

IndiaWilds®

Newsletter

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What can we do to mitigate Climate Change?

The world is in the grip of Climate Change. Drought and wild fires in California, unprecedented floods in Germany and western Europe, record heat waves in Asia, never seen before high temperatures in Siberia causing melting of permafrost and wildfires, melting polar ice caps releasing huge amounts of ice into the ocean, rising sea levels leading to submerging of low lying areas, landslides in the Himalayas, unseasonal cyclones in both eastern and western coast of India are among the few major impacts experienced due to climate change. These increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events is forcing people to admit that Climate change is for real.

The Paris Agreement was signed among much fanfare. The signatory countries are obligated to implement to help contain the global increase in ambient temperature to below 2 degrees centigrade above industrial revolution levels. Unfortunately, it is clear to even the casual observers that not all is well with the climate change mitigation efforts. More needs to be done urgently.

Developing countries like India have been pointing at the high carbon profligate lifestyles of the western countries and demanding more effort and funding from developed countries. The western world on the other hand is pointing out that in the last decade, India has more or less caught up with the western countries in adopting a high carbon lifestyle, as disposable income of the middle class has increased, leading to the altered lifestyle.

India has a population of 1.4 billion people. With slightly less than 20% of the world population, countries like India hold the key to our fight against climate change. A small change in

Cover Page Photograph:

Tiger by Sabyasachi Patra



Floods in Germany

Image courtesy - online media



lifestyle by more than a billion people can have a huge impact in lowering or increasing the overall carbon emissions.

Consumerism has fueled Climate Change:

There was a time when Air conditioners in cars were a luxury and air conditioners at home was unheard of. Very few homes had refrigerators. Today, with increased disposable incomes and also due to higher ambient temperatures, ACs and refrigerators have become common. Public transport was the norm earlier. Only the rich and Government officers had cars. Bicycles and cycle rickshaws were common. Today, the number of personal transport vehicles have exploded due to easy financing as well as higher disposable incomes. The road network hasn't kept pace with the increase in vehicles in the road. Our towns and cities were not designed to accommodate millions of people. Roads can't be widened beyond a point. Traffic jams and unnecessary fuel burning by the vehicles is a big contributor for climate change. Manufacturing billions of devices for our own needs which are disposed off in a couple of years; and mining for metals for these products also contributes significantly to the global carbon emissions.

Technical innovations to solve problems:

Today there is a lot of talk in the developing world regarding creating technology to fight climate change. However, it would be prudent to mention that technology per-se can't fight climate change. Only if technical innovations result in solving problems of people and lowering the carbon footprint, then it can be of help.

Source of electricity matters:

It is well known that the transportation sector is a major polluter. This sector consumes massive amounts of fossil fuels. So there is effort to move away vehicles from petrol and diesel and run those with electricity. However, powering a car from electricity generated from a polluting coal-fired thermal power plant makes no sense as apart from the pollution, the end result is still burning of coal and contributing to climate change.

Germany and a few other countries in Europe have announced that they are phasing out thermal power plants and setting up more solar power. Researchers have now invented thin solar panels which can be pasted on walls and windows to generate solar power. As a result, it would become easier as well as make solar panels affordable for the general public to adopt. This is likely to be very helpful in powering our devices as well as vehicles and help fight climate change.

The patrons of fossil fuel industry like the Koch brothers in USA who are the key backers of the Republican party which denies climate change and groups like the Adani group in India are trying their best to make Governments across the world to agree to continue with coal mining

and coal-fired thermal power plants. In Australia, on the pretext of creating local jobs the Queensland Government approved Adani Carmichael coal mine even though it threatens the Great Barrier Reef. It had earlier approved the Abbot Point Coal Terminal in North Queensland which involved dredging of the Great Barrier Reef. So clearly, it is not technology which is the deciding factor. It is the people and their politics which decides whether climate change mitigation efforts will be successful or not. And along with it the fate of the planet also gets decided.

Dismantling Dams:

Hydel power plants are often referred to as green energy. However, the hydel power projects are often environmentally devastating. The dams create large reservoirs which drown huge swathes of forest land. Large contiguous forests capture lot of carbon from the atmosphere and release oxygen. When vast forest areas are drowned due to hydel power projects, the net result is higher amounts of CO₂ remains in the atmosphere.

Many of our dams and hydro power generation projects have outlived their utility. Over a period due to siltation, the carrying capacity of the dam reduces and the power generation decreases. The cost of Solar has come down drastically and is way below the cost of many of these power projects. So the Government can identify these projects and then dismantle the dams. The catchment areas of the reservoirs can then be converted into forests again. This will be a good source of increasing our forest cover and help in carbon sequestration.



Bhakra Nangal Dam

When dams are dismantled, rivers will start free flowing once again. This will lead to huge improvement in the riparian ecosystem. Otters, dolphins, fish like mahseer and many other species can freely move in the rivers once again. It will also stop the salinity ingress in the areas close to the sea mouth. Farming in downstream areas which is now suffering due to want of

water will once again become more productive once dams are dismantled.

Reimagining the cities, we live in:

The Government of India had announced with much fanfare the setting up of Smart Cities. Apart from the usual politics, and the dumbed down implementations resulting in hardly achieving anything of substance, there is real merit in looking closely at altering the way we humans live. Since there is lack of holistic vision, our towns and cities have grown in a haphazard manner, without any real planning. And as people live in suburbs of cities and in places at a distance from existing cities, their need for daily provisions as well as other goods transport requirements creates inefficiencies in goods movement. Similarly, Urban mobility has to keep up with the change in mobility requirements as people now owning houses and/or renting cheaper places in suburbs have to still travel to the city for their work. The higher commute time leads to higher fossil fuel burning. Technology today can help bring a big change in human habitations by helping create efficient and effective plans to create environmentally sustainable cities.

Due to the Covid_19 pandemic, as lot of people were forced to work from home, the fast development of video conferencing, audio and video streaming has ensured that people are able to work even more efficiently from their homes. This has already resulted in reduction in rental rates of houses in many big cities. Unfortunately, Google, Facebook and many other companies in USA have announced plans to restart their offices. This will result in people again traveling to offices and the peak time traffic jams will be restarted. The Planet Earth would again start choking due to the immediate increase in emission of greenhouse gases.

Our Government should ask companies to allow employees to work from home. This will help a lot of people to permanently move back to smaller towns and cities and enjoy a better quality of life. At the moment cities like Bangalore, Mumbai, Delhi, Hyderabad are densely populated. As opposed to India's population density of 382 people/sq. km, Bangalore has 4378 people/sq. km and Mumbai suburban district has a population density of 25,357/sq. km. This kind of high population in big cities creates huge demand on water, power and other infrastructure. The Metros and other big cities will be a bit decongested and it will help in reducing the infrastructure burden if Government asks various companies to allow people to work from home permanently. There won't be need for big dams to get water for the huge cities as smaller townships can survive on the local freshwater supplies. It would be environmentally sustainable. Hence, this move would be a big help in fighting climate change as well.

