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Policy Initiatives

India

CII task force drafts norms for urban waste management

The CII Task Force on waste management has charted out Draft National Guidelines for Solid Waste Management, outlining ways to tackle this major challenge in the country's urban and rural areas.

The public-private-partnership mode for managing urban waste was suggested to access funds and improve efficiency. The Urban Development Ministry had formulated a waste management scheme for class-I cities and towns, indicating a budget requirement of nearly Rs 2,500 crore.

www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/cii-task-force-drafts-norms-for-urban-waste-management/article5354828.ece

North America

US Ethanol Market : RIN Works to Meet Biofuel Mandates

The ethanol market system based on Renewable Identification Number (RIN) works effectively and as intended in tracking compliance with the US biofuel mandate.

The RIN prices have increased recently with higher biofuel mandates set in 2014 and 2015, prompting the petroleum industry to propose a relaxed federal mandate in order to deflate RIN prices.

www.isaaa.org/kc/cropbiotechupdate/biofuels/default.asp?Date=11/13/2013

IDEA releases guide on sustainable energy

The International District Energy Association (IDEA) announced the release of its newest publication for the Canadian market. The guide aims to support mayors, planners, community leaders, the development community and economic development officials who are interested in planning more resilient urban energy infrastructure, driving the community energy planning process and implementing district energy systems in cities, communities and towns.

www.canadianbiomassmagazine.ca/content/view/4359/96/

Europe

Industry welcomes tariff review for small-scale biogas plants

UK Energy Minister Greg Barker has confirmed that a tariff review will be launched next month to ensure that the small-scale sector will not be unfairly disadvantaged by the anticipated depression of the Feed-in Tariff.

Official figures recently confirmed that the capacity trigger for sub 500kW AD plants had been

reached and the degression of the Feed-in Tariff would follow next April. Intense lobbying by industry group ADBA and its member companies, officials at DECC will now launch a consultation next month and review the proposed 20% tariff reduction.

www.clickgreen.org.uk/news/national-news/124062-industry-welcomes-tariff-review-for-small-scale-biogas-plants.html

New carbon offsetting schemes aim to reduce emissions and aid development

Carbon offsetting schemes are making a revival as businesses embrace schemes that both reduce emissions and help communities in the developing world.

Aviva, the UK's largest insurer is one such organisation. The company's humanitarian and environmental work in Kenya, where it helps fund gravity-fed water filters, and in India, where it supports the use of clean energy cookstoves, has been a pioneering success. Not only has it made the lives of 200,000 people safer, it has also offset more than 126,000 tonnes of CO2 in two years.

www.theguardian.com/sustainable-business/new-carbon-offsetting-schemes-emissions-development

EU environmental ministers set to vote on ILUC Friday

In Belgium, environmental ministers for all 28 European Union member states are meeting today to vote on the most recent proposal drafted by the Lithuanian presidency to tackle the ILUC issue. The newest compromise includes a number of new feedstocks that will qualify for double-counting in an attempt to win over member states who were not happy with the 7% cap on first generation biofuels rather than the 5% proposed by the European Commission.

www.biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2013/11/28/eu-environmental-ministers-set-to-vote-on-iluc-friday/

EU slaps 25% duty on Argentine biodiesel, 19% on Indonesian

In the EU, the European Commission has begun imposing anti-dumping duties on biodiesel imports coming from Argentina and Indonesia. The rates hover around 25% for Argentina and 19% for Indonesia, and will apply for five years. The policy follows the conclusion of a 15-month investigation which found that Argentine and Indonesian biodiesel producers were dumping into the European market.

www.biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2013/11/25/eu-slaps-25-duty-on-argentine-biodiesel-19-on-indonesian/

National Renewable Energy Action Plan 2020 adopted in Croatia

According to the Plan, biogas plants will reach a total installed capacity of 40MW and generate 260 GWh for electricity purposes. In transport, biomethane will start being produced in 2016 to meet 0.32% of fuel demand in transports.

