



Coverage of Environmental News – A Comparison of Three English Newspapers

Tanvi, Sumedha Bhandari

Abstract: *Environmental journalism plays a crucial role in shaping public understanding of ecological issues. It is not mere fact reporting; it involves systematic scrutiny of how newspapers frame and convey environmental concerns. Well-researched, well-presented media coverage can build public awareness and encourage informed action. The present study examines environmental reporting practices in three major national dailies in India: The Hindustan Times, The Hindu, and Hindustan Times. These publications were selected for their widespread readership, significant influence and impact, and distinct editorial orientations. Their readership, reporting style, and editorial priorities provide a clearer picture of how mainstream media represent the environment. These newspapers differ in their editorial philosophies and in how they cater to different segments of the population. By comparing these three, this study aimed to understand how different reporting styles influence and shape public awareness of environmental issues and, in turn, how the media contributes to shaping our relationship with the environment.*

Keywords: *Environmental Journalism, Media Analysis, Climate Coverage, Public Awareness, Print Media, Content Analysis.*

Nomenclature:

TOI: The Times of India

HT: Hindustan Times

I. INTRODUCTION

Environmental journalism plays a crucial role in shaping public understanding of ecological issues. It is not mere reporting of facts; it involves systematic scrutiny of how environmental concerns are framed and conveyed within the newspaper. If the media coverage is well-researched and well-presented, it can build public awareness and encourage informed action from the readers. Rashmi, an environmental critic, takes this argument further than most. She argues that journalism on environmental and ecological concerns cannot afford to stay neutral and unaffected by the current environmental crisis marring the country. She contests the idea that mere reporting a crisis is enough. If the reporting doesn't transform into bringing about a change, the very

purpose of a newspaper is defeated. Newspapers are not meant to register facts alone, but to help readers visualise reported issues as markers of what is wrong in society and how it can be fixed. They act as repositories of change and registers of historical revolutions. Thus, the ethical weight falls on how the story is told: does it build understanding, or does it merely document damage? In her opinion, responsible communication means writing that moves readers and moves policy [1]. This is not an abstract claim. In 2022, when the Indian media covered the impact of heat waves, the coverage did more than inform—it visibly shaped how vulnerability and governance were discussed at both public and institutional levels [2]. The disaster became, in part, a story about who was protected and who was not and how it affects the lives of the commoner.

In the same vein, the ever-growing issue of air pollution in Delhi and other metros remains a recurring topic of public debate due to sustained media coverage through news reports, editorials, and digital platforms. Another example is that of the Save Aarey Forest campaign in Mumbai. Extensive media attention and online activism led to public protests against the proposed metro car shed project. This movement not only gained national visibility but also contributed to policy reconsideration regarding tree felling and urban ecological conservation. This illustrated how media can empower civic resistance and environmental activism [3]. Thus, environmental journalism performs a dual function: it informs and educates the readers. Also, it encourages behavioural change and community action. For environmental reporting to effectively influence public engagement and policy direction, issues must be framed as urgent risks, economic challenges, or moral imperatives. Research in climate communication points towards framing strategies that highlight the impact of human action, local and regional relevance, and long-term consequences to enhance audience empathy and responsiveness toward environmental issues [4]. Thus, journalists and media institutions bear a significant responsibility for shaping environmental discourses over time. Coverage driven by accuracy and context, and that provides a balanced approach to the issue, not only builds public understanding but also holds institutions accountable. This strengthens democratic processes and encourages environmental stewardship.

The present study examines environmental reporting practices in three major national dailies in India: The Hindustan Times, The Hindu, and *Hindustan Times*. These publications were selected for their widespread readership, significant influence and impact, and distinct editorial orientations. By comparing these three, this study aimed to understand how different types of reporting influence public awareness of environmental issues and how the media

Manuscript received on 09 February 2026 | First Revised Manuscript received on 03 March 2026 | Second Revised Manuscript received on 16 August 2026 | Manuscript Accepted on 15 September 2026 | Manuscript published on 30 September 2026.

*Correspondence Author(s)

Tanvi, Department of Journalism, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana (Punjab), India. Email ID: rajputtanvi281@gmail.com.

