

TERI SCHOOL OF ADVANCED STUDIES

Deemed to be University, Accredited 'A' grade by NAAC



Terra Matters Bulletin (April - June) Vol. II of 2025



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Message from the Editor's desk

Dear TERI SAS Community,

Greetings!

As we draw the curtain on yet another vibrant academic year, we are delighted to bring you a new edition of Terra Matters, a celebration of the efforts, achievements, and spirit of the TERI SAS community.

This edition highlights the diverse accomplishments of our students, faculty, and staff. From cutting-edge research and meaningful academic contributions to social impact initiatives, our community continues to uphold the values of sustainability, innovation, and excellence.

In addition to academic milestones, this newsletter captures the vibrant campus life, cultural festivals, sporting events, student-led programmes, and creative pursuits that reflect the energy and enthusiasm of TERI SAS beyond the classroom.

The editorial board extends sincere appreciation to all contributors whose insights, creativity, and time have shaped this edition. Your continued involvement has helped preserve the essence of what makes TERI SAS unique. We hope this newsletter inspires pride, sparks new ideas, and strengthens our sense of belonging within the TERI SAS family.

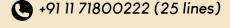
Thank you for your support and encouragement. We eagerly look forward to bringing you more stories of purpose and excellence in future editions.

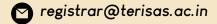
Jai Hind

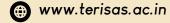
Best regards,

Prof. Suman Kumar Dhar Vice Chancellor TERI School of Advanced Studies, New Delhi

FOR MORE INFORMATION:











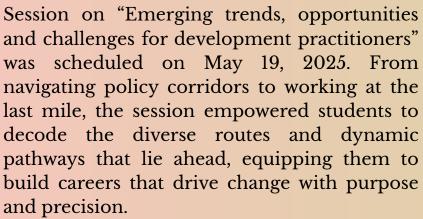
EVENTS AT TERI SAS

A special guest lecture on "Disaster Law, People and Climate Contingencies" was organised by the Department of Policy and Management Studies where Prof. Amita Singh provided a humanistic lens in terms of how care and compassion can be translated into law.





A session was organised by MA (PP&SD) placement cell on May 17, 2025 where Ms Megha Roy delivered an insightful lecture on "Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning: Frameworks and theory".







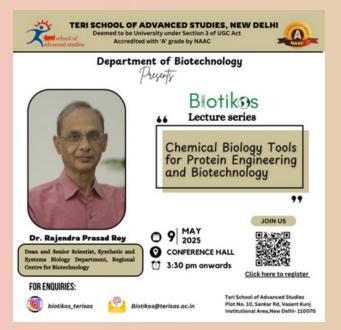
SUSTAINABILITY LECTURE SERIES 2025

MA SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE

A special guest lecture by Prof. Amita Singh was organised by the Department of Policy and Management Studies on May 15, 2025 to raise awareness and sensitivity on Disaster Law, People and Climate Contingencies among scholars and young minds.

Ms Jaya Varma Sinha and Ms Suditi Tandon delivered an insightful lecture on the Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023, shedding light on its core principles and implementation challenges. The Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, along with the newly introduced rules in 2025, marks a significant milestone in India's journey toward strengthening data privacy and protection frameworks





BIOTIKOS Lecture on Chemical Biology for protein engineering biotechnology. The lecture by Dr Rajendra Prasad Roy, Dean and Senior Scientist, Regional Centre for Biotechnology, organised by the Faridabad MSc was students the Department of Biotechnology on May 9, 2025.

An interactive session with Mr Jean Lemire, Special Envoy for Climate Change, Nordic and Arctic Affairs, Quebec was organised by the Department of Natural and Applied Sciences on May 5, 2025.





Prof. Sairam Bhat delivered an engaging lecture on "Energy disputes resolution in India". The event was organised by the Centre for Post Graduate Legal Studies, Department of Policy and Management Studies on April 30, 2025.



