

VK:e Updates...



Pune

IGBC awards LEED NC – GOLD Rating to SQS India Infosystems Pvt. Ltd. ,

The key green features incorporated in the project are energy, water and material conservation. The project incorporated climate responsive measures right from the design stage, that not only helped reduce the heat gains, but also improved the indoor environmental quality.

A day to remember



The importance of environment, first came forward on June 5, 1972, when the first World Environment Day was celebrated. VK:e marked the World Environment Day, 2012 by screening

the Oscar winning documentary film on climate change “**An Inconvenient Truth**”. The entire VK group was present for the screening. At this event, Ar. Poorva Keskar suggested that resource consumption in a office must optimize and it starts from employee's desk itself.

World Environment Day – 2012 and Rio+20 Summit

The link between the population and sustainable development is strong and inseparable as reflected in 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. After 20 years, the world population have reached 7 billions with expectation of 9 billion by mid century. It creates a challenge of feeding the growing population and providing sufficient job opportunities. A transition to green economy becomes increasingly important and can assist in overcoming the challenges. The World Environment Day, 2012 was marked with the theme “**Green Economy: Does it include you?**” that will make us rethink the way we do business if we are to create a better future. The day was celebrated globally with different activities and awareness program.



Children stage a demonstration for saving the environment and trees in Maharashtra



Prime Minister at Rio+20

Few weeks later, Rio+20 Earth Summit was marked on June, 21, 2012 with aimed to ensuring access to food, electricity and safe drinking water. It also promoted green economy, removing poverty, clean energy and sustainable use of natural resources. The Indian Prime Minister reminded the commitments that were made in 1992 Rio Summit about poverty eradication as top priority. He also presented about the need to find new pathways for sustainable living as current consumption patterns in the industrialized world are unsustainable.

With the sustainability outlook at Rio+20, new indicator “ **Inclusive Wealth Report 2012 (IWR)**” was announced that looks beyonds the traditional GDP and HDI to measure the current nation's natural capital and its sustainability fields. The IWR presents inclusive wealth of 20 nations which represents 56% of world population and 72% of world GDP.

Here in India, GreenCo, 2012 Summit: “**How green is your company**” was organized on June 14 – 15, 2012 by CII that encouraged India's company to integrate and take concrete steps towards environment friendly product. Bengaluru International Airport Limited was recognized as the first GreenCo company with silver rating and ITC Limited as the first pulp and paper GreenCo Gold rated company.

Did you know...

95% of the energy emitted by incandescent lamps is heat. Incandescent bulbs last around 1,000 hours which is significantly shorter than compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) which can last up to 12,000 hours.

Every day 50 to 100 species of plants and animals become extinct as their habitat and human influences destroy them.

Every Sunday, more than 500,000 trees are used to produce the 88% of newspapers that are never recycled.

The manufacturing of nylon emits nitrous oxide, a greenhouse gas with a carbon footprint 310 times that of carbon dioxide.

Take action!

Self analysis can greatly enhance understanding of oneself and family. Try to discuss and initiate an approach that reduce the negative impacts to environment within your family.

Brick industries

India has more than 100,000 brick kilns located in peri-urban and rural areas in clusters. Brick making is a highly energy-intensive process and consumes about 24 million tons of coal and large quantities of biomass fuels per year. It is estimated that brick making in India accounts for approximately 60% of black carbon emissions from the industrial sector and 9% of black carbon emissions from all Indian emissions sources. According to study, suspended PM from clamp kilns ranged from 117 mg/Nm³ to nearly 4,000 mg/Nm³, which is well above the emissions standards.



In India, between eight and ten million people work in brick kilns. The long term health conditions of the workers and pollutant emitted from the brick kilns are largely unaware by the owner. As a result, brick kilns remain inefficient and are a significant contributor to black carbon emissions. An effective and cost-effective means can be adopted to reduce black carbon emissions from brick kilns which will simultaneously result in energy savings and, therefore, cost savings and health co-benefits. Adopting best operating practices in Bull's trench kilns could result in energy savings of about 1 MTOE per year in India. Replacing 10% of solid bricks in India with fly ash bricks could save about 0.3 MTOE per year across the country.

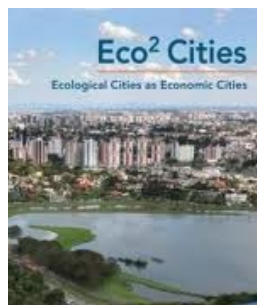
Ecologically competitive cities

The increase competition between cities and migration of people from rural to urban attract business investment in city and enable them to grow their economies by creating jobs for the migrants.



The Economist Intelligence Unit (Hot Spots) has evaluated global city competitiveness and performance by studying the eight categories like (economic strength, physical capital, financial maturity, institutional effectiveness, social and cultural character, human capital, environment and natural hazards and global appeal).

The study observed that over half of the world's population now lives in cities, generating over 80% of global GDP and companies are globally expanding in different main city of a nation. The report revealed that Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Pune, Hyderabad, Chennai & Kolkata are at rank 68, 70, 79, 97, 98, 105 & 106, respectively out of 120 urban centers ranked in the study all over the world.



The World Bank has launched a sustainable urban development initiative called "Eco² Cities: Ecological Cities as Economic Cities" to help cities in developing countries to achieve greater ecological and economic sustainability in synergy. It can help to identify where a city is strong or needs improvement. Eco2 is all about supporting city as to explore solutions to environmental challenges.

The approach will increase the effectiveness of the way we think, plan and act in an balanced and effective manner.

Upcoming events

International Tiger Day, 29th July

Advanced Training Programme on Green Building Rating Systems, 26th and 27th July, 2012, Ahmadabad

Power Plant Summit 2012, 26th to 27th July 2012
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India

"Towards Urban Sustainability- the GRIHA Approach", 5 – 6 October, 2012, Pune for Maharashtra, Goa and Gujarat

Sayali says,

"The health of our ocean has become a huge environmental issue as there is a constant rise in the rate of "ocean acidification". This will further lead to loss of marine biodiversity, bleaching of corals and increase in carbon emissions.

Hence we need to come up with adequate legislation that would ensure better ocean preservation like international climate change deal.

After all healthy environment is what caring for nature is all about"