Redrawing Industrial Map:

There are industries where people cannot work from home. Most of these industries are still located in and around big cities. Unless these industries move away into hinterland, the decongestion plan of big cities will not work. In the past, several companies were setup in distant locations to take benefit of the tax holidays announced by State Governments. Unfortunately, companies also need qualified people as well as roads and connectivity to logistics hubs for efficient goods transportation requirements. Hence, it is imperative that various arms of Government need to look holistically and develop plan for creation of Industrial zones, where these industries can safely relocate, to create smaller clusters which are manageable in terms of infrastructure and is environmentally sustainable. Hopefully our Government and Niti Ayog can think about it.

Conservation News -

Further Empowering STs & Other Traditional Forest Dweller in management of Forest Resources

6th July 2021

Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change have jointly decided to give more powers to the tribal communities in managing the forest resources. A “Joint Communication” to this effect was signed by Shri R.P. Gupta, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC), and Shri Anil Kumar Jha, Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA), in the presence of Minister of Environment, and Minister of Tribal Affairs in New Delhi at Indira Paryawaran Bhawan.

The Joint Communication, addressed to all Chief Secretaries of States/UTs, pertains to more effective implementation of the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 and for harnessing the potential for livelihood improvement of the Forest Dwelling Scheduled Tribes (FDSTs) and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (OTFDs).

The FRA is an Act to recognize and vest the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling scheduled tribes (FDSTs) and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (OTFDs) who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded; to provide for a framework for recording the forest rights so vested and the nature of evidence required for such recognition and vesting in respect of forest land. The Act came into operation with the notification of Rules on 01.01.2008 for carrying out the provisions of the Act.

The joint communication notes that despite considerable lapse of time since the Act came into force, the process of recognition of rights is yet to be completed. Further, the exercise of these rights as well as operationalization of Section 5 of the Act are other areas of concern. Hence, the Ministries of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) and Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) deliberated on issues for smoother implementation of the Act and noted that there has been no conflict insofar as the legal framework of the law is concerned. Since the State Governments are responsible for implementation of the Act, issues related to its implementation need to be resolved at the State level in terms of the statutory provisions. It was emphasized that any queries/issues that may require clarification/hamper the implementation of FRA may be brought to the notice of Central Government so that both Ministries may take a collective view on the matter.

As per the joint communication, the frontline staff of State Forest department should extend assistance to the institutions/committees under Rule 4(1)(e) and (f) of the Act for preparing conservation and management plan for community forest resources in order to sustainably and equitably manage such community forest resources for the benefit of forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers and integrate such conservation and management plan with the micro plans or working plans or management plans.

It was also emphasized that enhancement of livelihood prospects of the traditional forest dwelling and forest dependent tribal and other communities requires synergy between the two ministries at the Central level and at both the Forest and Tribal Welfare/Affairs Departments of the State Governments.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister of Tribal Affairs, Shri Arjun Munda stated that tribals and other forest dwellers can contribute significantly in efforts towards climate change through preservation of biodiversity, environmental

Conservation News -

conservation and enhancing forest cover.

In his key-note address, Shri Munda said that today's joint communication is oriented towards the rights and duties of the forest dwellers and to improve participation of such communities in the process of forest management.

The Minister further informed the gathering that a meeting was held between both ministers on 10th August, 2020 which was intended to resolve issues in ensuring community participation in forest management and today's joint communication, is a culmination of the series of consultations done after that.

The event was attended by more than 300 participants including State Government officials such as Principal Secretaries/Secretaries in the Forest, Revenue and Tribal Welfare Departments, Principal Chief Conservators of Forest, Commissioners/Directors of Tribal Welfare Departments, Directors of Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) as well as members from NGOs and partnering organizations.

India gets a New Environment & Forest Minister

8th July 2021

Following a revamping of the Union council of ministers, Shri Prakash Javadekar was dropped as a minister. In his place Shri Bhupender Yadav, assumed charge as Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

The previous environment minister Shri Javadekar is considered to be the worst environment and forest minister ever as he virtually opened the floodgates for decimation of India's wilderness and wildlife. Under his aegis, vast swathes of forest land was diverted for industrial use as well as for roads, dams and other projects. The Environment Impact Assessment norms were first reduced for pharmaceutical companies in 2020 and then a systematic attempt was made to change the WPA. This had resulted in a hue and cry with many people raising their voice and sending protest emails. Few such organisations and individuals were also persecuted. Given such a background, not much is expected from Shri Yadav as an Environment and Forest minister.

Speaking with the media on the occasion, the Minister thanked the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for giving him an opportunity to work for the Government. Shri Yadav said he would make all efforts to deliver on the responsibilities given to him by the Prime Minister. If the MoEF&CC continues to act as a clearing house for industries and sacrificing forest areas, then Shri Yadav's statement conveys who is ultimately responsible for it.

India committed to work with G20 countries for securing health of Planet Earth

22nd July 2021

Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav today said that India is committed to work with the G20 countries for a better world leaving no one behind, and stands together in solidarity with the global community in mounting a strong and effective response that secures the health of the planet and its people.

Conservation News -

Leading the Indian delegation at the G20 Environment Ministerial the Environment Minister underscored the need for a collective global action to tide over the ongoing Covid-19 crisis, and that the Developing Countries need every possible support more than ever before. The G20 Environment Ministerial Meeting held today at, Naples, Italy was attended virtually by the Indian delegation led by Shri Bhupender Yadav.

On 'Nature Based Solutions' (NBS) and Sustainable Finance, the Indian Environment Minister said that the contexts and perspectives should be guided by the stage of economic development, national circumstances and priorities, and must not come at the cost of developing countries' competitiveness, equity and development.

For tackling marine litter, Shri Yadav emphasized that India have been taking voluntary regulatory measures on plastic waste management, and also recalled that in the 4th United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) in 2019, India had separately piloted a resolution No. 4/9 in the 4th UNEA on "Addressing single- use plastic products pollution".

The Minister also mentioned about the initiatives taken by India on Resource Efficiency (RE) & Circular Economy (CE), and that the G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue should also strengthen exchange of ideas, knowledge and best practices on RE & CE and support the transition to sustainable and equitable resource use for a better future

During the course of the daylong Meeting, India welcomed global initiatives like UNESCO's International Environmental Experts Network; protecting at least 30% of global land area and oceans by 2030; Land Degradation Neutrality by 2030; Third Report on the G20 Implementation Framework for actions on Marine Plastic Litter; etc.

India also welcomed the G20 Dialogue on Water but reiterated taking into account national circumstances and priorities, and underlined the need for effective and implementable post 2020 biodiversity framework.