Mr Aaditya Vikram Sharma delivered a thought-provoking lecture on "Space Sustainability Issues and Law", the event was organised by the Department of Policy and Management Studies on April 23, 2025.

A lecture on "Research Protocol Writing and Career Guidance" was conducted by Dr Nilesh Chandra, Scientist E at ICMR, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The session was organized by MSc students of the Department of Biotechnology, TERI SAS on April 17, 2025.



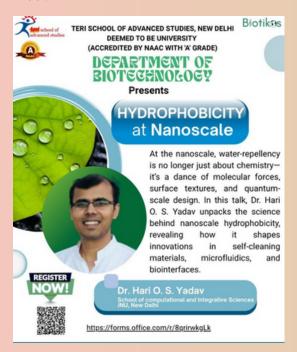


An insightful session led by Mr Byju Kurian, CSR Head at Bisleri International Pvt. Ltd. was organized exclusively for TERI School of Advanced Studies students by the MBA (Sustainabilty Management) students of TERI SAS on April 9, 2025. The session focused on the importance of corporate responsibility in ensuring sustainable water use.

"Whether in labs, policy debates, or planting drives
— being at TERI SAS means
constantly learning how to make a real difference."

The Centre for Post-Graduate Legal Studies, Department of Policy and Management Studies, TERI SAS, cordially invited participants to a thought-provoking session on "Judicial Trends in Environmental Governance: A Closer Look at the Recent Supreme Court Judgment on EIA in India". The session was delivered by Ms Vidhi Thukral, Environmental Lawyer and Chief Manager, ESG, Axis Max Life Insurance Co. Ltd.





Biotikos, the student-led initiative at TERI SAS, continues to foster scientific dialogue with its latest webinar on "Hydrophobicity at Nanoscale" featuring Dr Hari O Yadav from JNU's School of Computational and Integrative Sciences. The session was organised online on June 20, 2025 and explored the intriguing world of nanoscale hydrophobicity, drawing participants from diverse academic backgrounds.

The momentous 2024 Summit of the Future (September 22-23) took place as mandated by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution 76/307 of September 8, (Modalities Resolution). Unlike the summits (2023 Sustainable previous UN Development Goals; 2022 Stockholm+50). There is a scholarly view that our "planetary future" is now endangered. The term 'triple planetary crisis' refers to the three main interlinked issues that humanity currently faces, that is, climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss. In order to operationalize the 2024 Pact for the Future, it would necessitate



sincere and concerted follow-up action by the UN system as a whole and all the 193 member states, as well as the global scholarly community and other international institutional actors

As part of its Alumni Engagement Series, TERI School of Advanced Studies hosted a session titled "Where Policy Meets Practice: An Alumni Perspective on Infrastructure & Business Law". Ms Swati Vishan, Senior Program Officer at Toxics Link and Senior Doctoral Scholar at TERI SAS, shared her journey and insights on sustainability and legal frameworks. The session offered students a valuable glimpse into real-world policy implementation by alumni.





Prof. K D Raju from the School of Intellectual Property Law, IIT Kharagpur, delivered an insightful guest lecture on "Protection of Green Technologies under Intellectual Property Law" on May 13, 2025. The lecture was hosted online by the Centre for Post-Graduate Legal Studies, Department of Policy and Management Studies, TERI School of Advanced Studies. Dr Moumita Mandal, Assistant Professor, TERI SAS, served as the moderator for the session.

TERI SAS is glad to have partnered with UNESCO and UNEP to celebrate World Environment Day on the theme Ending Plastic Pollution. It is a growing concern that the Himalayan Region is seeing a rise in plastic accumulation due to rising tourism and reduction in plastic consumption is not in site. Urgent action is required in making new products from used plastics and reducing our growing dumping sites. Happy to have a part of the august gathering.