www.european-biogas.eu/2013/11/08/national-renewable-energy-action-plan-2020-adopted-croatia/

Asia

Biomass industry action plan unveiled

The Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT) has handed over the Malaysian Biomass Industry Action Plan 2020 to Ambassador and Head of the European Union Delegation to Malaysia Luc Vandebon, to mark the launch of the plan.

www.thestar.com.my/Business/Business-News/2013/11/13/Biomass-industry-action-plan-unveiled.aspx/

Business & Market

India

Biogas plants to be set up in Alappuzha

Alappuzha municipality is geared up to tackle the issue of waste management. It will soon be setting up biogas plants with the help of Kudumbashree units.

www.articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-11-05/kochi/43693547_1_biogas-plants-alappuzha-municipality-kudumbashree

Indo-German biogas plant: Best of both worlds

In addition to other renewable forms of energy such as wind and solar, bioenergy is gaining momentum in India. Coupling of German technology with Indian engineering, the synergy ensures the "best of both worlds" for the nation.

Germany's Green Elephant has set up India's largest biogas production unit in Satara in Pune (Maharashtra). The plant generates 25,000 cubic metres of biogas per day from 600 cubic metres of sugar waste generated at the local sugar mills.

According to a Ernst and Young report, the huge power deficit represents a significant opportunity for renewable sources to step in to meet this growing demand for energy, while also increasing the country's energy security by reducing dependence on coal imports.

www.newindianexpress.com/nation/Indo-German-biogas-plant-Best-of-both-worlds/2013/11/06/article1875046.ece

Civic body plans steps to tackle garbage disposal

The Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) is working on ways to ensure maximum utilization of the garbage processing units in the city. It may use new technology to dispose of the garbage.

www.articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-11-07/pune/43772908_1_garbage-disposal-garbage-processing-plants-garbage-segregation

A2Z to start collecting waste from November 7

www.articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-11-06/varanasi/43731718_1_door-to-door-collection-karsada-solid-waste

BARC to give Chennai new bio-gas plant

The first pilot biomethanation plant of the Chennai Corporation that uses Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) technology will be launched in Pulianthope soon.

The pilot plant, which will be ready in 45 days, will have the capacity to convert two metric tonnes of bio-degradable waste into 40 KV of power and 160-170 kg of manure. The initial investment is around around Rs 40 lacs and it is likely that the project would be replicated in other parts of the city. The project is executed by Hubert EuroCare Systems.

www.newindianexpress.com/cities/chennai/BARC-to-give-Chennai-new-bio-gas-plant/2013/11/14/article1889721.ece

Haryana sets up biomass project in Mahendragarh

In Haryana, a biomass project of 9.9 MW has been set up in Mahendragarh district with a total cost of Rs.60 crore and a similar project of 9.5 MW in Bhiwani district is in its final stage of completion. Haryana has been awarded the best state nodal agency recognition for installation of solar water heating system in country for the year 2011-12.

www.articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-11-25/india/44448757_1_biomass-project-renewable-energy-department-haryana

TERI launches biomass cold storage in Sitapur

Union minister of New & Renewable Energy Farooq Abdullah assured all possible financial help to villages of Uttar Pradesh to help them develop alternative sources of electrification while inaugurating the 'Biomass energy based village electrification' and 'cold storage' project in a village of Sitapur on Thursday.

The project is the first of its kind in UP where biomass is being used to supply power to a cold storage in a village to preserve fruits and vegetables of farmers.

www.articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-11-29/lucknow/44574464_1_cold-storage-energy-and-resources-institute-biomass

North America

Green Gas buys Lime Energy's landfill gas project

Lime Energy has sold its 2.8MW landfill gas-to-energy project in Florida to Green Gas Americas, a developer of waste gas to power projects. Green Gas International, the owner of Green Gas Americas, currently generates 120MW of electricity derived from renewable sources.