World has waited long enough for promised Climate Finance and Technologies at low cost

23rd July 2021

The G20 Energy and Climate Joint Ministerial Meeting concluded today at, Naples, Italy. It was attended virtually by the Indian delegation from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and the Ministry of Power.

On the second and concluding day of the G20 summit, Shri Bhupender Yadav, Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change stressed that the G20 must respond to the call of science for urgent global climate action in this decade.

Speaking at different sessions on Climate Change, the Union Environment Minister underlined the need to cut absolute emissions rapidly while taking into account the Paris Agreement which emphasised on respective historical responsibilities, delivery of promised climate finance and technologies at low cost keeping in perspective per capita emissions, differences in per capita GDP and the unfinished agenda for sustainable development.

The Minister stated that India remains steadfast in its commitments to join and lead efforts to combat climate change within the multilaterally agreed convention and its Paris Agreement.

Conservation News -

The Minister mentioned about India's stated vision of installing 450 GW (Giga Watt) of RE (Renewable Energy) by 2030, enhanced ambition in bio-fuels, India's NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions) and various other initiatives taken by India on Urban Climate Action.

The Minister stressed, common but differentiated responsibilities to combat climate change, as per respective capabilities and national circumstances, lies at the heart of the UNFCCC & its Paris Agreement. "We should not be shifting goalposts and setting new benchmarks for global climate ambition", said Shri Yadav and informed that under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India has exhibited exemplary resolve by achieving its pre 2020 voluntary commitment of reducing emission intensity.

"With increase in urbanization, it is important to create and preserve green spaces and protect biodiversity in urban areas" said the Environment Minister and informed that India's Urban Climate Actions include Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework, National Mission on Sustainable Habitat, Climate Center for Cities, Climate Smart Cities Alliance, Climate Practitioners India Network, Urban Forestry, etc.

India also welcomed the G20 works on Sustainable Recovery, Cities, Financial Flows, etc.

India's 14 Tiger Reserves got Global CA|TS recognition for good Tiger Conservation

29th July 2021

14 Tiger Reserves in India which received the accreditation of the Global Conservation Assured|Tiger Standards (CA|TS). The 14 tiger reserves which have been accredited are Manas, Kaziranga and Orang in Assam, Satpura, Kanha and Panna in Madhya Pradesh, Pench in Maharashtra, Valmiki Tiger Reserve in Bihar, Dudhwa in Uttar Pradesh, Sunderbans in West Bengal, Parambikulam in Kerala, Bandipur Tiger Reserve of Karnataka and Mudumalai and Anamalai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu.

Conservation Assured | Tiger Standards (CA|TS) has been agreed upon as accreditation tool by the global coalition of Tiger Range Countries (TRCs) and has been developed by tiger and protected area experts. Officially launched in 2013, it sets minimum standards for effective management of target species and encourages assessment of these standards in relevant conservation areas. CA|TS is a set of criteria which allows tiger sites to check if their management will lead to successful tiger conservation.

This was revealed in a virtual event held on the occasion of Global Tiger Day.

Equipment Discussions -

Sound Devices launches A20 Mini Digital Wireless Transmitter

Overview

Sound Devices has launched its first miniature digital wireless transmitter for Broadcast and Film Industry. It is a feature rich and incorporates state-of-the-art features such as full remote control via the A20-Remote app, GainForward Architecture, internal 32-bit float recording, a worldwide tuning range of 470 MHz – 694 MHz, and more. The A20-Mini is fully compatible with Sound Devices' existing A10 Digital Wireless System.



Salient features:

- Full remote control of the Mini via A20-Remote companion app. Control frequency and RF power, turn the Mini on and off, start and stop recording, mute the microphone, format the media, view the status of all your Minis, and more.
- GainForward Architecture: set the Mini's gain levels via trim control (with an 8-Series) or at the A10-RX (other mixers).
- Full 10 Hz – 20 kHz audio bandwidth; 100% digital RF modulation and transmission. Same excellent range and audio quality as the A10-TX.
- Worldwide tuning range of 470 MHz – 694 MHz.
- Built-in 32-bit float, 48 kHz recorder with 64 GB storage for over 80 hours of record time.
- Offload recorded WAV files via USB-C and optionally conform/convert with SD-Utility.

Equipment Discussions -

- Powering via AAA or NP-BX1 (Li-Ion) with built-in charging for NP-BX1 Li-Ion battery.
- Internal supercapacitor-powered timecode generator can be jammed via USB-C.
- Water-resistant with a rounded form factor.

Designed to Conceal...

The A20-Mini digital wireless transmitter combines legendary British audio quality with the best of American design. The sleek, rounded form fits perfectly into body contours and underneath tight clothing.



...and control

Control the A20-Mini from your phone or tablet via Bluetooth 5.2 with companion app A20-Remote. Set frequency and RF power, turn the Mini on and off, start and stop recording, mute the microphone, format the media, view the status of all your Minis, and more. The A20-Mini's high-efficiency internal 2.4 GHz antenna ensures excellent Bluetooth range.

GainForward

With the Mini's GainForward Architecture, easily set the Mini's gain, low-cut, and limiter directly on your 8-Series. This immediate, local control of gain allows quick adaptation to changing volume levels and saves time during production.

32-bit float recording

Equipment Discussions -

The A20-Mini records in 32-bit float for an astounding >130 dB of dynamic range. This allows for audio gain decisions to be made after recording, with zero loss in headroom or noise performance.



Built-in 64 GB media

No more SD card management – the ample-sized media stores more than 80 hours of continuous, uncompressed 32-bit float recording. Simply offload the recorded WAV files via the high-speed USB-C port to a computer.

Never lose time

The Mini's ultra-accurate 0.2 ppm internal timecode generator can be jammed via USB-C with negligible drift over a 24-hour period.

Flexible, worldwide operation

With a built-in 470 MHz to 694 MHz UHF tuning range, your Mini can go wherever work takes you.

Power away

Use off-the-shelf rechargeable or AAA batteries – no adapter needed. 3 AAA batteries or a rechargeable Sony NP-BX1 give you the ultimate in powering flexibility. You can even recharge the NP-BX1 via the Mini's USB-C.

Equipment Discussions -

Water-resistant

With its extensive gasketing and waterproof connectors, the A20-Mini can easily withstand water and sweat.

PowerStation -8M

Optional accessory provides easy battery charging, file transfer, and timecode jamming of up to eight A20-Minis at a time.

Powered via DC (TA4) or USB-C (USB-PD).



Preorder price: \$2200

Equipment Discussions -

Sony Electronics Introduces the New Interchangeable-Lens Vlog Camera ZV-E10 for Vloggers and Video Creators

The ZV-E10 APS-C Camera Delivers High Quality Video and Audio Performance, Vlog-Optimized Functions and Versatile Connectivity - Perfect for Video Creators.