'KNOWLEDGE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT'

The Department of Policy & Management Studies, TERI SAS, hosted Mr N M Prusty, Vice-Chair, Coalition for Food & Nutrition Security (CFNS) and Mr Sanjeev Kumar, Founder & President of SARVARTH, who shared their perspectives on the policy dimensions of Health and Nutrition, as experienced practitioners in the field. Mr Prusty shared his insights on "GROW right and EAT right" as the pathway for good health, nutrition and wellbeing. Mr Kumar shared experiences from nutritionfocused projects and programmes across several Indian states over the last two decades, illustrating how these learnings have shaped current comprehensive programmes in India. TERI SAS expresses its sincere gratitude to both Mr Prusty and Mr Kumar for exposing our students to diverse perspectives on "Health and Nutrition" and their policy dimensions.





International Yoga Day 2025 was celebrated on June 21, 2025 at TERI SAS campus. The participants expressed enthusiasm for continuing such initiatives, reinforcing the importance of holistic health in life.









'KNOWLEDGE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT'

The Earth Day 2025 was celebrated at TERI SAS on April 22, 2025 through a lively session on "Earth Talks: From COP Frontlines" organized by the Department of Natural and Applied Sciences. The session was inaugurated by Prof. S K Dhar, Vice Chancellor of TERI SAS, through his inspiring talk on taking a pledge and acting individually to save our planet. Prof. C K Singh, Dean Academics, added that the time is now to show that we care through genuine actions based on adopting natural solutions. Ms Hemavathi S Shekhar, a climate researcher and lawyer, delivered her session on the relevance of climate negotiations at COP.





Leadership for Environment, Awareness and Development (LEAD) 2025: 5 days immersive summer school

TERI SAS in collaboration with TERI hosted an incredible cohort of Class 9–12 students of Programme LEAD 2025 from June 9 - 13, 2025. This engaging summer school immersed participants in sustainability, climate action, AI, SDGs, biotechnology, and more, nurturing future changemakers through interactive sessions on cutting-edge global issues.

Over five transformative days, students became more than just participants — they became future-ready leaders, equipped with the tools, insights, and values to reimagine a more sustainable world.





Swaroopa Saxena, MSc Biotechnology Student (2023-2025) at TERI SAS, also an alumna of Maitreyi College, University of Delhi, was honoured with the Alumna Award in recognition of her academic journey and contributions to the fields of biotechnology and intellectual property rights. The award celebrated distinguished alumni who have made significant impacts in their respective domains.





Tree plantation drive by the students of TERI SAS on the occasion of Earth Day. A small step towards supporting nature







As part of the Digital Economy: Dividends, Disputes, and Dimensions course in Public Policy, a guest lecture was organised on May 1, 2025. Vaibhav Kaushik, Economist (Trade & Logistics) at the Asian Development Bank, delivered an insightful session on PM Gati Shakti Mission, leveraging technology and government's approach to expedite infrastructure development process. He shared how the mission is revolutionizing infrastructure planning by breaking administrative silos and using tech like IoT, digital land surveys, and strategic data layering.

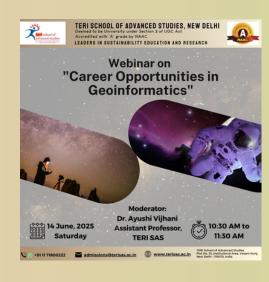




OUTREACH WEBINARS



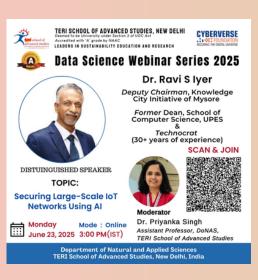


















OPEN HOUSE

















FACULTY CORNER



Chaithanya Madhurantakam

He has the following publication:

Chaudhary, B., Kobakhidze, G., Wachelder, L., Mazumdar, P. A., Dong, G., & Madhurantakam, C. (2025). Crystal structures of the mycolic acid methyl transferase 1 (MmaAl) from Mycobacterium tuberculosis in the apo-form and in complex with different cofactors reveal unique features for substrate binding. Journal of Biomolecular Structure and Dynamics, 1–10.





