

1-15 MAY, 2025

Down To Earth

FORTNIGHTLY ON POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

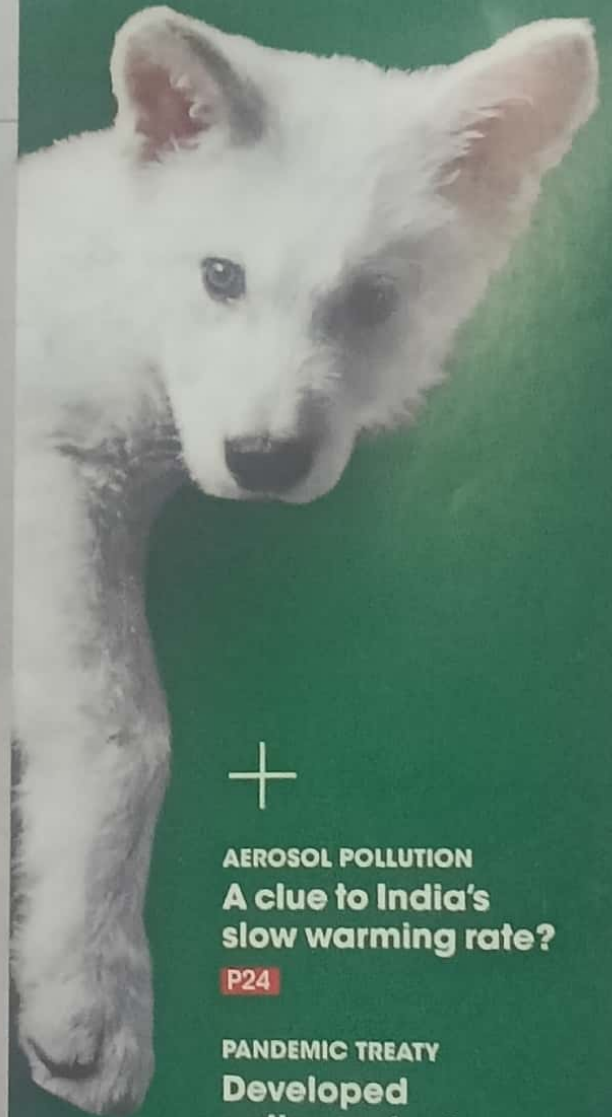
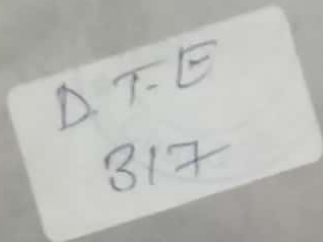
Subscriber copy, not for resale

₹80.00

DE-EXTINCT

Scientists bring back
dire wolf after 10,000 years.

Is the technology a conservation
tool or a show-off?



AEROSOL POLLUTION

**A clue to India's
slow warming rate?**

P24

PANDEMIC TREATY

**Developed
nations reject
mandatory
technology
transfer**

P44

DownToEarth

Founded in 1992 to arm you with knowledge critical to shaping a better world

FOUNDER EDITOR Anil Agarwal

EDITOR Sunita Narain

MANAGING EDITOR Richard Mahapatra

CHIEF COPY EDITOR Snigdha Das

ASSOCIATE EDITORS Aditya Misra, Rajit Sengupta

SENIOR CREATIVE DIRECTOR Ajit Bajaj

SUPPLEMENT EDITOR Souparno Banerjee

CHIEF CARTOONIST Sarit Gupta

REPORTING TEAM Shagun Akshil Sangamla, Pulaha Roy, Rohini Krishnamurthy, Himanshu N

SENIOR SUB EDITOR Dakshiani Palicha

WEB EDITORS Rajat Ghai, Preetha Banerjee, Nandita Banerji, Pratyaksh Srivastava

DESIGN TEAM Chaitanya Chandan (Art Editor), Ritika Bohra (Assistant Art Editor), Tarun Sehgal (Senior Designer), Yogendra Anand (Illustrator), Vineel Tripathi (Graphic Designer), Shri Krishan

