

## Editorial

Heat waves all over Asia is a worrying trend since it will impact monsoon rains in many parts. Heat started quite early in April beginning and now in May, it is around 45 degrees in most places and certainly health issues are multiplying. It is related to climate change happening in front of us and countries are yet to agree on doable action plans to reverse the trend.

World Environment Day (WED) is approaching notwithstanding the fact that wars are raging in middle east and northern Europe. Though Saudi Arabia will, for the first time in 50 years, hold a Global Convention on WED that day (June 5) it will not make the war nearby go away! Reality is what people face while high thinking specialists crank out large number crunching figures to scare all about changes in global climate scenario. We are also seeing the case of more than 60 countries holding their national elections so that policy decisions are kept at bay in most places due to uncertainty of the political class. It looks like common man on the street will continue to face vagaries of nature without any cure coming up too soon!

Happy reading!

May 21, 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'V. Subramanian', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

(V. Subramanian)

Editor-in-Chief

**How did they drag all those stones to build Egypt's pyramids? They had the Nile flowing at the spot, says study**

The extinct Ahramat branch of the Nile died due to increasing sand deposition, reduced precipitation and tectonic activity, according to scientists (*See Environment News Futures for details*).



The Pyramids of Giza.  
Photo: iStock

**World Environment Day comes to the Middle East**

For only the second time in more than 50 years, World Environment Day (WED) is coming to West Asia. In 2024, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is hosting WED on 5 June with a focus on land restoration, desertification and drought resilience.



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