Dr Manini Syali

Dr Manini Syali delivered a session on "Environmental Regulations" in the 'Value Added Course on ESG: Environmental, Social and Governance', organized by Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies-Technical Campus from February 27, 2025 to May 5, 2025.

She presented her paper on 'Analysing the Jurisprudence on the Eco-sensitive Zones in India visà-vis the Rights of the Local Communities' at the International Seminar on "Climate Change, Vulnerability, Resilience, and Integrated Mountain Development" organised on May 23, 2025 by Centre for Himalyan Studies, University of Delhi.

She was also invited as a Session Chair (Law & Governance Building Legal Foundations for a Responsible Future) for the International Interdisciplinary Conference (IIC) 2025, organized by the Faculty of Law, SGT University on May 30 - 31, 2025.

Dr Ramakrishnan Sitaraman

- He Reviewed a research article for the journal Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics.
- Blog Post: Springer Nature Research Communities Blog Post - Sitaraman R (2025). Motes in the eye: Gut microbiota breaching barriers. URL: https://tinyurl.com/54tfcx4c





Dr Shruti Sharma, Associate Professor, TERI SAS, lent her expertise at the ChildrenPlus Counsellors & Educators Summit 2025, held on April 8, 2025, at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

She was a panelist in the session "Addressing Digital Stress – Supporting Students in a Tech-Driven World", which focused on key challenges such as balancing screen time in learning environments, combating cyberbullying and social media pressures, and implementing evidence-based strategies for digital wellness.

As technology continues to shape education, Dr Sharma shared valuable insights on building healthier digital ecosystems in schools and discussed policy frameworks that safeguard student mental health.

Prof. C K Singh, Dean (Academics), TERI SAS, was invited as Chief Guest at Mount Carmel School, Anand Niketan, on the occasion of Earth Day 2025.



Prof. Suman Kumar Dhar, Vice Chancellor, TERI SAS, delivered a keynote speech on "Helicobacter Pylori: Disease and Biology" at the BioEpoch 2025 jointly organised by School of Biotechnology, JNU and Society for Integrative Biosciences (SiB) on May 26, 2025.

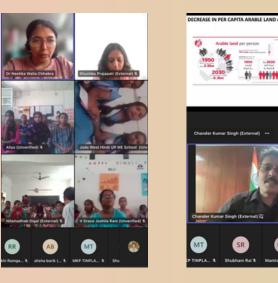




We are happy to announce that Dr Ayushi Vijhani, Assistant Professor and Programme Coordinator of MSc Geoinformatics, has been honored with the Geospatial World's 50 Rising Stars Award 2025! This prestigious recognition highlights her exceptional contributions to the field of geospatial technology, showcasing her unwavering dedication and passion for excellence in education.

Prof. C K Singh, Dean (Academics) at TERI SAS, conducted an expert session on "Sustainable Practices & Environmental Stewardship" under The Green School Project on April 24, 2025, in line with Earth Day's theme "Our Planet, Our Future". Students and teachers from six states – Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh – participated. The session received positive feedback and focused on environmental issues and practical steps for everyday action. The Green School Project, a joint initiative by Tata Steel and TERI, started in April 2017 to promote environmental awareness and critical thinking among

students.



A team comprising our faculty mentor, Dr Amit Singh, and five young and dynamic MSc scholars – Trisha Ravindranath, Dhananjay Arora, Urvashi Prasad, Archiya Kumari and Yashshree Sharma – from TERI School of Advanced Studies joined students at St. Marks World School, Meera Bagh, New Delhi, to celebrate Earth Day 2025. Students gained interesting insights into various aspects of sustainability and learned how every small action can add up to create a big impact when we all work together. The session especially focused on two topics: water audits and waste (circular economy). The team discussed how our everyday habits affect the planet, simple ways to use water wisely, and how to reduce, reuse, and recycle waste to help create a cleaner, greener world. Participants were encouraged to think about how they can be sustainability champions at school and at home.