www.bioenergy-news.com/index.php?/Industry-News?item_id=7038

Augusta Renewable Energy to build AD plant

Augusta Renewable Energy, a division of First Generation Energy and the Augusta Economic Development Authority, is to build a biogas plant in Georgia, US. The anaerobic digestion facility is estimated to cost \$20 million and will use coffee grounds from the new Starbucks Soluble site. First Generation Energy has formed partnerships with Eisenmann and Caterpillar for the development of this project. Eisenmann will supply the technology, build-out and operation.

www.bioenergy-news.com/index.php?/Industry-News?item_id=7036

Green Plains buys two plants from BioFuel

Green Plains Renewable Energy Inc. (GPRE), the fourth-largest US ethanol maker, has bought two plants from BioFuel Energy Corp (BIOF) for \$ 101 million. The combined capacity of the two distilleries is 220 million gallons a year, or about 14,000 barrels a day.

www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-11-05/green-plains-jumps-after-buying-two-plants-from-biofuel.html

Ukraine intends to provide citizens with biofuel

Ukrainian energy and coal industry minister Edward Stavytsky said in a briefing to a forum correspondent that Ukraine is ready to provide up to 80% of the population's needs in biofuel.

The laws of 5% bio-component content in petrol has come into effect from January.
www.en.for-ua.com/news/2013/11/07/155051.html

Biodiesel plant pumps first fuel in Canada

The first sizeable biodiesel operation in Western Canada started its operations. Kyoto Fuels Corp. has successfully commissioned its 66 million litre plant in Lethbridge. The plant will initially use Canola oil as its primary feedstock. Kyoto will sell its fuel primarily to oil companies in Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia, but it also intends to ship to the United States.

The company has also received a production incentive from the federal government that will be worth 10 cents per litre in 2014 but declines over time until running out in 2017.

www.producer.com/2013/11/biodiesel-plant-pumps-first-fuel/

REG boast big third quarter for biodiesel

Biodiesel producing giant Renewable Energy Group (REG) is boasting a big third quarter for its biodiesel operation. According to company reports, 77.6 million gallons of biodiesel sold in the third quarter 2013, an increase of 26 percent compared to the third quarter of 2012. In addition, revenues are up more than 40 percent compared to the same time a year ago for a total of \$458.4 million. The 77.6 million gallons of biodiesel sold is a record for REG.

www.domesticfuel.com/2013/11/07/reg-boast-big-3rd-quarter-for-biodiesel/

Methes Energies hits biodiesel shipment milestone in October

Methes Energies International Ltd. announced that more than 485,000 gallons of biodiesel shipped out of its facility. The company reports this is the highest monthly level of shipment this year, surpassing the previous monthly record.

The increase in production and sales are due mainly to the availability of a working capital facility that was set up several weeks ago. Methes Energies has begun discussion with the current lender to increase production capacity at the Sombra facility.

www.biodieselmagazine.com/articles/9410/methes-energies-hits-biodiesel-shipment-milestone-in-october

GE Aviation signs purchase agreement for biojet

GE Aviation inked a 10-year agreement to purchase 500,000 gallons or more of cellulosic synthetic biofuel annually from D'Arcinoff Group based in the United States. The fuel will be used for production and development testing in GE jet engines at the company's main jet engine testing facility in Peebles, Ohio.

According to GE Aviation, the cost for the biofuel will be comparable to traditional jet fuel. The cellulosic fuel will be produced at the proposed D'Arcinoff Group Energy Program facility, located in Hudspeth County, Texas. The D'Arcinoff Group announced the project earlier this year. It is currently expected to be operational in early 2016.

www.biomassmagazine.com/articles/9659/ge-aviation-signs-purchase-agreement-for-biojet

Rentech provides update on Ontario pellet projects

Rentech has begun construction of its planned pellet facilities in Atikokan and Wawa in eastern Ontario and is on schedule to meet pellet delivery obligations to Ontario Power Generating and Drax by next year. The projects mark Rentech's first within the pellet sector, after changing its focus from biobased jet fuel and diesel fuel production.