PHOTO EDITOR Vikas Choudhary

PRODUCTION Rakesh Shrivastava, Gundhar Das

TECH SUPPORT Rajendra Rawat, Jaidev Sharma

MULTIMEDIA Joel Michael, Sunny Gautam, Midhun Vijayan, Shreya KA, Prabhat Kumar, Dhruval Parekh, Surangya Kaur, Danishmand Khan

INFORMATION AND RESEARCH SUPPORT

Kiran Pandey, Susan Chacko, Madhumita Paul, Lalit Maurya, Dayanidhi Mishra

CONSULTING EDITORS Anumita Roychowdhury, Vibha Varshney

Vol 33, No 24; Total No of Pages: 60

Editorial, subscriptions and advertisements:
Society for Environmental Communications,
41, Tughlakabad Institutional Area, New Delhi 110 062,

Phone: 91-11-40616000, 29955124,
29956110, 29956394, 29956399 | Fax: 91-11-29955879.
Email: editor@downtoearth.org.in

© 2025 Society for Environmental Communications.
All rights reserved throughout the world. Reproduction
in any manner is prohibited. Printed and published by
Richard Mahapatra on behalf of Society for Environmental
Communications. Printed at Viba Press Pvt. Ltd. C-66/3, Okhla
Industrial Area, Phase-II, New Delhi - 110 020, India, and
published at 41, Tughlakabad Institutional Area,
New Delhi 110 062.

To subscribe, sms 'dte Subscribe' to 54070
or visit www.downtoearth.org.in/subscription

FOR ADVERTISEMENTS Jyoti Ghosh
jghosh@cseindia.org

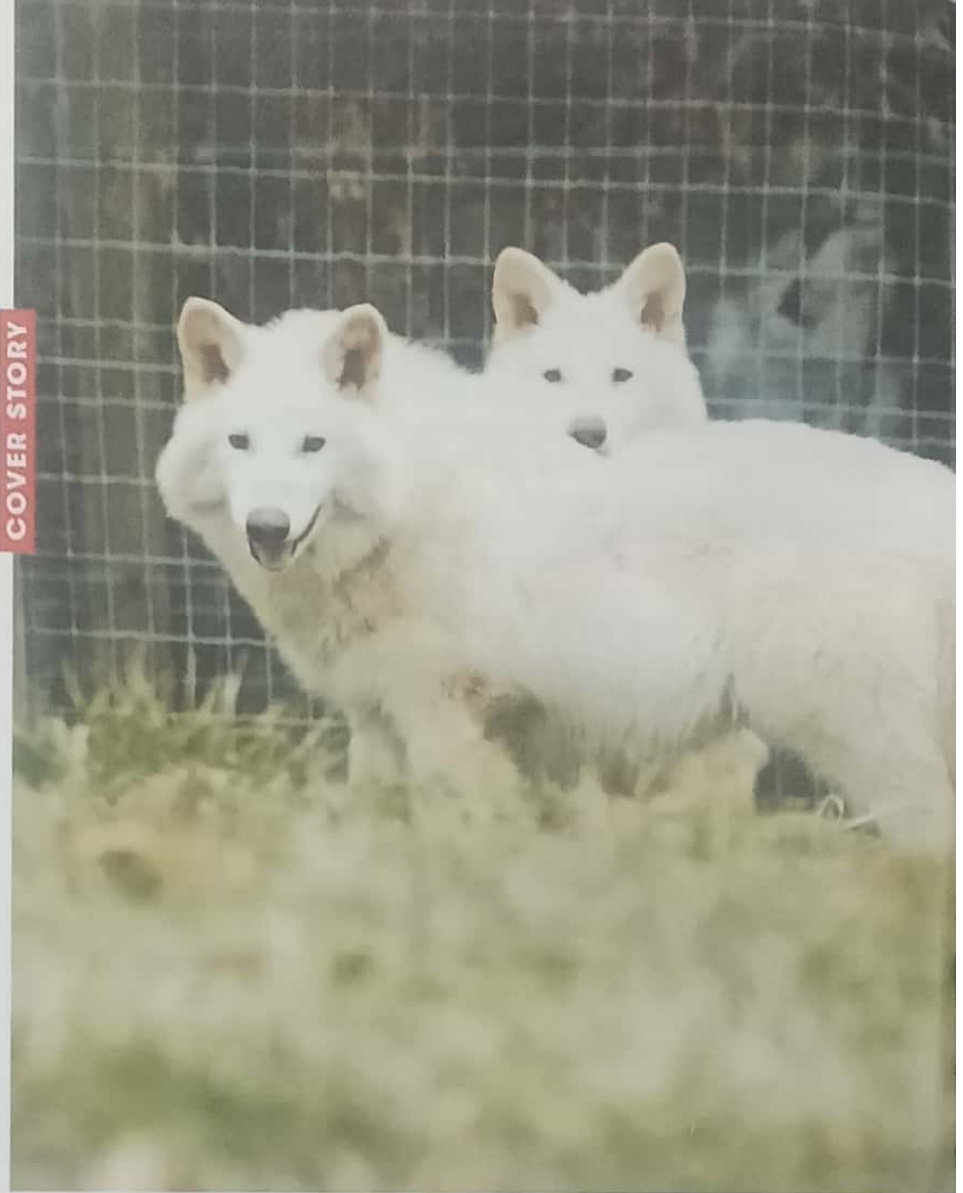
FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS
KCR.Raja.raja@cseindia.org