'KNOWLEDGE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT'

PLACEMENT CORNER

Some of the key recruiters who hired TERI SAS students for full time positions and minor project internships during this quarter:





























































































INSTITUTIONAL CORNER



A group of approx 90 students along with their faculty members from DPS Rohini visited the TERI SAS campus. They were informed about the green features of the TERI SAS campus and the career opportunities in the area of Sustainable Development and how programmes at TERI SAS will prepare them for the future.

TERI SAS, New Delhi organised an Inter school Sustainability Quiz Competition 2025 at Guwahati on May 8, 2025. The competition was open to students of Class XI and XII, including those who had appeared for the 2025 board examinations. The event took place at TERI NE Regional Centre, Chachal, Mahapurush Madhabdev Path, Hengrabari, Guwahati.

Wining Teams are from following schools:

- 1. Sarla Birla Gyan Jyoti
- 2. Little Flower Senior Secondary School
- 3. St. Francis De Sales School



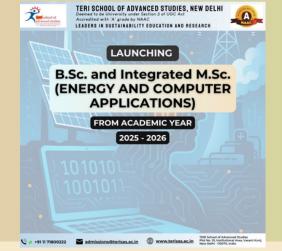


A team of around 50 CBSE school Principals visited TERI SAS for a 2-day exposure to higher education. The visit consisted of interactions on career opportunities in the area of Sustainable Development, alignment of TERI SAS courses with NEP 2020, research presentations and interaction with TERI SAS students.

Designed to foster the crucial interdisciplinary skills needed for the future of the energy sector, driven by computer applications.

> "The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it."

- Robert Swan



On April 25, 2025, The Society for Heritage and Ecological Research (SHER), supported by UNESCO and in association with TERI SAS, New Delhi, organized a vibrant workshop at BaghBon Multipurpose Community Centre, Pakhiralay Village, Gosaba, Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve, India on "Empowering young minds for a sustainable future: Tracking climate data in the heart of the sundarbans".

The event brought together 20 bright students and 4 passionate teachers from local schools to

- Understand the basics of Climate Science and Sustainable Development Goals
- Learn how to track climate data using mobile apps and field experiments
- Explore Citizen Science and the power of community-driven data collection.





Representatives from the TERI SAS interacted with parents and students at Times of India Education Expo 2025, scheduled from June 21–22, 2025, at the Indian Habitat Centre Delhi.



A group of around 30 students from Tagore International School, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi, visited the TERI SAS. They interacted with PhD scholars to know more about their research in the domain of sustainability. They were also informed about the green features of the TERI SAS campus.



Students from MTech Renewable Energy Engineering and Management (REEM), TERI SAS visited the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), the apex research institute under MNRE, for a firsthand look at ongoing work in renewable energy technologies. The visit began with NISE's PV testing laboratory, where solar modules undergo rigorous assessments such as thermal cycling, damp heat testing, hail resistance, degradation tracking, and leakage current monitoring. The experience offered practical insights into the technical, environmental, and viability aspects of renewable energy systems.





Two M.Sc. Biotechnology students (2023–2025) from TERI SAS, New Delhi – Neha Ganatayat and Jahnavi Verma – have successfully qualified the CSIR 2025 examination. Neha Ganatayat cleared the CSIR-NET under Category II for Lectureship, while Jahnavi Verma qualified under Category III for PhD eligibility. Their achievement reflects academic excellence and dedication, bringing pride to the institution.

Our TERI SAS alumni Garima Jasuja from MSc. Economics (2017-2019 cohort) has been awarded with the prestigious Visiting PhD Fellowship at UNU-WIDER - United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research. The fellowship is awarded to young PhD scholars with an opportunity to advance their research in the field of Development Economics with researchers based in UNU-WIDER headquarters in Helsinki, Finland.

