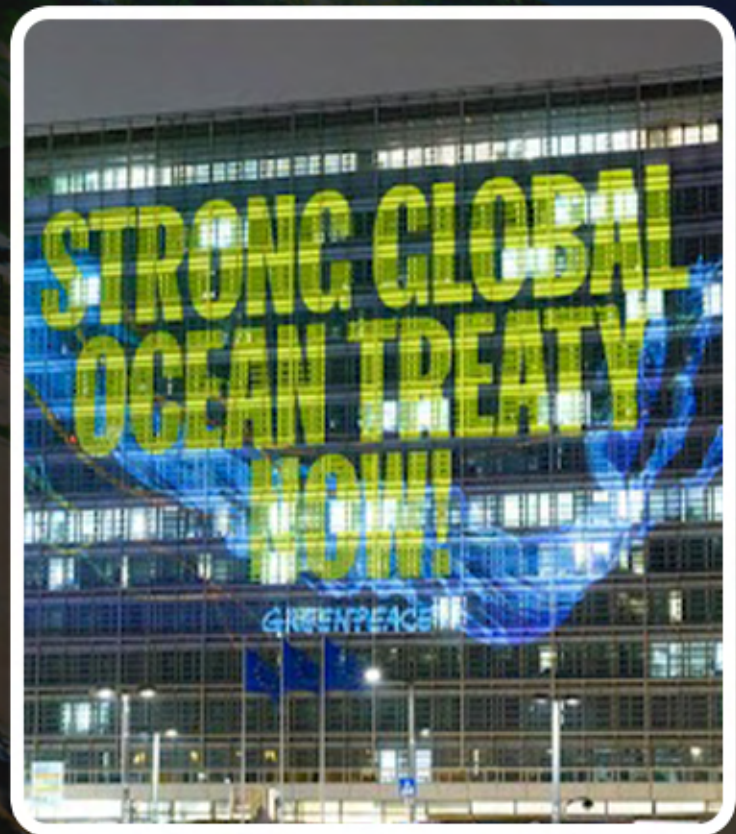
After years of campaigning and a tense final week of negotiations, on March 5, world leaders finally secured a *Global Ocean Treaty*. The new Global Ocean Treaty opens the door to the creation of a network of sanctuaries across the globe - areas

where fragile ecosystems and marine life can recover and thrive.

This is the biggest conservation victory ever! The very first Greenpeace briefing on this topic was written way back in 2005. Since then, the treaty has had many names, but the core remained the same -

- we needed oceans to be protected.

After such a historical day for conservation, governments now have a clear pathway to keep their commitment and protect at least 30% of the oceans by 2030. Our mission is now to put the Global Ocean Treaty to the strongest possible use without delay.



[WATCH NOW](#)

SHELL : STOP DRILLING AND START PAYING

Activists from climate-hit countries exposed Shell's reckless plans to drill for more oil and gas, as the company announced record profits. *The protest was Greenpeace's longest-ever occupation of a moving oil platform.*



KNOW MORE

On February 2, Greenpeace took action at sea and on Earth to expose Shell's reckless plans to drill for more oil and gas by boarding a ship carrying crucial equipment to produce more oil and gas in the North Sea. Shell's reaction was to threaten the protestors with jail and fines, but legal tactics failed and a second boat was sent with more climbers in.

After a *13-day occupation* and nearly 4,000km, the *six activists* disembarked at the port of Haugesund, southwest Norway, with police making no arrests. While occupying Shell's ship, the message was simple:

Enough is enough. Stop drilling and start paying for the climate destruction you've caused.

GREENING THE RECONSTRUCTION OF UKRAINE

Horenka is a small village in Ukraine whose hospital was heavily damaged in the first months of the Russian war. With the initiative of Greenpeace and Ukrainian eco-NGOs Ecoaction, Ecoclub, and Victory of Ukraine fund “City Partnership for Green Reconstruction in Ukraine ” was created to prove that green reconstruction is an eco-friendly way to rebuild countries. A heat pump and solar power plant were installed to increase the hospital’s energy independence and the community’s resilience, and reduce the CO2 emission of the country.



The Horenka Hospital is now open after green reconstruction.

TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR

Impact Box

The provision of reliable and safe public bus service is crucial for meeting the mobility needs of citizens in Delhi. We wrote a letter expressing concern regarding the current state of public transport in Delhi, and requesting that the government increase its investments in public transport in the upcoming state budget 2023-24. As a result of our multiple letters and social media storms, the State Government announced several positive steps towards improving public transport in Delhi, particularly public buses.