Dr Prof. Sumedha Bhandari*, Department of Agricultural Journalism, Languages and Culture, Ludhiana (Punjab), India. Email ID: sumedhabhandari@pau.edu, ORCID ID: [0000-0002-8715-9107](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8715-9107)

© The Authors. Published by Lattice Science Publication (LSP). This is an open-access article under the CC-BY-NC-ND license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>)



contributes to shaping our relationship with the environment.

The specific objectives of this research were as follows:

- A. To analyse the frequency and prominence of environmental news in the three selected English newspapers.
- B. To identify themes and issues covered in environmental reporting by these newspapers.
- C. To conduct a qualitative and quantitative comparison of the environmental news of the three newspapers.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Environmental journalism is not a recent phenomenon in the Indian media. Over the years, the portrayal of environmental coverage has evolved significantly. Recent studies indicate that scientific coverage of environmental news has seen an uphill climb in recent years. Today, news media framing determines whether environmental issues are perceived as political conflicts, economic challenges, or ethical responsibilities. These news items then spark governance debates and shape policy priorities. Over the years, traditional newspapers have continued to function as agenda-setting institutions that legitimise environmental concerns, influence citizen participation, and establish institutional accountability [5].

How societies interpret environmental risks and develop responses to climate crises, particularly when journalism connects scientific knowledge with everyday lived experiences, is heavily influenced by environmental reporting. [6]. Prominent English-language journalists like Anil Aggarwal, Darryl D'Monte, and Usha Rai have played key roles in shaping this discourse. Meanwhile, Hindi journalists such as Raj Kumar Keswani and Shekhar Pathak, along with Nagesh Hegde in Kannada, have made significant contributions to regional environmental reporting. In 1980, India established a dedicated Department of the Environment, which was later upgraded in 1985 to the Ministry of Environment and Forests. State governments soon followed suit, setting up their environmental ministries, marking a crucial step in institutionalising environmental governance. Many of the challenges faced by journalists in general also affect environmental journalists. However, certain difficulties remain specific to those covering environmental and science-related topics. While media attention on environmental issues has grown significantly, the core challenges faced by environmental journalists remain the same as in the 1970s. It is very difficult for journalists to translate long-term environmental risks into socially accessible discourses, resulting in simplified or fragmented public understanding [7].

The beat of an environmental journalist is especially demanding because it overlaps with multiple other fields, including law, business, and politics. This requires expertise and understanding across a wide range of issues. Similarly, climate journalism increasingly requires interdisciplinary collaboration between scientists and journalists [8]. When covering environmental issues, the media face several key challenges [9]. Smith posed three critical questions: How can journalists effectively cover complex scientific and policy debates that evolve gradually through meetings and academic journals? How can they ensure that deep, long-

term environmental and sustainability issues don't get overshadowed by more urgent breaking news stories? And how can they highlight important but not "newsworthy" issues that still need attention? (Smith, 2000) Most media outlets do not invest in full-time environmental reporters, and those who work on these beats often lack specialised training in environmental science. Lack of specialised environmental reporters remains a major limitation in Global South media systems [10].

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study uses comparative content analysis, utilising both quantitative and qualitative methods to evaluate environmental news coverage in three leading English newspapers: *The Hindustan Times*, *The Hindu*, and *Hindustan Times*. The study period is clearly defined to ensure a representative sample. This will allow for a meaningful comparison between the chosen newspapers. The newspapers were chosen for their extensive national readership and the significant role they play in shaping public opinion. The analysis of the chosen papers was conducted over six months, from July to December 2024. During this time, the daily editions of each newspaper were examined thoroughly. Based on the daily publication cycle, approximately 554 editions in total, with around 184 editions per newspaper, were studied. For the study, only the main editions of each newspaper were considered to maintain consistency and ensure balanced representation. Data collection involved a systematic review of each daily edition to identify and catalogue articles on environmental topics. This allowed a quantitative assessment of article frequency and placement and a qualitative evaluation of thematic emphasis, narrative tone, and the nature of editorial coverage. We studied the regional editions of *The Hindustan Times*, *Hindustan Times*, and the national edition of *The Hindu* over six months (July to December, 2024). We then tabulated the data for quantitative and qualitative analysis.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

We analysed all environmental news published over the six months. We observed variations at both the monthly and newspaper levels. 1803 environment-related articles appeared between July and December 2024 in the three chosen newspapers: *The Times of India*, *Hindustan Times* and *The Hindu*. During the study period, nearly 47% of all environmental news articles appeared in the *Hindustan Times*, making it the largest contributor. *The Times of India* followed with approximately 35% of articles, and *The Hindu* contributed only 19%. Since the latter is known for its exclusive and analytical journalism, this amount still holds significant value.