Garima is advancing her research by combining micro-survey of industrial statistics from India with high resolution climate data to study the impacts of temperature rise on wage inequality in formal manufacturing sector in India.



Representatives from the TERI SAS interacted with parents and students at Career fairs hosted by DPS Faridabad and DPS Mathura Road, New Delhi.



The MSc Climate Science and Policy batch visited the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) in New Delhi. They explored the activities and excellent work being carried out by different divisions and centers of IMD, including the National Weather Forecasting Center (NWFC), Information Systems and Services Division (ISSD), Ozone Observatory, Hydrology Division, Satellite Meteorology Division, Radar Division.





Representatives from the TERI SAS interacted with parents and students at Bharat Shiksha Expo 2025, scheduled from April 24–26, 2025, at the India Expo Centre and Mart, Greater Noida.



QALA, the media and arts club of TERI SAS organized a stage play "Bezubaan" on social and environmental aspects for the RWA community at Vasant Kunj.

The play aims to raise awareness about pressing social and environmental issues, sparking meaningful conversations and reflections among the audience. We believe that this event not only entertained but also educated and inspired the audience to take action towards creating a more sustainable and equitable world.





Transforming Waste into Value: A field visit to IPCA's MLP Recycling Unit. As part of a hands-on learning experience, the ESRM Batch of 2026 from TERI SAS had the opportunity to visit the IPCA Centre for Waste Management and Research in Noida, a facility leading the way in recycling traditionally non-recyclable Multi-Layered Plastics (MLPs) into durable composite boards. From chips packets to park benches, students witnessed how MLPs are collected, shredded, layered, heated, and converted into high-performance, recyclable materials that can even outperform plywood. Visits like these bridge theory and practice, and remind us that impactful climate action starts right at home with everyday decisions like waste segregation.



Representatives from the TERI SAS interacted with parents and students at Admission Fair 2025, scheduled from May 17–18, 2025, at the Bharat Mandapam. They also showcased the academic and research initiatives taken at TERI SAS.





TERI SAS bids farewell to



Dr Anand Madhukar Assistant Professor Department of Natural and Applied Sciences

A CONTRACT

Ph.D. AWARDED





Dr Sanchi Singh

Title: Provisioning ecosystem services and forest health of Rhododendron rich forests in Western Himalayas: Study of *Rhododendron arboreum* harvest in Chamoli District for its sustainable use

Dr Ritu Rao

Title: Water Bodies Sustainability Assessment Framework and Tool- A Case of an Urban Lake

IPCA Centre for Waste っつっ Management and Research ② 』

A Training of Trainers on Solid Waste Management was conducted in collaboration with IPCA on April 25, 2025. More than 60 changemakers representing RWAs and citizen groups from Delhi NCR attended the training, which provided a basic understanding of waste management, policy frameworks, and processes of waste collection, segregation, processing, etc. The session also helped in resolving their queries and clarified misconceptions that they come across while working with the community members.



The training programme 'Waste management systems: operations and maintenance' was held from April 29 – 2, May 2025 and was attended by 20 participants, representing 13 island councils and 6 officials from the Maldives Clean Environment Project, Ministry of Tourism and Environment, Maldives.

As an Independent Consultant, the Centre monitored the main work of private partnership project for collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of municipal solid waste in designated zones of MCD.



The project Assessment of Social, Environmental and Economic impact of waste management project implemented under CSR initiative of SBI Cards and Payment Services Limited was successfully completed.

The project 'Assessment and restoration of water bodies at four sites maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India', a collaborative initiative with Bisleri International Pvt. Ltd. (BIPL) is ongoing. The project focuses on the assessment and restoration of traditional water bodies located at four historical sites maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).



The Centre contributed in the development of a handbook on Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) of Material Recovery Facilities. The handbook will act as a guide for those who are planning to work in this field and as a learning resource for those who want to enhance their knowledge.