SAN DIEGO, July 27, 2021 /PRNewswire/ -- Sony Electronics Inc. today announced the first Alpha series interchangeable lens vlog camera, the new ZV-E10. Designed from the ground up for vlogging and vloggers, the new camera combines Sony's advanced imaging technology with extensive usability and a custom-built feature set that is optimized for video creators.

At its core, the ZV-E10 features a 24.2-megapixel (approx. effective) APS-C Exmor™ CMOS sensor and BIONZ X image processing engine to produce high-quality imagery with high-sensitivity, detailed texture depiction and beautiful natural bokeh. Additionally, the ZV-E10 includes the acclaimed vlogging-specific features favored in the popular ZV-1 digital camera including "Background Defocus"ⁱ that can smoothly switch between a blurred (bokeh) and sharp background, as well as the "Product Showcase Setting"ⁱⁱ mode that allows the camera to automatically shift focus from the subject's face to an object being highlighted.

"With the introduction of Sony's first interchangeable lens vlog camera, the ZV-E10, we are excited to meet the growing needs of today's creators," said Yang Cheng, Vice President, Imaging Solutions, Sony Electronics Inc. "The new ZV-E10 pairs the versatility and excellent image quality of a large-sensor interchangeable lens camera with user-friendly features that are specifically designed for vlogging, making it an ideal tool for video creators looking to transition to a more advanced set up."

The ZV-E10 features a video-first design in a lightweight form factor (approx. 12 oz. / 343gⁱⁱⁱ) and includes the popular side-opening Vari-angle LCD Screen that allows creators to connect external mics on top of the camera. This simplifies setup while still allowing users to see the screen in selfie shooting mode and from high and low angles.

Equipment Discussions -

In addition to the screen, the ZV-E10 includes several other easy-to-use functions that are specifically designed for vlogging, including a new mode button located on the top of the camera that allows creators to easily change between Still/Movie/Slow and Quick modes with just one touch.

The new camera also includes advanced video features such as 4K (QFHD: 3840 x 2160) video shooting and Slow Motion with high picture quality (FHD 120p)^{iv}. Electronic image stabilization with Active Mode^v is also available and delivers stable video recording even while walking and shooting hand-held. Further, the ZV-E10's advanced AF (autofocus) technology provides fast, precise AF with excellent tracking performance, as well as high quality audio for clear sound recording.

Sony Vlog Challenge Contest

Together with this announcement, Sony will host their second Sony Vlog Challenge Contest that encourages entrants to create a vlog that highlights something that they are the most passionate and enthusiastic about. The entry period is July 27 – September 27, 2021 and is open to video creators in the U.S. (excl. terr.) and Canada (excl. Quebec). See contest official rules [here](#)*.

Creative Versatility

An Interchangeable Lens Camera for Expanded Creative Expression

The ZV-E10 allows the user to expand their creative expression by utilizing the ideal lens for each individual scene they want to shoot. The wide variety of compatible lenses in Sony's E-mount lens lineup lets the user choose the perfect lens based on their creative vision.

Advanced Autofocus

Sony's industry-leading AF technology enables the user to leave focusing to the camera so that they can concentrate on composing their shot. The ZV-E10 includes Fast Hybrid AF and Real-time Eye AF for video^{vi} with Real-time Tracking^{vii} that allows the camera to keep track of the subject's face and eyes for fast and precise autofocusing even while recording on-the-go and in challenging environments. The user can also customize the camera's AF settings, such as AF Transition Speed and AF Subject Shift Sensitivity, to choose the rate at which the camera shifts from one point to another according to their creative preferences.

Additionally, the ZV-E10's Touch Focus function allows the user to intuitively set the focus position by simply touching the screen. With one tap, the user can instantly shift the focus position from one subject to another – almost anywhere in the frame. This is available in both still and video modes.

High Quality Audio

Sony's leading technology, thanks to its internal Directional 3-Capsule Mic, enables the ZV-E10 to capture crystal clear sound recordings that accurately capture the speaker's voice and the supplied wind screen to greatly reduce wind noise. For expanded audio options, the ZV-E10 includes a Digital audio interface via Multi Interface (MI) Shoe and a mic jack to connect an external mic. The inclusion of a headphone jack allows the user to connect headphones to accurately monitor sound

Equipment Discussions -

recordings. Audio output timing can also be set for Live or Lip Sync.

Putting the Subject First

When shooting in different settings with dramatic changes in light, the user can rest assured that the ZV-E10 will automatically correct the exposure, using an original Face Priority AE (autoexposure) algorithm capable of rapid AE transitions, so that the subject's face is not over or under exposed. This allows the camera to detect the subject's face and adjusts the exposure to ensure that the face is depicted at optimal brightness, even when selfie-shooting in scenes with extreme changes in lighting, and even if the subject's face turns away momentarily from the camera. In addition, the camera features the same advanced color science from the popular ZV-1 to optimize skin tones for any subject in both still and video modes.

Cutting-Edge Video Features:

- Internal 4K movie recording through full pixel readout without pixel binning^{viii}
- High bit rate XAVC S™ codec^{ix} at 100Mbps when recording 4K
- Slow & Quick Motion^x
- High-speed full HD recording at 120 fps^{xi}
- Interval Shooting^[xii] for stunning time-lapse videos^{xiii}

Hybrid Log-Gamma (HDR)^{xiv} / S-Gamut3.Cine / S-Log3, S-Gamut3 / S-Log3

Designed for Video Creators

Users can comfortably operate the new ZV-E10 thanks to its easy-to-hold body grip and large MOVIE button that is conveniently located on top of the camera. When paired with the optional Shooting Grip with Wireless Remote Commander (GP-VPT2BT, sold separately), one-handed shooting is simplified with easy to access zoom, record and a customizable button. A recording lamp (tally light) is also provided on the front face of the body for an at-a-glance indication of recording status. A red frame on the LCD screen also appears while recording to quickly and easily lets the user know if recording is active when behind the camera.

A unique feature of the ZV-E10 is the zoom lever that can operate optical zoom with power zoom lenses and Clear Image zoom with both zoom and prime lenses. Using Clear Image zoom, the user can zoom without losing video resolution to maintain full 4K video. The user can also choose from eight zoom speed settings for added creative flexibility.

The ZV-E10 features long battery performance with enough power to capture up to 125 minutes^{xv} or 440 images^{xvi} on a full charge so the user can record for long periods without worry. When shooting indoors, AC power supplies like the optional AC-PW20AM can supply power, so the user can continue to record without worrying about battery consumption. Power can also be supplied through a USB Type-C® connector, allowing external batteries to power the camera for extended battery life when shooting on the go. To conserve the camera's battery, the ZV-E10's Vari-angle LCD Screen allows the user to

Equipment Discussions -

put the camera into Power save mode^{xvii} by closing it and instantly turn the camera on by opening the panel.

