

1-15 DECEMBER, 2024

# Down To Earth

FORTNIGHTLY ON POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

Subscriber copy, not for resale

₹80.00

# 2024

**SPECIAL**

**CLIMATE**

**CHANGED**

On track to breach 1.5°C guardrail ■ New generation gets a new climate ■ Starkest warning from attribution science ■ Moisture adds to complexity  
■ Emissions at record high ■ Paltry sums for climate action ■ Adaptation inadequate



# 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** Sorit Gupta

**REPORTING TEAM** Shagun, Akshit Sangomla, 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), Vineet 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

**INFORMATION AND RESEARCH SUPPORT**

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

**CONSULTING EDITORS** Anumita Roychowdhury, Vibha Varshney

**Vol 33, No 14; 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

© 2024 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 56070  
or visit [www.downtoearth.org.in/subscribe](http://www.downtoearth.org.in/subscribe)

**FOR ADVERTISEMENTS** Jyoti Ghosh  
jghosh@cseindia.org

**FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS**  
K C R Raja, raja@cseindia.org

# 2024

World leaders drop all pretence to save the planet at climate talks in Baku, even as the year is on track to breach the 1.5°C warming threshold

CLIMATE

## 04 Dawn of a dark era

Sunita Narain on the beginning of the epoch of climate change

## 10 Age of global boiling

Youngest human generation is enduring a climatologically changed world

## 19 Attribution mounts

Record number of extreme weather disasters linked to climate change; heatwaves and extreme rains top the list

## 24 Moisture, the missing piece

In a warming atmosphere, increasing load of moisture adds a new layer to climate crisis

## 40 Costly inaction

World leaders nowhere close to reducing emissions or ensuring adaptation

## 46 COP out at Baku

Developing countries left disappointed as new climate finance goals fall drastically short of their needs



◀ 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.