www.biomassmagazine.com/articles/9676/rentech-provides-update-on-ontario-pellet-projects/

South Boston welcomes new biomass plant

South Boston is soon going to have a new South Boston Energy Plant. The biomass facility, owned by the Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative, uses green resources to generate 49 megawatts of electricity, enough to power 16,000 homes. The plant uses leftover scraps from timber harvesting and greywater from sewage treatment plants to generate power.

www.wset.com/story/23974329/south-boston-welcomes-new-biomass-plant

Green Dot introduces new bioplastic product

Green Dot, a bioscience social enterprise serving plastics manufacturers and style conscious consumers, is introducing new Terratek WC wood-plastic composite pellets, ideal for injection molding and sheet extrusion.

www.biomassmagazine.com/articles/9740/green-dot-introduces-new-bioplastic-product

Europe

Mid-December opening set for biomass plant in Berlin

Berlin is soon to have a plant that will convert wood to power by mid-December. The \$275 million plant is expected to create 40 full-time jobs plus jobs for foresters, loggers and haulers. The plant will produce 75 megawatts of electricity, enough to power about 75,000 homes using about 750,000 tons of biomass/year. The power generated by this power plant will be sold under 20-year agreement to Public Service of New Hampshire, the state's largest utility.

www.concordmonitor.com/home/9351621-95/mid-december-opening-set-for-biomass-plant-in-berlin

Nordic aviation sector joining forces for sustainable fuel

The key players in the Nordic aviation sector have taken an initiative for the development of sustainable jet fuels. The Nordic Initiative for Sustainable Aviation (NISA) is made up of airports, airlines and their industry federations, and aviation authorities. Airbus and Boeing have been named as supporters of the initiative, as well as the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

The Nordic initiators will focus on bringing together stakeholders throughout the supply chain to find the best and most energy efficient solutions as well as put pressure on policy makers to ensure that aviation secures its share of sustainable fuels.

www.thefuelhandler.com/industry-news?item_id=7025

We Energies biomass plant begins commercial operation

We Energies has announced that the biomass-fueled power plant on the site of Domtar Corp.'s Rothschild was placed into commercial operation after testing and commissioning activities were successfully completed. This new biomass plant adds another technology to the renewable energy portfolio operated by We Energies.

www.biomassmagazine.com/articles/9657/we-energies-biomass-plant-begins-commercial-operation

Neste Oil commits to aviation biofuels initiative in Netherlands

Neste Oil, a refining and marketing company concentrating on low-emission traffic fuels, is to promote the deployment of sustainable aviation biofuels in the Netherlands after committing to a Dutch initiative for the sector. Other signatories of the initiative include KLM, SkyNRG, Schiphol

Airport, the Port of Rotterdam, the State Secretary of Infrastructure and the Environment, and the Minister of Economic Affairs. The company has already trialed its NExBTL renewable aviation fuel in commercial service. The fuel can make use of a variety of vegetable oil and waste-based raw materials.

www.bioenergy-news.com/index.php?/Industry-News?item_id=7059

Asia

Asia's largest capacity biomass power plant to use Metso automation

GS Engineering & Construction Co., Ltd. has chosen Metso automation to supply automation for Asia's largest capacity biomass power plant currently under construction in Dangjin City in South Korea. The 105 MW plant will be the largest of its kind in Asia.

The plant will be fueled with a mix consisting of 80 percent palm kernel shells and 20 percent coal. The commissioning of the new plant is planned for August 2015.

www.pennenergy.com/articles/pennenergy/2013/11/asias-largest-capacity-biomass-power-plant-to-use-metso-automation.html

Ennovor aims to be biodiesel leader with new management

Singapore-based Ennovor Biofuels announced a trio of new managers as part of the company's effort to become the world's second largest second generation global biodiesel producer by 2015. Established in 2010, Ennovor has facilities throughout Europe and Asia.

www.domesticfuel.com/2013/11/08/ennovor-aims-to-be-biodiesel-leader-with-new-mgmt/

Kingdom to produce 30,000 tons of algae

Saudi Arabia will be one of the few algae producing countries around the world, with production capacity expected to reach 30,000 tons by 2014, said Jaber Al-Shehri, undersecretary of research and agricultural development at the Ministry of Agriculture.