Stay Connected

Livestreaming

The ZV-E10 can also be used as a high-quality webcam or live streaming camera by simply connecting it to a PC or smartphone^{xviii} for increased mobility while streaming with no additional software needed. The feature allows the user to take advantage of the ZV-E10's outstanding image quality and crystal-clear audio as well Face Priority AE and Soft Skin Effect while livestreaming or on video calls. The ZV-E10 supports standards used for USB cameras like UVC (USB Video Class) / UAC (USB Audio Class). The ZV-E10 also allows users to connect to a power supply via USB cable while livestreaming for longer usage. For added convenience, the user can assign this function to a custom button to start streaming instantly.

Easy File Data and Transfers

Using Sony's Imaging Edge Mobile app^{xix}, users can transfer selected images and video files to a mobile device via Wi-Fi. This also allows the user to transfer RAW image files. After the camera has been paired to the Imaging Edge Mobile app, the files' location data can be acquired from the mobile device and recorded. Users can transfer files from an SD card in the camera to a smartphone (mobile device) via Bluetooth even if the camera is powered OFF^{xx}.

Pricing and Availability

The new ZV-E10 will be available in black and white in the end of August for approximately **\$700.00 USD** and **\$900.00CAD**. It will be sold at a variety of Sony's authorized dealers throughout North America.

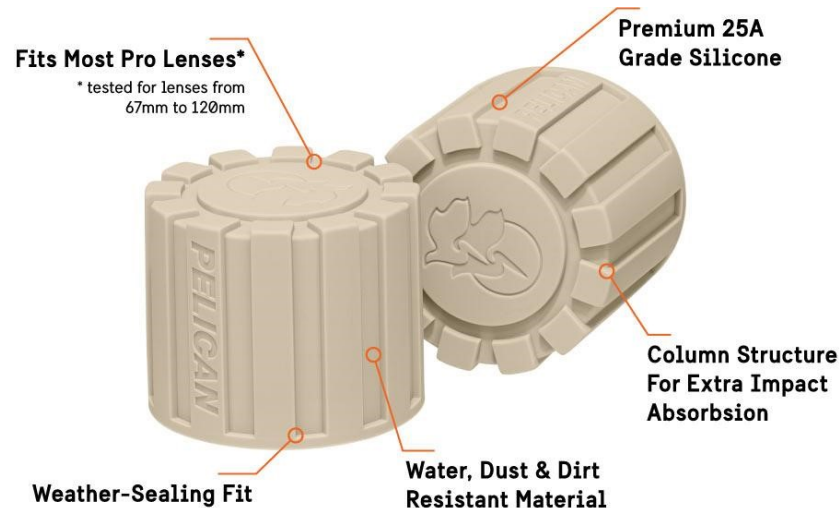
A new kit featuring the ZV-E10 camera and E PZ 16-50mm F3.5-5.6 OSS power zoom lens will also be available in the end of August and will be sold for approximately **\$800.00 USD** and **\$1,000.00 CAD**. It will be sold at a variety of Sony's authorized dealers throughout North America.

Equipment Discussions -

Pelican launches Rugged Lens covers

Protective gear manufacturer Pelican has launched a range of new products in its Outdoor series like sleeping pads, blankets etc. Pelican has launched an interesting rugged lens covers made of silicone.

Pelican says that these rugged lens covers fits most pro lenses from 67 to 120 mm circumference. It has column structure to absorb impact. Having seen several of my lenses fall down in the field, I am always keen on getting some kind of protection for the lenses. When you are in the wilds, far away from the service centre, any inadvertent fall or bump to your lens can be a significant danger for the shoot. For creating this product, Pelican has tied up with CM Brands.



Even while travelling in flight, it would be easier to pack the lenses with these covers so that the heavier padding can be dispensed with to save weight. At \$24.99 US Dollars, this may find many takers.

Specifications

Dimensions: 2³/₄" x 2³/₄" x 2¹/₄"

Fit: Tested for lenses from 67mm to 120mm

Weight: 0.08 lb

Materials: Premium 25A Grade Silicone

Warranty: 3 Year Limited Warranty

Features

- Fits most pro lenses
- Weather-sealing fit
- Water-, dust- and dirt-resistant silicone
- Column structure for extra impact absorption
- Lightweight and packable

Equipment Discussions -

Blackmagic launches Web Presenter 4K

Blackmagic has launched Web Presenter 4K, a compact desktop device which helps in webstreaming by taking in any SDI video input. It can use ethernet or work by tethering with your 4G/5G smartphone. This is a very important piece of hardware for those who are into livestreaming.



The ability to connect your smartphone means one can livestream from the field. The phone connection can also act as a backup for the ethernet connection. Both Apple as well as android phones work with the web presenter 4K.

The USB connections for tethering phones are in the front as well on the back panel. It can also autodetect when a phone is connected and switch the internet connection to mobile data. One can also select Ethernet priority or phone priority so that it works automatically as a backup internet connection.

Its SDI and HDMI monitor allows to see various status information while broadcasting.

It has a USB-C port where you can connect your USB video source or even your laptop. It can broadcast 4K video and audio live to popular platforms like youtube, Skype, facebook, Twitch, Teams, Periscope etc. It is compatible on Mac, Windows, Linus and Chrome OS.

Blackmagic Web Presenter includes a 12G-SDI input with support for all HD and Ultra HD formats up to 2160p60. A 12G-SDI loop output is included enabling you to loop video through more than one web presenter, so you can stream to multiple services. Blackmagic Web Presenter features Teranex conversion technology on the SDI input for incredibly clean looking video. Blackmagic Web Presenter takes the incoming HD or Ultra HD input signal and automatically converts it to high quality, low data rate 1080p HD or high resolution 2160p60 Ultra HD depending on the model, which is then sent to the hardware H.264 encoder for streaming. All this means you can use any HD or Ultra HD source for streaming!

The Blackmagic Design Web Presenter 4K supports H.264 codec and uses RTMP for streaming. It can stream upto UHD 4K (3840 x2160) (and not DCI 4K). If you are streaming in UHD 4K and your source is HD, then it will auto covert the HD stream to UHD 4K. Similarly it can also downcovert a UHD 4K video to HD and stream it if you are streaming at HD.

Equipment Discussions -

Client can watch live shoot:

Blackmagic Web Presenter features two USB connections that operate as a simple webcam source. That means you can plug into any computer and work with any video software. The software is tricked into thinking the web presenter is a common webcam, but it's really a broadcast quality SDI video source! That guarantees compatibility with any video software in full resolution 1080 HD or even 2160p Ultra HD quality, depending on the model! As a result, one can connect web presenter to a camera and then Skype/ Zoom call client with live video of a shoot! This feature will really come in handy for some of our corporate shoots where client is abroad and wants to check while the shoot is going on.