◀ Cover design: Ajit Bajaj

Down To Earth does not endorse the content of advertisements printed in the magazine. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent courts and forums in Delhi/New Delhi only.

COVER STORY



28

Dire wolf, the world's first de-extinct species, raises hope and sparks a debate

10 Digest

A school in Odisha offers first-hand learnings on sustainability

14 Conflict with wildlife

Uttarakhand's Ramnagar forest replaces monoculture plantation

18 Groundwater

Uttar Pradesh's scarcity fuelled by water-thirsty crops, policy myopia

42 Factsheet

Have conservation policies helped species' protection?

44 Patently Absurd

The missing heart of the pandemic treaty



48 Appraisal

Gully erosion driving degradation of land; 77 districts hit in India

50 Initiative

Uttarakhand women successfully revive a forest

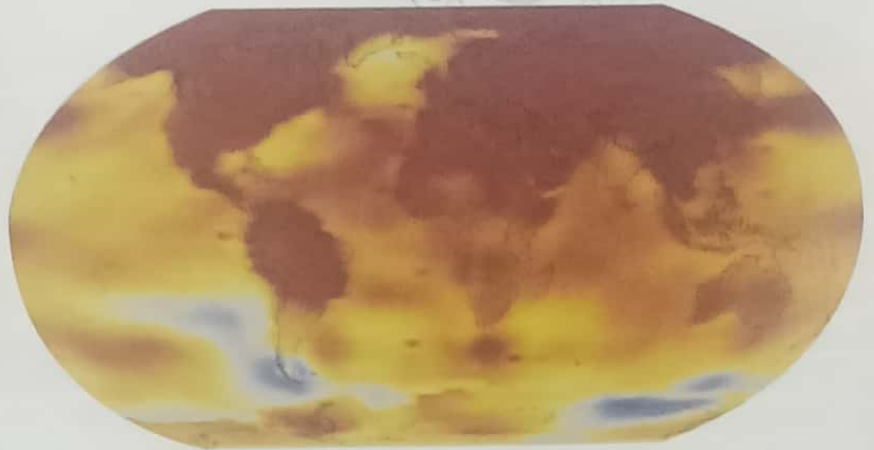
56 Food

Beat the heat with *tendu* fruits this summer season

58 Civil Lines

The perils and potential of population decline

Contents



24

Aerosols responsible for toxic air pollution hold clue to India's suppressed warming

22

Now, elephants too suffer from obesity and other lifestyle diseases



Marching in the Dark documentary shines a light on Maharashtra's resilient 'farm widows'

52