The plan is to produce 30,000 tons of algae and the initiative already began this year and will continue until 2029. The project of transplanting algae is a part of a whole integrated seafood basket that the company has been working on for years now. The project is expected to employ more than 2,800 people, among which are 400 Saudi men and women.

www.arabnews.com/news/476641

Malaysia eyes German bio-energy technology

Malaysia may emulate Germany's success story in developing bio-energy as it still lags in achieving its goal to use 11% renewable energy by 2020.

Currently, Malaysia's usage of renewable energy comprising, solar, hydro, biomass, geothermal, bio-gas and wind, makes up only 0.8% or 119 megawatts supplied to the national power grid

The highly-industrialized Germany managed to reduce its GreenHouse Gas emissions by nearly 24% and is the world's third-largest market for renewable energy investment that totaled €19.5 billion in 2012.

www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/business/2013/11/19/malaysia-eyes-german-bio-energy-technology/

Novozymes & M&G Chemicals join hands for world's first biomass-to-glycols biorefinery

Novozymes has announced that it will supply enzyme technology to the world's first biomass-to-glycols biorefinery to be constructed by M&G Chemicals in China.

The biorefinery is expected to be realised through a joint venture between M&G Chemicals and the

Chinese company Guozhen Group Co, which will make available 1 million metric tonnes of wheat straw and corn stover per year. The lignin by-product will feed a 45 MW cogeneration power plant which will be constructed in conjunction with the bio-refinery.

www.business-standard.com/content/b2b-chemicals/novozymes-and-m-g-chemicals-join-hands-for-world-s-first-biomass-to-glycols-biorefinery-113111800500_1.html

Pilot project for construction of biogas plant in Kathmandu Valley

Preparations to launch a pilot project for a biogas plant in the Kathmandu Valley are underway, according to the Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC).

The project will receive funding from the European Union, which will sign an agreement of about €300,000 with the metropolis by 2 December, according to KMC sources. Waste from KMC and Lalitpur is dumped at the Sisdole landfill site, according to the Solid Waste Management Technical Support Centre.

www.bioenergy-news.com/index.php?/Industry-News?item_id=7105

Other Countries

Healthcare giant continues to embrace clean energy technology

Baxter International's manufacturing plant in Australia had its new trigeneration system activated this week, the latest in a series of on-site power initiatives by the global healthcare giant.

The company estimates that trigeneration will help reduce its impact on the environment and reduce carbon dioxide output by an estimated 40%, or almost 6,000 tons per year.

www.cospp.com/articles/2013/11/healthcare-giant-continues-to-embrace-clean-power-technology.html

Finance & Investment

North America

Biomass, biofuels projects awarded REAP funding through USDA

Five biomass projects received funding, including an ethanol plant to break ground on a co-located corn oil-to-biodiesel plant. Three of the projects received \$500,000, including Adkins Energy LLC of Illinois, Waste-to-Energy LLC in Indiana and Enginuity Worldwide LLC of Missouri. Woodcrest Dairy LLC of New York received \$403,627 and MW Collins Inc. in Georgia received \$93,000.

www.biomassmagazine.com/articles/9660/biomass-biofuels-projects-awarded-reap-funding-through-usda

Fort St. James biomass project secures funding

Fort St. James Green Energy LP has announced that it has secured funding to move forward with the project. Project operators announced that a group of five banks have come together to provide the \$175 million in debt financing needed to move construction forward on the 40MW, \$235 million biomass power plant project.