When you need to live stream multiple cameras and laptop presentations, one can simply add a live production switcher such as an ATEM Television Studio HD.

Web Presenter works with any video software including Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Skype, Open Broadcaster, XSplit Broadcaster and more

Built-in Technical Monitoring

Traditional broadcast transmitters are critical equipment in a television station, however now the streaming server is just as critical because millions of viewers can be watching globally! To help, Blackmagic Web Presenter includes a feature rich technical monitoring output. The graphics based monitoring output includes a video view, audio meters with accurate ballistics, trend graphs for codec data rates and cache fill, plus a summary of the streaming settings and detailed SDI technical information. Plus the technical monitoring output works in full 1080 HD and outputs to both SDI and HDMI. That means you can use an SDI router for monitoring multiple units, or connect a simple HDMI TV!



1. Streaming Status

There's a very large ON AIR indicator on the top left of the monitor output, so it's always clear when you are online and streaming! Plus all your current streaming settings are displayed clearly.

2. Video Input Status

The SDI input technical details are displayed, such as video standard and ancillary data. The bit activity indicators let you

Equipment Discussions -

see the quality and bit depth of video before H.264 encoding.

3. Audio Input Status

Audio is de-embedded from the SDI input and the channel status is displayed. The bit activity indicator lets you check for 16, 20 or 24 bit audio. You can even see which audio channels are present!

4. Video and Audio History

The audio and video technical displays also include a 6 second history display so you can see the recent video input history. This ensures you can instantly see what's been happening.

5. Trend Graphs

The trend graphs below the video display let you see the last 60 seconds of codec data rate and cache fill. Plus codec data rate is critical for ensuring you have enough internet speed from your ISP!

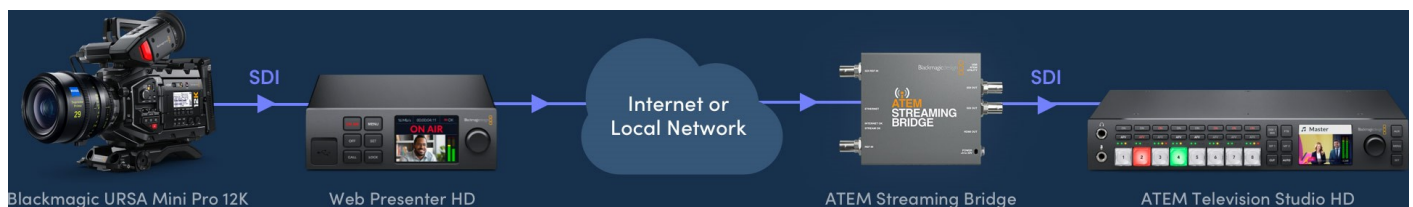
6. Video and Audio Meters

A large area is dedicated to the video input display, and the large multi segment audio meter with accurate ballistics. You can even change the type of audio meter from VU, PPM and more!

It works both on AC as well as DC power.

Broadcast Links with ATEM Streaming Bridge!

While Blackmagic Web Presenter can send video to a wide range of streaming services, it can also be used as a private broadcast SDI video link between studios! The ATEM Streaming Bridge is a video converter that lets you receive the H.264 stream from Blackmagic Web Presenter and then convert it back to SDI video. This means you can send video between remote locations across your local Ethernet network, or via the internet globally! That's all possible due to the built in H.264 hardware codec that decodes the Web Presenter stream. So one can set up multiple television studios and use ATEM Streaming Bridge and Web Presenter for video links between sites.



Price: \$695 US Dollars

Equipment Discussions -

Blackmagic Design announces Studio camera 4K Pro and Studio Camera 4K Plus

Blackmagic Design today announced a new family of Blackmagic Studio Cameras for live production. The new compact all-in-one design will help a wider range of live production customers who need cameras with professional features that are also fast to setup on location. The new Blackmagic Studio Cameras include design features such as carbon fiber reinforced polycarbonate and large integrated 7" viewfinders so they are very light weight making them much easier to transport and setup than large traditional studio cameras.

Blackmagic Studio Cameras are available immediately from Blackmagic Design resellers worldwide from **\$1,295** (Blackmagic Design 4K Plus camera is available at **\$1295 US dollars** and the Blackmagic Design 4K Pro is available at **\$1795 US Dollars**.



Blackmagic Studio Cameras have the same features as large studio cameras, miniaturized into a single compact and portable design. Plus with digital film camera dynamic range and color science, the cameras can handle extremely difficult lighting conditions while producing cinematic looking images. The sensor features an ISO up to 25,600 so customers can create amazing images even in dimly lit venues. Advanced features include talkback, tally, camera control, built in color corrector, Blackmagic RAW recording to USB disks and much more.

While Blackmagic Studio Camera is designed for live production, it's not limited to use with a live switcher. That's because it records Blackmagic RAW to USB disks, so it can be used in any situation where customers use a tripod. The large 7" view-

Equipment Discussions -

finder makes it perfect for work such as chat shows, television production, broadcast news, sports, education, conference presentations and even weddings. The large bright display with side handles, touch screen and physical controls makes it easy to track shots while being comfortable to use for long periods of time.

Large broadcasters use expensive studio cameras that are extremely large, so they're not very portable. It features a light-weight carbon fiber reinforced polycarbonate body with innovative technology in a miniaturized design. The camera is designed for live production so it's easy to track and frame shots with its large 7" viewfinder. The touchscreen has menus for camera settings, and there's knobs for brightness, contrast and focus peaking. Plus a tripod mount with mounting plate is included for fast setup.

The Blackmagic Studio Camera features gain from -12dB (100 ISO) up to +36dB (25,600 ISO) so it's optimized to reduce grain and noise in images, while maintaining the full dynamic range of the sensor. The gain can be set from the camera, or remotely from a switcher using the SDI or Ethernet remote camera control.

The amazing 4K sensor combined with Blackmagic generation 5 color science gives customers the same imaging technology used in digital film cameras. The color corrector can even be controlled from the switcher. With 13 stops of dynamic range, the camera has darker blacks and brighter whites, perfect for color correction. The sensor features a resolution of 4096 x 2160 which is great for both HD and Ultra HD work. Plus, all models support from 23.98 fps up to 60 fps.

With the popular MFT lens mount, Blackmagic Studio Cameras are compatible with a wide range of affordable photographic lenses. Photographic lenses are incredible quality because they're designed for use in high resolution photography. To eliminate the need to reach around to adjust the lens zoom and focus, the optional focus and zoom demands let customers adjust the lens from the tripod handles just like a large studio camera. It gives customers the same feel as an expensive B4 broadcast lens.

