

Knowledge daily

Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement.
Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.
Helen Keller

24-09-21



WHO says world's air pollution is worse than we thought

The United Nations' World Health Organization (WHO) says that the situation of the world's air pollution is even more dangerous than we previously thought.

According to its study, an estimated seven million people die prematurely each year from diseases linked to air pollution. Moreover, people in low and middle-income countries suffer the most as they use a lot of fossil fuels.

The WHO is urging its 194 member states to cut emissions and take action on climate change.

This warning has come ahead of the United Nations COP26 climate change summit in November 2021.

Air pollution comes from vehicle exhausts and gas central heating. But harmful particles are also released into the air in other ways. They come from paints, cleaning liquids and even car tyres on the road.

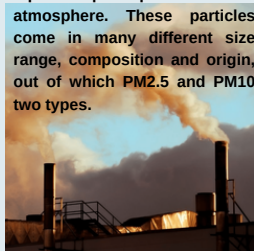
New guidelines against air pollution
In response to this new finding, the WHO has come up with new Air Quality Guidelines aiming to save millions of lives.

The new guidelines have halved the recommended maximum for exposure to tiny particles called PM2.5s. The WHO said almost 80% of deaths related to PM2.5 could be avoided if countries follow the new guidelines against air pollution.

Moreover, the guidelines are also cutting the recommended limit for another type of microparticles, known as PM10s, by 25%.

What are PM2.5 and PM10?

Particulate Matter (PM), also called particle pollution, is a mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets present in the atmosphere. These particles come in many different size range, composition and origin, out of which PM2.5 and PM10 two types.



High-speed internet via beams of light

We have read about Google's parent company Alphabet before. While Google is one of the more famous companies under Alphabet, it also has other companies. One of them is Project Taara. This project grew out of Project Loon. This project was working on using balloons in the sky to provide internet. But it has shut down



Google's new technology provides high-speed internet via beams of light

Now, Project Taara has come up with a way to deliver high-speed internet via beams of light through the air. It has successfully conducted an experiment in has successfully transmitted data across the Congo River in the Republic of Congo. It means that citizens in Brazzaville and Kinshasa could get faster and cheaper broadband internet.

Brazzaville is a town in the Republic of the Congo while Kinshasa is in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

How does the system work?

The system is called Free Space Optical Communications. It uses very narrow, invisible beams of light to deliver high speeds of internet. This is similar to the way wires in the ground uses light to carry data.

Project Taara says that weather conditions will affect the technology but high-speed internet via beams of light will help people a lot in the area. They will also test the technology in Kenya, India, the US and Mexico.

DID YOU KNOW ?

- As of January 2021, internet statistics show that there are over 4.9 billion active internet users across the world.
- The IPL is the most-attended cricket league in the world.
- Air pollution is linked to conditions such as heart disease and strokes. It also affects the lungs and causes problems.

WORD OF THE DAY

Today's Word of the Day is "murky" and its meaning is dark and gloomy, especially due to thick mist.

Pronunciation : mər-kē

Usage: "the sky was murky and a thin drizzle was falling"

Antonyms
bright, sunny

Origin

Late Middle English from Old French, literally 'pricking', present participle of poindre, from Latin pungere 'to prick'.

Synonyms :

dark, gloomy, grey, leaden, dull, dim, overcast, cloudy, clouded, sunless, foggy, misty, dismal, dreary, bleak, louring, threatening, cheerless, depressing, shadowy, sombre
British dialect claggy
literary tenebrous, crepuscular
rare caliginous, Cimmerian

Hindi Meaning

MURKY= अँधेरा [pr.{aNadhera}](Adjective)

उदाहरण : पुलीस यहां आने तक अँधेरा हो गया होगा।

ENGLISH CLUB

Phrasal Verb-vie for

Meaning: If you vie for something, you compete with others to get it.

Usage: Leo and Fiona are vying for promotion to the same management position, so they're both trying hard to impress the boss.

Today's Idiom

just the ticket

Meaning: You can say something is just the ticket if it's the perfect thing or if it's exactly what's needed.

Usage: That's just the ticket! Edna loves brooches, especially if they have bird designs, so she'll absolutely love this one.

Riddle

Riddle: What do you call a bull asleep on the ground?

A bulldozer.

bull (noun): a male cow

asleep (adjective): sleeping

doze (verb): to sleep lightly

bulldozer (noun): a large, powerful tractor with a heavy blade at the front