The five banks involved with the financing agreement are: CIBC, National Bank of Canada, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Netherlands-based Rabobank group and Natixis of France.

www.canadianbiomassmagazine.ca/content/view/4360/96/

FPAC seeks additional funding for IFIT program

The Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC) is calling on the federal government to renew and replenish the highly successful Investments in Forest Industry Transformation (IFIT) program to help the sector further develop innovative breakthrough technologies.

FPAC is asking for IFIT to receive an additional \$500 million over the next six years, starting with a modest \$25 million next year in recognition of the government's tight fiscal situation, and then scaling up to \$150 million for the final two years of the program.

www.canadianbiomassmagazine.ca/content/view/4350/96/

Europe

EU fund opens for innovative bioenergy projects

Bioenergy Sustaining the Future (BESTF) is a partnership between six EU countries and associated states that will fund collaborative projects between at least two partners from different participating countries. The scheme is open to existing businesses with an innovative bioenergy project, which could be commercialised within three years.

A funding pot of £10m is available for UK projects, with no minimum or maximum set for individual grants, but projects will need to find at least 50% of the costs. UK applicants can apply for operational and capital costs, but funding for research and development, or pilots, may be considered.

www.fwi.co.uk/articles/15/11/2013/142007/eu-fund-opens-for-innovative-bioenergy-projects.htm

Romanian Commercial Bank to finance 1.5MW biogas plant construction

The Romanian Commercial Bank (BCR) has announced a financing deal with First Biogaz, a member of Austria's Biogest, for the construction of a 1.5MW biogas plant in northern Romania. According to Marin Schlerka, Biogest CEO, the plant requires an investment of around €6 million and its output can cover the energy consumption of around 4,500 households. Biogest has worked on over 90 biogas projects across Europe, including Britain, Italy and the Czech Republic

www.bioenergy-news.com/index.php?/Industry-News?item_id=7120

Clairvest Group invests \$28.5m into Connecticut waste management company

Canadian private equity company Clairvest, together with limited partnerships controlled by it, has invested \$28.5m into Connecticut-based waste management company Winters Bros Waste Systems.

Clairvest's portion of the investment is USD\$7.6m, representing the company's fourth investment into the solid waste management industry

www.newenergyworldnetwork.com/investor-news/renewable-energy-news/by-region/north-america/clairvest-group-invests-28-5m-into-connecticut-waste-management-company.html

EBRD funding biomass project in Ukraine

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) is supporting a new biomass-fired power plant to be built in Ukraine by Biogasenergo, a subsidiary of EIG Engineering. The project involves the development, construction and operation of the facility, which will burn 210,000 tonnes of woodchips for the production of 18MW of power. The plant is financed by the EBRD's Ukraine Sustainable Energy Lending Facility, an investment programme of €70 million – €50 million from the EBRD and €20 million from the Clean Technology Fund – designed to provide finance to private local enterprises wanting to invest in renewable energy projects in Ukraine.

www.bioenergy-news.com/index.php?/Industry-News?item_id=6998

Dalkia Energia invested in CHP plant in Hungary

Dalkia Energia has opened its €80.8 million biomass Combined Heat and Power (CHP) plant in Hungary. The new plant will provide 60% of the city's demand for district heating, which comprises 31,000 flats and 450 institutions.

www.bioenergy-news.com/index.php?/Industry-News?item_id=7054

University of Nottingham gets \$2.25 Mn funding

The project, led by Professor Nigel Minton and Dr Syed Shams Yazdani, will receive \$2.25 million from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research council (BBSRC) in the UK, with matched resources from the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) in India.

www.biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2013/11/19/university-of-nottingham-gets-2-25-to-study-biofuels-from-rice-straw/

Research & Development

North America

UI participating in biofuel conversion research

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that it has awarded nearly \$10 million to an academic, industry, and government consortium – including researchers at the University of Idaho – to study the major challenges limiting the use of insect-killed trees as a sustainable resource for bioenergy. The award was made by USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

www.pullmanmoscow.kxly.com/news/environment/112781-ui-participating-biofuel-conversion-research

Sandia research laboratories to convert natural gas to liquid fuel using biocatalysts

Researchers at Sandia National Laboratories will use their expertise in protein expression, enzyme engineering and high-throughput assays as part of a multiproject, \$34 million effort by the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) aimed at developing advanced biocatalyst technologies that can convert natural gas to liquid fuel for transportation.