The large 7" high resolution screen will totally transform how customers work with the camera because it's big enough to make framing shots much easier. On screen overlays show status and record parameters, histogram, focus peaking indicators, levels, frame guides and more. Customers can even apply 3D LUTs for monitoring shots with the desired color and look.

Unlike consumer cameras, the Blackmagic Studio Camera 4K Pro model has SDI connections that include talkback so the switcher operator can communicate with cameras during live events. That means the director can talk to the camera operators to guide shot selection, eliminating the problem where all cameras could have the same shot, at the same time. The talkback connector is built into the side of the camera and supports standard 5 pin XLR broadcast headsets.

Blackmagic Studio cameras have lots of connections for connecting to both consumer and broadcast equipment. All models feature HDMI with tally, camera control and record trigger, so are perfect for ATEM Mini switchers. Customers also get headphone and mic connections, and 2 USB-C expansion ports. The advanced Blackmagic Studio Camera 4K Pro model is designed for broadcast workflows so has 12G-SDI, 10GBASE-T Ethernet, talkback and balanced XLR audio inputs. The 10G

Equipment Discussions -

Ethernet allows all video, tally, talkback and camera power via a single connection, so setup is much faster. That's just like a SMPTE fiber workflow, but using standard Category 6A copper Ethernet cable so it's much lower cost.

The Blackmagic Studio Camera 4K Pro model supports connecting cameras via a single Ethernet cable. Traditional broadcast studio cameras use SMPTE fiber to communicate and power cameras, however SMPTE fiber is very expensive. Blackmagic Studio Camera 4K Pro model has 10G Ethernet as an alternative to SMPTE fiber so it's much lower cost. The Ethernet includes all camera video, program return feeds, tally, talkback, camera control and also power. The Blackmagic Studio Converter handles all video conversions at the switcher end plus adds power to the Ethernet cable. That means customers don't need to connect power to the camera.

The Blackmagic Studio Camera features a high speed USB-C expansion port that allows customers to record to external disks or connect to a wide range of accessories. Plug in an external USB flash disk and the camera can record high quality 12-bit Blackmagic RAW files for later editing and color correction. That means customers can just move the disk to a computer to work, and customers don't need to waste time with file copying. Plus the USB port will power any phone or disk that's plugged in.

Some file formats such as H.264 are highly compressed, so add noise and artifacts, causing sensor detail to be lost forever. Blackmagic RAW eliminates this problem so customers get stunning images with incredible detail and rich color throughout the whole post production pipeline. Blackmagic RAW also saves camera settings as metadata so customers can change ISO, white balance and exposure later in DaVinci Resolve. Plus the files are small and fast, so editing responsiveness is incredible.

Blackmagic Studio Cameras include built in microphones so customers get sound included in the design making setup much faster. Plus the built in microphones are shock and wind resistant, so customers get great sound even in tough conditions. There's also a 3.5mm audio input for connecting video camera microphones as well as a 3.5mm headphone jack.

Because the most common location to place microphones is near to cameras, the Pro model includes the best audio ever designed into a studio camera. The professional 2 channel balanced XLR inputs support +24 dBu line level and have an ultra low noise microphone preamplifier with P48 phantom power alongside an equivalent input noise (E.I.N.) of -131 dBV (A). That's followed by two 117 dB high dynamic range analog to digital converters, so customers get the high end audio demanded by broadcasters and audio engineers. This means any microphone plugged into the XLR inputs will have a higher level of noise than the camera's audio.

To allow quick mounting onto tripods and faster setup, all Blackmagic Studio Camera 4K models include a tripod mount with a machined metal design and quick mounting plate. The quick mounting plate allows the camera to slide onto the tripod and customers get forward and rear adjustment of the camera so customers can adjust the position to get the perfect camera balance.

Blackmagic Studio Cameras have lots of different power options. All models have a common 12V DC locking power con-

Equipment Discussions -

nector so the cable won't be accidentally pulled out. However if users are using a single Ethernet cable to connect to the Blackmagic Studio Camera 4K Pro model, then the whole camera and its accessories can be powered from the Ethernet connection. The Blackmagic Studio Converter has a large power supply that adds PoE power to the Ethernet cable so customers don't need any power connection to the camera. That's a great solution when there's no power available where the cameras are placed.

The optional zoom and focus demands can be added to turn affordable photography lenses into amazing broadcast lenses. The focus and zoom demands have USB-C connections so they work with all Blackmagic Studio Camera 4K models. Each zoom and focus demand has 2 USB-C ports, so customers can daisy chain them then connect to the camera with a single USB connection. The design has an incredibly precise feel and so customers get very fine lens control, and customers can frame and adjust the lens without taking their hands off the tripod handles.

With 10G Ethernet on the Pro model, customers can connect all signals to the camera with the one Ethernet IP link connection. That means the camera feed, return program feed, timecode, reference, tally, talkback and control are all sent down the single cable. That's the same benefits of SMPTE fiber, but the standard 10G copper Ethernet cable is much lower cost. The Blackmagic Studio Converter allows breakout of all the video, audio and talkback connections at the studio end. It also includes a massive power supply that powers the camera down the Ethernet cable, so customers don't need a power source near the camera.

"These new studio cameras are built on all the knowledge and customer feedback from the original Blackmagic Studio Cameras," said Grant Petty, Blackmagic Design CEO. "These new models are a big step forward and they have been designed to be high end cameras, not entry level cameras. They might be small and self contained, but the features such as the built in 10G Ethernet, low light capability and professional viewfinder design make them very high end cameras for high end work!"

Blackmagic Studio Cameras Features

- Designed specifically for live production.
- Carbon fiber reinforced polycarbonate chassis.
- Up to 25,600 ISO for incredible low light performance.
- Native 4K sensor with 13 stops of dynamic range.
- Compatible with a wide range of popular MFT lenses.
- Large 7 inch high brightness viewfinder.
- Includes 12G-SDI, HDMI, 10G Ethernet connections.
- Single 10G Ethernet allows SMPTE fiber style workflow.
- USB-C port allows recording directly to external disks.
- Features incredible quality Blackmagic RAW recording.

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- Built in stereo microphones with wide separation.
- Professional mini XLR inputs with 48 volt phantom power.
- Includes tripod mount for quick location setup.
- Powers by 12V or Ethernet connection.
- Optional focus and zoom demands for lens control.
- Blackmagic Studio Converter allows all connections via Ethernet.

Availability and Price

Blackmagic Studio Cameras are available now from **\$1,295 (4K Plus) and \$1795 (4K Pro)**, excluding local duties and taxes, from Blackmagic Design resellers worldwide.

