

## Environmental Violence and Action Plan for Sustainable Development

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More than half of the world's population lives in cities, a trend that is rapidly accelerating, especially in developing countries. Urban and Sub-urban areas are merging into huge megalopolitan areas resulting mega cities. Mega cities are gradually transforming into "Smart Cities" which require and use large quantities of energy and materials, generating large quantities of waste products and pollutants, resulting in unsustainable environments that adversely affect ecological integrity and diversity and human health and well-being. It has been a noticeable phenomenon that many city dwellers are disconnected from the forests and natural world resulting in emergence of a new species "*homo urbanus*". In order to manage such a situation in a climate constrained world, plants are relied as in valuable tools for monitoring and mitigating pollution of air, water and soil. Both urban and rural dwellers are no exception to this kind of environmental violence. Plants being photoautotrophs are benevolent to mankind and biota in overcoming the obstacles of environmental pollution.

Environmental violence can be explained as degradation of air, water and soil quality not only in urban environment but also in rural environment. These cause health problems that threaten regional and global sustainability. Several studies revealed that the environmental violence is caused due to anthropogenic and technogenic activities. The major problems are glaring in soil, water and air quality. This key note lecture will provide a glimpse of sustainable green solutions and emerging plant based technologies (phytotechnologies) in mitigating the pollution for sustainable development with several examples.



**Born:** February 10, 1953; Masulipatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India  
Professor, Dept. of Plant Sciences, University of Hyderabad, Central  
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**MAJETI NARASIMHA VARA PRASAD** did M.Sc Botany from Andhra University, Waltair 1973-75; Ph.D (Botany) Lucknow University, Lucknow 1975-79 (Research conducted at Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, An autonomous Inst. Under the Dept. of Sci & Tech, Govt. of India). Worked as Lecturer, June 1980-85, Dept. of Botany, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong. Lecturer (Senior Scale), July 1986-90 in Sch. of Life Sci., University of Hyderabad, Reader, Feb. 1990-98 and Full Professor since Aug 1998 in the Department of Plant Sciences, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad. Made significant contributions to the field of "Plant-Metal interactions and bioremediation. Research articles in peer reviewed Journals 190, Books (edited) by International publishers 18

Google scholar citations 11023, h-index 53.

<https://scholar.google.co.th/citations?user=SyWoSXIAAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao>

Google Scholar		
Citation indices	All	Since 2012
Citations	<b>11023</b>	6917
h-index	<b>53</b>	40
i10-index	<b>133</b>	<b>105</b>

### Awards and Honours

- a) Pitamber Pant **National Environment Fellow 2007** awarded by the **Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India**
- b) Recipient of Prof KS Bilgrami memorial award for the year 2015 by the Society for Plant Research, India
- c) Served as working group member in COST action 859 (Phytotechnologies) European Science Foundation
- d) Elected Fellow - Linnean Society of London, UK
- e) Elected Fellow - National Institute of Ecology, New Delhi

### Visiting Professor in various Universities [Widely travelled in ~40 countries]

1. Univ. Québec **Canada, 1994** NSERC foreign researcher awardee
2. Jagiellonian Univ. Krakow, **Poland 1996** Dept. Plant Physiol. & Biochem.
3. Univ. of Coimbra, **Portugal 1999**
4. Stockholm University, Inst. of Botany, **Sweden, 2000**
5. Univ. Oulu, Oulu by Finnish Academy **Finland 2002**
6. Univ. of South Australia. Adelaide, **Australia 2005**
7. Al-Farabi Kazakh National Univ. Botany Department Almaty, **Kazakhstan 2006**
8. Ural Federal University, Ekaterinburg, **Russia 2007-2015**
9. Ghent University Faculty of Bioscience Engineering, Gent, **Belgium 2011**
10. Mahasarakham University, **Thailand 2013-2014**
11. Univ of Santa Cruz, Ilhéus-Bahia **2015 Brazil**
12. MHRD, Govt. of India secondment to Asian Institute of Technology for Jan-May semester 2017 as visiting Professor, **Thailand 2016-Jan-Apr**