INTELLIGENCE OUTSOURCED INESCAPABLE REALITIES OF AI BOOM

TRUMP'S TARIFFS **Dire consequences** for Indian agriculture P12

INTERVIEW In a first in India, Kerala sets up an Elderly Commission P54

DownTo Earth

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 Baneriee

CHIEF CARTOONIST Sorit Gupto

REPORTING TEAM Shagun, Akshit Sangomla, Pulaha Roy, Rohini Krishnamurthy, Himanshu Nitnaware

SENIOR SUB EDITOR Dakshiani Palicha

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

DESIGNTEAM 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 Choudharv

PRODUCTION Rakesh Shrivastava, Gundhar Das

TECH SUPPORT Rajendra Rawat, Jaidev Sharma

MULTIMEDIA Joel Michael, Sunny Gautam, Midhun Vijayan, Shreya K.A, 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 Varshnev

Vol 33, No 23; Total No of Pages: 60

Editorial, subscriptions and advertisements: Society for Environmental Communications, 41, Tughlakabad Institutional Area, New Delhi 110062,

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 56070 or visit www.downtoearth.org.in/subscription

FOR ADVERTISEMENTS Jyoti Ghosh jghosh@cseindia.org

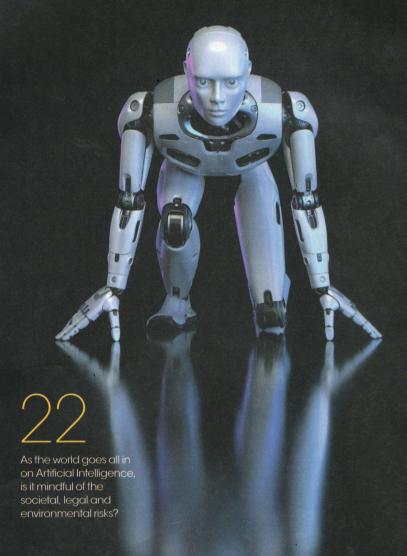
FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS

KCRRaja, raja@cseindia.org



 Cover design: Ajit Bajaj with Al assistance

Contents



08 Digest

STORY

OVER

Women in Uttarakhand's villages become nature guides

2 Reciprocal tariffs

Trump's tariffs could cause economic disruption in rural India

6 Health

Weight-loss drugs will not help alleviate India's obesity problem

20 Vanishing glaciers

Hindu Kush glaciers in full retreat with accelerated melting trends in the last decade

50 Patently Absurd
A court ruling that balances

public health with patent rights

54 Interview

Kerala's social justice minister R Bindu on India's first Elderly Commission

56 Food

Golden-hued egg fruit comes loaded with nutritive properties

58 Civil Lines

US relies heavily on the food system that its tariffs rupture