B&H Link: https://www.bhphotovideo.com/c/product/1657122-REG/blackmagic_design_studio_camera_4k_pro.html/BI/19990/KBID/13252

Natural History -

COUNTRY NOTEBOOK: The Fastest thing on Legs: M.Krishnan:- 22-6-1952

The Sunday Statesman (shared by Shri. Saktipada Panigrahi)

" I REMEMBER watching a display by India's first jet-propelled aircraft, along with a milling crowd. There was a little boy by my side who was most informative- he told us the difference in flight and motive power between these planes and ordinary ones with propellers, pointed out peculiarities and explained the relative speeds of light and sound to a dear old lady. Thanks to the young scholar, we all knew at what speed the jet-fighters tore through heavens, looped loops and zoomed high again, and I joined in the general expression of wonder and applause.

But now, well away from this little boy and arithmetically-minded crowd to whom 600 mph meant so much, I don't mind confessing that I was not thrilled, specially. Yes, it was a fun watching those planes perform those evolutions, and no doubt they were faster than the ones I have seen before, but they conveyed no sense of magnificent achievement of space to me. For one thing, their speed, as they went far above, was an abstract thing that needed thought, even sophistry, for its appreciation; and even when they came near and were patently dynamic- well, they were engines, just big, loud engines, and their power and speed was mechanical, chemical and inhuman.

It is the living, muscular speed of animals that impresses me, even a squirrel dashes for safety. That is a speed I can appreciate, a quickness I can envy and marvel at. If you like speed, and want to see something sustained in its effortless, rhythmic impetuosity, you should watch a herd of black buck going all out for a few miles- there is tangible real speed for you.

Black buck are the fastest things on legs in India, and perhaps anywhere in the world. As Dunbar Brander points out, even the now extinct hunting leopard can not match the buck for speed, though swifter from a standing start and for the first few furlongs, the hunting leopard is purely a sprinter and soon get spent. Black buck can keep their pace for 10 miles or more



© Mrudul Godbole

and when going flat out can attain 60 mph- a superb speed, not reached by any motor vehicle so far over the ground they inhabit. The muscles of black buck is like catapult rubber, and its hooves are not hard but elastic, its wind is almost inexhaustible and its vitality amazing.

No other animal I know of can keep going with such ghastly injuries, not even the great cats. In particular I recall a gravid doe (does are usually faster than their overlords) that had lagged behind, and had a leg blown clean away by a bullet meant for the buck. The gun and I got into a jeep and went after the wretched thing to put it out of its misery. The black-cotton soil was very flat and permitted a very fair speed, but for two miles the crippled doe kept running far ahead, while our pity turned to wonder and admiration, before it fell exhausted and was shot.

The buck have a curious habit that is often their undoing. After outdistancing the chasing enemy easily, they turn at an angle and run across the path of the pursuer, so that by anticipating the mood and changing his direction slightly the gun can frequently get to within range, as they cross in front. Dunbar Brander suggests that this habit might be due to the desire of the buck to prove that they "have the legs of the enemy". Quite a likely explanation, but at times I have seen chased buck turn, not across the line of pursuit, but away from it. They seem to run in a curve, once they are clear of immediate danger, and they persist in their curved course once they are set on it. Naturally, this explanation leads to the question: Why do they have this running in a curve? That is also a habit shared by certain other animals, and a circuitous explanation occurs to me- but let's not have it.

Black buck are unquestionably among the most beautiful of world's beasts, and are exclusively Indian. Once they lived in vast herds all over the country, but are fewer and more local now. In certain places in South India for example, they are dwindling steadily and must soon be extinct unless immediate help is accorded. It is true that the slaughter of buck by "sportsman", irrespective of sex, numbers, or laws, is largely responsible for this dwindling, but there is a more pernicious though less immediate cause. Black buck live in open country, always, and such terrain is most easily cultivable and, so, most cultivated. Buck do not take to desert conditions: they must have green fodder.

A substantial part of their diet consists of grasses and plants like the wild bitter gourd (whose fruits they love), but living in the midst of crops (their original homes having been brought so largely under plough), they often help themselves to food crops. This, while providing a ready excuse for shooting the crop-raiders, leaves them to nowhere to go. The animals of the open will, I think, be the last to receive any recognition from those interested in the saving of our wonderful, vanishing wildlife, one of our richest national assets.

The fauna of flat country require plenty of living space, adequate grazing and a certain remoteness from cultivation if they are not to be tempted. These conditions are unlikely of realisation in India today, when every acre of land is held precious, though sometimes left fallow and often so poorly tended that it yields a negligible return. In any case, I think the beasts and birds of open country must look to the black buck for their salvation, for it is one claimant for protection among them whose arresting looks and swift charm might succeed in attracting notice."

- M. Krishnan

Wildlife Photography - **Leopard by Shyamala Kumar**



Tiger by V S Sankar



Wildlife Photography - **Shikra by Mrudul Godbole**



Sirkeer-Malkoha by Vineet Shrivastava



Wildlife Photography -

Tickel's Blue Flycatcher by Mrudul Godbole



Air Breathing Land Snail by Prajwal Ullal



Spare a Thought



An adolescent tiger adorns the cover page of the 151st issue of IndiaWilds. I was watching this tiger lazing around on a rock below a hill. A clump of bamboo forest was nearby. Around the hill was a grassland which attracts lot of deers and other prey. So this place is good for the tigress to rear its cubs. Unfortunately, this adolescent tiger which is being raised in a prime tiger habitat in one of the premier national parks is not aware what is in store for it in future.

Tigers don't tolerate heat well. They need to cool off in a waterhole or under the shade during the day. They are opportunistic predators and when there is a chance, tigers try to hunt during the day as well. However, severe heat waves due to climate change is a big disadvantage for the tiger. These days there are more forest fires and waterholes and forest streams dry up. Life is difficult for a tiger. After escaping the heat of the day, at the right time they wake up to start the difficult process of hunting their prey.

In the premier tiger reserves, the tigers grow up well. However, soon time comes to branch out and settle on a territory of its own. It is easier said than done as tiger habitat is fast shrinking due to diversion of forests by the Government for industries and other projects. Moving from one forest to another is increasingly becoming difficult because roads cut across tiger habitat. Vehicles zoom at more than 100kmph and often tigers become roadkills. With increase in human population all lands are being cultivated or used for human habitations. So it becomes difficult for the tiger to find cover while moving from one forest to another. If we want to save the tiger, then we have to protect its habitat, ensure strict patrolling to stop poaching, create wildlife corridors between forests so that tigers and other wildlife can move from one area to the other and create a healthy genetic pool. Else this magnificent creation of God will not roam in the wilds for long.

Touche.

I look forward to your inputs and support in preserving the last tracts of wilderness and wildlife of our beautiful country. For other interesting articles and images check - <http://www.indiawilds.com/forums/>

To post in the IndiaWilds forums, you can register free of cost using your Full Name as user id at -

<http://www.indiawilds.com/forums/register.php>

If you are already a member of IndiaWilds and have forgotten your user id and/or password you can mail administrator@indiawilds.com

Regards,

Sabyasachi Patra

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