Few things to know about

#BusKaBudget

allotted in Delhi

Rs. 28,556 crores have been set aside to induct electric buses for next 12 years



Rs. 3500 crores have been set aside to improve Delhi's public transport system

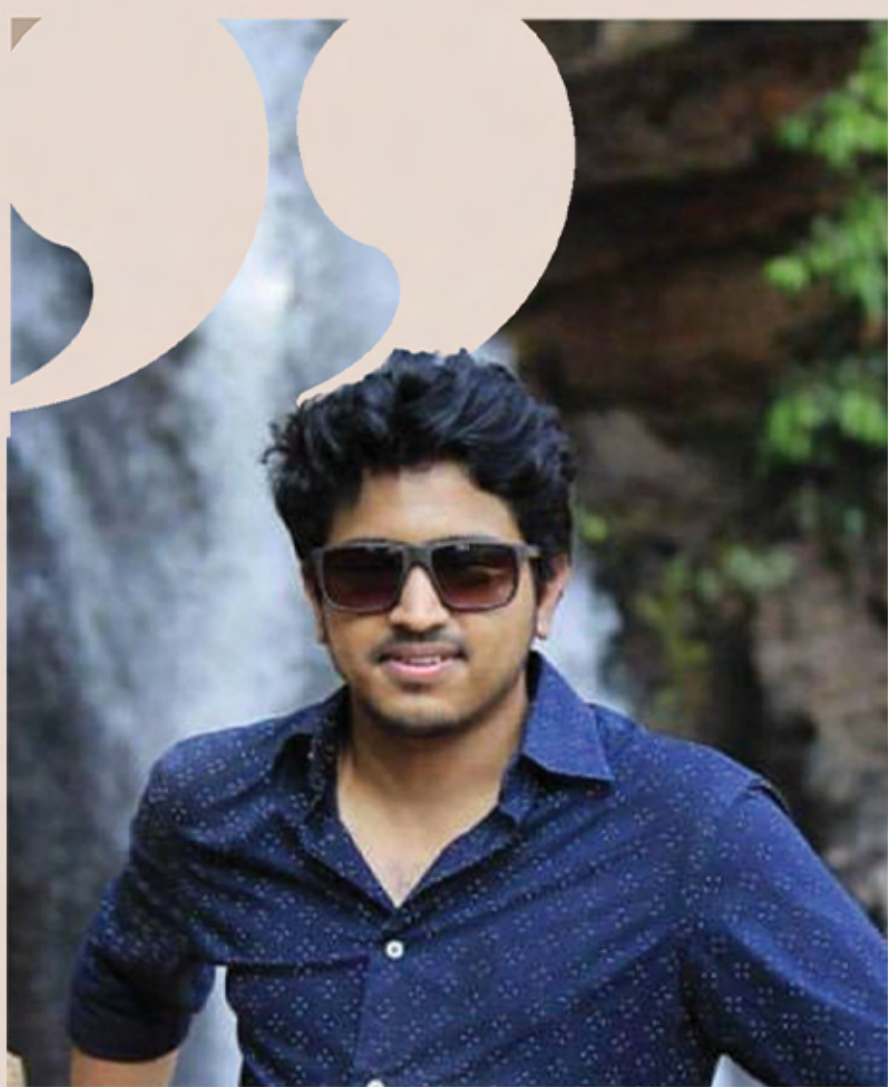
Rs. 1,500 crore have been set aside for electrification of 57 bus depots



1400 bus shelters, 1600 new electric buses, 900 EV charging points announced

Mohalla Bus Scheme for first and last mile connectivity.

Donor Diary



I started supporting Greenpeace because I felt there was hardly anyone talking about the environment, let alone protecting it. I've always felt very strongly about our Earth, and I also make sure I instil the same beliefs in my son, as I am extremely concerned at the thought of our children's future and the kind of planet they will have to live on. I watch everything that Greenpeace does to expose major environmental problems and it makes me feel good that there is someone out there advocating for our Mother Earth.

Mohit Prasad

Greenpeace supporter for 2 years

Greenpeace does not solicit or accept funding from governments, corporations or political parties.

Greenpeace is fiercely independent and survives on donations solely from individuals like you.

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