The main objective is to develop alternative sources of energy in the U.S. that don't have to be imported and could lead to lower carbon monoxide emissions than conventional fossil fuels.

www.dailyfusion.net/2013/11/sandia-to-convert-natural-gas-to-liquid-fuel-using-biocatalysts-25101/

Europe

Biofuels production to top 150,975 million litres in 2016

According to a new report, biofuels (bioethanol and biodiesel) production in top and emerging countries such as US, Brazil, France, Spain, India, Colombia, Thailand, Sweden, Belgium, and Netherlands is expected to grow from 102,896 million litres in 2011 to 150,975 million litres in 2016 at CAGR of 8%. The markets representing high growth rate are Sweden (32.2%), Colombia (24.4%), India (19.7%), and Thailand (16.3%).

www.renewableenergyfocus.com/view/35475/biofuels-production-to-top-150-975-million-litres-in-2016/

Dutch researchers studying about best oil-producing algae for biodiesel

Researchers in The Netherlands are finding best oil-producing, algae in hopes of developing the fittest strain for biodiesel production.

www.domesticfuel.com/2013/11/06/dutch-researchers-id-fittest-of-fattest-for-biodiesel/

Researchers receive £700,00 to examine algae as biofuel

Westcountry scientists have been awarded £700,00 to investigate the potential for using tiny algae grown on waste water as a source of biofuel. The research will include assessing algae at both a community level and at a molecular level, through isolating them and bringing them in various combinations.

The work at the university has been supported by a grant from Shell Research Ltd and a grant from the Biological Sciences Research Council.

www.westernmorningnews.co.uk/Researchers-receive-pound-700-000-examine-using/story-20220616-detail/story.html

Asia

Report: Asia to take lead in biomass power production

Asian countries are looking to biomass power plants to increase domestic energy output and reduce reliance on foreign energy supplies. Asia is expected to construct about 1,000 megawatts of biomass energy capacity annually by 2020 - twice as much as expected in Europe, a new analysis from Research and Markets states.

This growth in biomass power plants will mean Asia will overtake Europe in the biomass market by 2020. By the end of the decade, Asia will have more biomass plants and a higher biomass capacity than Europe, the report states.

China, Japan and Korea are leading the continent in biomass projects. However, the source also pointed out that southern Asian countries are quickly developing markets for generating biomass from energy. Southern countries have an abundance of crop residues, municipal solid waste and forest residues like wood to create biomass feedstock.

www.pennenergy.com/articles/pennenergy/2013/11/report-asia-to-take-lead-in-biomass-power-production.html

Energy Fund hires research institute to study compressed biogas

The Energy Conservation Promotion Fund has allocated a budget of Bt33 million to the Energy Research and Development Institute to study how to raise the heat value of compressed biogas to the same level as cooking gas to substitute Liquefied Natural Gas for households.

www.thepoultrysite.com/poultrynews/30732/energy-fund-hires-research-institute-to-study-compressed-biogas

Other Countries

Nanoparticle system stimulates algae growth

Microalgae is a valuable marine resource used to generate bioenergy and biomass, which has a variety of environmentally sustainable applications including biofuels, medical antioxidants and anti-inflammatory agents, natural food and soap colorants, cosmetic agents and feed supplements in aquaculture. The new technique of nanotechnology could boost the production of commercially viable products.

www.nanowerk.com/news2/newsid=33093.

Climate & Environment Change

India

India to put onus of preventing climate change on industrialised countries

In a move that will put India at odds with both developing and least developed countries at the upcoming climate change conference, Delhi plans to take a strong line, putting the onus of preventing climate change on the industrialized countries.