Other extension activities

- Ms Garima Kaushik was invited to be a part of an expert session and podcast on Plastic Waste Management at Gurukul The School, organized by GoSharpener in celebration of Earth Day on April 22, 2025.
- Dr Atul Kumar shared his expertise on 'Plastic Waste: A Global Challenge on Health and the Environment' as a guest speaker and joined the panel discussion on 'Sustainability through the lens of 3 SDGs: Health, Climate Action and Green Business' as a part of Earth Day celebrations at OP Jindal Global University on April 26, 2025.
- Prof. Arun Kansal moderated a thought-provoking panel discussion on 'Policy Crossroads: finding the right fit between Centralized and Decentralized approaches to Waste Management' at the National Conference on Transformative approaches for Sustainable solid waste management, organized by the Indian Pollution Control Association on May 30, 2025.
- Ms Garima Kaushik conducted an insightful and engaging session on Plastic Waste Management as a part of World Environment Day, organized by NTPC Jhajjar. The session inspired both employees and children to reflect on their plastic consumption patterns and take meaningful steps toward reducing plastic waste on June 5, 2025.
- Ms Garima Kaushik delivered an insightful session on "Planet vs Plastic: A Call to End Plastic Pollution for a Healthier Earth" organized by PSG Global as part of the World Environment Day celebrations on June 5, 2025.







Publications

- Bedi, C., Kansal, A. and Mukheibir, P., (2025). SaRVO framework for urban water utilities: Building resilient, liveable, and sustainable cities. Environmental Science & Policy, 171, p.104135. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2025.104135. Elsevier (I.F: 5.2).
- Rao, R., Kansal, A. and Tarannum, F., 2025. Sustainability Assessment Index for Surface Water Bodies for Prioritizing Management Interventions. Environment and Urbanization ASIA, 1-16. DOI: 10.1177/09754253251337344. Sage (I.F: 1.6).
- Satija P.K., Tarannum F., Kansal A. (2025). Specific water consumption in chromite mining and ferrochrome alloy manufacturing- evidence from water audit for reduction strategies. Indian Journal of Environmental Protection IJEP 45(6):546-554.

Emerson Centre of Excellence for Sustainability Studies

The Emerson Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Sustainability Studies at TERI SAS, aims at advancing sustainability transitions in India by fostering climate leadership, co-producing actionable knowledge, and integrating science with policy and practice across themes such as carbon neutrality, urban resilience, and culturally rooted WaSH interventions. A few research activities being advanced at the Emerson CoE include:

IPSA Kumbh - Mapping the impact of floating population on sewerage infrastructure during Maha Kumbh 2025.

In the IPSA Kumbh Project, Emerson CoE at TERI SAS is a part of research consortium comprising of four institutions, IIT-BHU, IIT Roorkee, TERI SAS and Hokkaido University, Japan; funded by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India. The research work at Emerson CoE focuses on developing a holistic framework to assess the condition of WaSH services at the Maha Kumbh Mela 2025, by considering ecosystem, infrastructure and socio-cultural impacts on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene. The project is at an advanced stage, developing the framework through robust primary and secondary data analysis on Maha Kumbh Mela 2025. Four TERI SAS post-graduate students from MBA SM, MSc ESRM and MA PPSD programme have been associated with the Emerson CoE and the IPSA Kumbh study as interns.

Net Zero - Developing a Net Zero Transition Framework for Higher Education Institutes in India.

Under the aegis of the Net Zero project, the Emerson CoE has organized a highlevel panel discussion titled 'Building Leadership for Carbon Neutrality (Net-Zero) in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)' at the World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) 2025. Taking cognisance of the key takeaways from the panel discussion, and responding to India's key initiatives such as National Education Policy 2020, the Mission LiFE and net zero goals, Emerson CoE is developing country's first comprehensive Net Zero Transition Framework for Higher Educational Institutes. As part of the framework, the Emerson CoE has proposed a co-production-based three-pronged strategy by bringing change in a) physical infrastructure and allied; b) encouraging behavioural changes in stakeholders (students, faculties and staff); and c) strengthening institutional policies for longterm impact (Figure 1). Associated with the project, two post-graduate major project research (i) 'Assessing the reliability of identified net zero transition indicators for HEIs of India' (MSc ESRM) and (ii) 'Estimating Baseline Stakeholder Behaviour at the TERI School of Advanced Studies towards net zero initiatives' (MBA SM), focused mainly on developing the self-assessment guidelines for HEIs.

