



**MOBIUS**  
FOUNDATION

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# APRIL DIARY



**“The virus is a teacher that has taught us that when a nation has the will, it can act together to defeat any adversary”.**

– Mr. Pradip Burman, *Chairman, MobiUs Foundation*

## Environment Positive: Viewpoint



**I**t is an absolute pleasure to welcome you to the first issue of the MobiUs Diary, a monthly round up of happenings on environment and sustainability related information, news and

views from around the world. We thought of bringing this newsletter during the COVID as an initiative to connecting and getting engaged with our networks and stakeholders while Working from the comfort zones of our homes. We do hope you will enjoy reading the first issue and look forward to sharing with you many more challenging themes in the months ahead.

COVID 2019 crisis and the unprecedented lockdown in India and in many other countries have some silver lining too. The air quality in many cities across the globe has significantly improved with clearer skies and cleaner air to breathe. The water quality of our rivers and other water bodies has shown visible improvement with clean sparkling water flowing in there.

This pandemic need not pause our thinking on the other equally pressing crises such as that of the climate, pollution, biodiversity loss and population explosion. Simultaneous coordinated action plan should be made to address the root ecological causes of the crisis and find out new and innovative ways to better tackle global environment and sustainability challenges to restore and rebuild the lost ecological systems and nature’s assets upon which we all depend for our survival.

**Dr. Ram Boojh**  
*CEO, MobiUs Foundation*

## Technology Matters

### Coronavirus: India’s race to build a low-cost ventilator to save Covid-19 patients

**I**n an 8,000 sqft (743 sq m) facility in the western Indian city of Pune, a bunch of young engineers are racing against time to develop a low-cost ventilator that could save thousands of lives if the coronavirus pandemic overwhelms the country’s hospitals. The invasive ventilator being developed by the engineers at Nocca Robotics will cost 50,000 rupees (\$662).

*(Ref: BBC News)*

### IIT-AIIMS Team Builds World’s 1st Machine that kills Coronavirus in Air with Ionised Water

**D**r Debayan Saha from IIT Kharagpur and Shashi Ranjan from AIIMS has created a novel device that performs loads better than conventional disinfectant sprays. The machine is called AirlensMinus Corona and it takes an entirely different approach to nip the novel coronavirus in the bud and it disperses water droplets which are made of ionised water. This water is ionised with the corona discharge. This water when it comes in contact with COVID-19, it oxidises the viral protein, rendering it not harmful.

*Sources: India Times*

#### Highlight of the Month

### COVID-19 some important tips

**C**an zinc help shorten a COVID-19 infection? Will vitamin C or other supplements prevent it? These claims and plenty more can be found on social media and internet sites, but be advised: There is no pill or treatment that can prevent or cure COVID right now. The immune system is quite complex. “There’s not even a scientific process called strengthening or boosting the immune system”.

None of the countries that seem to have COVID-19 under control used cloth masks as the only intervention, China had strict isolation measures, and in South Korea, voluntary social distancing and extensive testing were major steps. Masks are only a supplement -- not a replacement -- for such precautions as avoiding contact with other people and staying at home.

Washing hands with any regular soap is OK, even if it’s not antibacterial. If you have access to water and soap, save your hand sanitizer to use when you’re out.

## MF Contribution

As a part of its endeavour to assist the National COVID mitigation efforts, Mobius Foundation had approached the Kodagu District Authorities to understand their emergent requirements. Based on the feedback from administration, **Mobius Foundation has on priority sourced, donated to Kodagu District Authorities; critical frontline medical equipment and food provisions for needy daily wage earners.**

The Foundation has donated ventilators, **300 N 95 masks and 200 Personal Protection Equipment (PPEs)** to **Madikeri Hospital**, a government organization. The ventilators will enhance capability of medical authorities to provide intensive care to needy COVID patients. Masks and PPEs will provide safety to the medics who are at forefront of the endeavour to defeat the COVID epidemic.

Mobius Foundation as a part of its humanitarian outreach has also delivered **pulses and edible to District Authorities for distribution to about 4000 daily wage earners who are the most severely affected by the lockdown.**

## India's S&T Institutions Raise their Game Against COVID-19

Under the leadership of Dr Harsha Vardhan, Minister for Health, Science and Technology, and Earth Sciences, a well-coordinated approach has been adopted to activate the scientific community of the country. This approach has helped in providing a common platform for sharing of best practices, collaboration of work, development of need-based innovations, and in avoiding duplication of research work. To cut it short, in such a short period of time, India was able to put thousands of researchers in the country to work round the clock to develop new testing kits, protective equipment, respiratory devices, etc.

Source: PIB

## Mind Your Thoughts

### Coronavirus outbreak highlights Need to address Threats to Ecosystems and Wildlife



Diseases passed from animals to humans are on the rise, as the world continues to see unprecedented destruction of wild habitats by human activity. According to the World Health Organization, bats are the most probable carrier of the COVID-19 but added that it is possible that the virus was transmitted to humans from another intermediate host, either a domestic or a wild animal. "Therefore, as a general rule, the consumption of raw or undercooked animal products should be avoided," said the World Health Organization in a statement. "Raw meat, raw milk or raw animal organs should be handled with care to avoid cross-contamination with uncooked foods."

Source: UN Environment

## "ROTI, KAPDA AUR MAKAAAN; AND WIFI"

At an individual level, "Roti, Kapdaaur Makaan" have been our fundamental necessities ever since Manoj Kumar coined it in last 60s, internet has been added to it with the current lockdown. Humanity has won, people are united irrespectively of the differences. Majority is spending time with family which was unheard of. Soulful thoughts are emerging. With limited resources, we are adjusting our needs, cherishing simplest things like cooking, gardening, reading books, cleaning house aided with internet. This period is relatively similar to our forefather's time, the internet additionally.

- Archana Kushwaha



Source: Freepik

### Funny side: Destress Yourself



Fiona Applebum says don't buy Shaun King's Book!@ WrittenByHanna

I lost my teens to my depression and now I'm losing my twenties to a pandemic can't wait to lose my thirties to climate change!!!!  
11:40 PM - Apr 2, 2020  
86.3K people are talking about this  
So much to be grateful for, so much to look forward to :)

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