India will support establishment of a separate window under Green Climate Fund for loss and damage, which is a key issue for vulnerable and least developed countries and will suggest a vulnerability assessment to guide financial allocations.

www.articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2013-11-07/news/43776345_1_climate-change-industrialised-countries-green-climate-fund

Wipro tops India 200 Climate Disclosure Leadership Index

Wipro has been named as leader in the India 200 Climate Disclosure Leadership Index (CDLI) for the second time. Wipro's ranking was revealed in the 2013 CDP India 200 Climate Change Report titled 'Energy efficiency: Driving the climate change response in Indian high performing companies'.

www.articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/201311-15/news/44113714_1_climate-change-report-major

Gujarat junks climate change action plan

Gujarat appears to have lost interest in the subject and its government has junked the state's Climate Change Action Plan 2012-2017 draft report prepared by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).

www.articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-11-14/ahmedabad/44072702_1_climate-change-action-plan-draft-report

North America

Climate Change may magnify toxic chemical dangers

www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/11/08/climatechangechemicals_n_4240450.html?ir=Green

DOD wraps climate change response into master plans

The effects of climate change are already evident at Defense Department installations in the United States and overseas, and DOD expects climate change to challenge its ability to fulfill its mission in the future.

www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=121237

IPCC carbon estimates altered

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change lowered its estimate of total carbon emissions since 1860-1881 from 531 billion tonnes to 515 billion, and increased its assessment of the amount emitted since 1750 from 545 billion tonnes to 555 billion.

UN climate experts have revised estimates of global GreenHouse Gas emissions detailed in a major report in September, but insisted the adjustments did not alter the overall conclusion that time is running out to limit global warming.

www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/environment/globalwarming/10442291/IPCC-carbon-estimates-altered.html

According to UN weather agency GreenHouse Gases at record high

GreenHouse Gases in the atmosphere have reached another record high as global warming continues to pick up pace, according to the United Nations weather agency.

The warming effect of all three GreenHouse Gases together increased by almost a third between 1990 and 2012 as they trapped growing amounts of heat in the atmosphere.

www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/environment/globalwarming/10430734/Greenhouse-gases-at-record-high-UN-weather-agency-says.html

Europe

133 countries walk out of UN climate meeting over global warming

The G77+ China group of 133 countries walked out of the United Nations climate change conference in Warsaw on the Loss and Damage mechanism after developed nations refused to agree to terms.

www.rt.com/news/climate-change-walkout-warsaw-050/

Britain's bill for climate aid rises to £4.5 billion

Britain has been committed to sending an extra £1.5 billion of taxpayers' money abroad as aid to help poorer countries tackle climate change due to a new European Union policy.

www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/environment/climatechange/10469434/Britains-bill-for-climate-aid-rises-to-4.5-billion.html

EU directs 20% of budget to climate change at UN finance meeting

EU has confirmed budget for next seven years, directing €180bn towards climate finance, with €15bn to go towards developing countries.

This equates to €180 billion on climate spending between 2014 and 2020, which will be used to reduce emissions domestically and help developing countries adapt to climate change—three times what was provided in the previous budget.

www.rtcc.org/2013/11/19/eu-directs-20-of-budget-to-climate-change-on-eve-of-un-finance-meeting/

Asia

Tacloban City as global center for climate change proposed

A renowned urban planner suggested that the national government to transform Tacloban city as global center for climate change. He also proposed to national government to allocate at least 30 hectares of land that could house three evacuation centers.

www.philstar.com/nation/2013/11/20/1258874/tacloban-city-global-center-climate-change-proposed

East Asia needs united approach to Climate Change

The need to respond effectively to climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time. East Asia is critically important in the global push to mitigate the rise of carbon emissions. At the Copenhagen and Cancun climate conferences, countries in the region made various commitments to reduce emissions by 2030 and beyond.

www.huffingtonpost.com/stephen-p-groff/east-asia-needs-united-approach_b_4341355.html