The centre staff have interacted with the faculty members and students of HEIs including Deshbandhu College, Ramjas College, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi and TERI SAS.

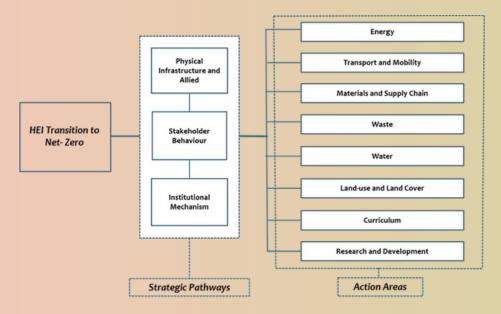


Figure 1: Net Zero Transition Framework for HEI's: Linking Strategic Pathways with Key Action Areas

Emerson CoE Major Project/Thesis Fellowship Academic Year 2024-2025

In Academic Year 2024-2025, the Emerson CoE initiated the Emerson CoE Major Project/Thesis Fellowship to aid the Masters Project/Thesis of final semester post-graduate students at TERI SAS. Under the fellowship, this year, the Emerson CoE awarded fellowship to 21 selected post-graduate students to undertake their independent research under guidance from faculty members at TERI SAS. The recipients of the Emerson CoE Fellowship are submitting position papers focusing on the following themes:

- Mangroves and Ponds as Natural Barriers Protecting Freshwater for Millions in a Climate-Threatened Delta by Aakash Ghosh (MSc. Economics)
- Resilient Healthcare Through Energy Access: A Decentralised Pathway for Sub-Saharan Africa by Apoorva Mishra (MTech in Renewable Energy Engineering and Management)
- Locust Outbreaks and Climate Variability: Addressing Food Insecurity in Rewari District, Haryana, India by Bhoomika Thakur M.Sc. (Climate Science and Policy)
- Consumer And Producer Perspectives on Circular Economy Transition in Indian Textile Industry by Pooja Chaudhary (MBA in Sustainability Management)
- Understanding the Income-Pollution-Gender Dynamics in the Indian Context: An Application of the Gender-Environmental Kuznets Curve by Daisy (M.Sc. Economics)
- Assessing Climate Risk Exposure in the Built Environment by Naheed Yasin Islam (M.Sc. Climate Science & Policy)

- Reimagining Wastewater Governance for Small Semi-Urban Towns in India by Rishika Rajkumar (M.Sc. Environmental Studies and Resource Management)
- Pathways for Decarbonization: Strategies for Achieving Net-Zero Emissions in Energy-Intensive Industries by Mynam Venkata Harshita (M.Tech. Renewable Energy Engineering and Management)
- Bridging the Nutrition Gap through Agriculture: Aligning Crop Production with Dietary Needs in Bihar by Kalpna Kumari (MSc Climate Science and Policy).
- Analysing the Impact of Urbanization and Labour Market Dynamics on Water Scarcity in Bengaluru, India by Kushi Naidu (MSc. Economics)
- Accounting for Nature: A Monetary Assessment of India's Forest Ecosystems by Kheya Ghosh Dastidar (M.Sc. Economics)
- Rewiring Sustainability in Commercial Transport: An LCA-Based Comparison of TATA ACE ICE and EV Model by Priyank Srivastava (MBA in Sustainability Management)
- Reimagining Payments for Ecosystem Services: A Risk-Responsive and Institutionally Aligned Framework by Vaishnavi Pandey (M.Sc. Economics)
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