On pollution, the three newspapers published 143 articles. In this category, *Hindustan Times* had the most extensive coverage with 72 articles. This accounted for 40% of the total article load. Since the air quality index reaches alarming levels across the harvesting seasons, the occurrence of pollution-related stories shows a strong editorial focus on pollution-related issues. The *Times of India*





accounted for 54 articles, making up around 30% of the coverage, and The Hindu contributed 9.4% of the total. These percentages point towards a consistent pattern of reporting on pollution throughout the months. The lower count from The Hindu suggests the newspaper provides fewer pollution updates and prefers more analytical, in-depth content. November saw the most pollution-related articles (29 articles). This could be due to the spike in air pollution in North India, especially around Delhi, following the festival season.

The Energy and Environment vector appeared in 94 articles, with The Times of India and Hindustan Times publishing 36 articles, or about 38.3% of the total coverage. This analysis points to a shared commitment and strong editorial interest in reporting on clean energy, sustainable practices, and environmental policies. However, *The Hindu* reported fewer stories in this category, with only 12 articles. November had the most coverage (16 articles), possibly due to energy-related considerations at global climate events, policy announcements, or national clean energy initiatives often brought out toward the fag end of the year. July recorded the least attention in this area (11 articles), suggesting fewer developments or less coverage. Though coverage remains modest compared to more visible topics like pollution or climate change, this category reflects how newspapers tend to prioritise renewable energy, sustainable development, and environmental conservation, even though they do not fall directly under the purview of the common man.

Regarding weather-related news, 294 articles focused on it. *Hindustan Times* published the most, with 120 articles, making up approximately 42.1% of the total. This suggests that the newspaper recognises its direct relevance to readers' daily lives and survival. HT was followed closely by *The Hindu*, which contributed 108 articles, or 37.9%, most of which related to monsoon patterns, extreme heat, or seasonal forecasts. Meanwhile, The Times of India, accounting for 23.2% of the total, published 66 weather reports. This was the lowest among the three, though it still leaves a substantial mark. This type of coverage rose sharply in October (54 articles) and then remained steady in other months, with September (53) and August (52), probably due to the monsoon season across India. This suggests that weather is an important news category, particularly during months of climatic transition.

Throughout the six-month study period, natural disasters such as floods, landslides, forest fires, and other weather-triggered events took precedence in environmental reporting. A total of 310 articles covered these events. *Hindustan Times* led this category with 163 articles, contributing more than 42% of the total. The study suggests that the paper prioritises timely event-driven coverage, since it has an immediate impact on the readers. Also, it reflects a keen editorial interest in keeping readers informed about unfolding environmental emergencies. The Times of India followed with 119 articles (about 31%), offering steady, balanced reporting. The paper's uniqueness lies in its ability to not only cover events but also link them to larger issues like urban planning failures, government responses, or ecological consequences. Although The Hindu contributed just 28 articles (about 7%) in this category, the numbers

suggest more than reactive journalism. The ones published likely focused on in-depth analysis, long-term impacts, or policy critiques rather than breaking news updates designed to drive cheap, short-term engagement. Across all the chosen newspapers, again, November saw the highest number of stories. This was possibly due to post-monsoon flooding or other seasonal environmental disturbances; other months like October and September also showed relatively high coverage, indicating that natural events are not isolated incidents but part of a consistent pattern of environmental challenges in India. That contextualisation matters, because it shifts the reader's frame from "this happened" to "here is why it keeps happening."

Garbage disposal, plastic waste recycling initiatives, landfill challenges and sustainable waste policies are a beat that rarely makes the splash but quietly shapes how urban publics think about sanitation and civic responsibility. A total of 98 articles addressed these issues. In this category, *Hindustan Times* published 52 articles, over half (53.1%) of the total; *The Times of India* followed with 26 articles (26.5%), while *The Hindu* published 20 articles (20.4%). High coverage suggests an editorial line that treats urban sanitation as a recurring civic concern rather than an occasional peg. Such stories resonate with many readers. While The Hindu's coverage was not as extensive, the paper's contribution should not be read as thin. It still contributed meaningfully by highlighting waste-related topics, especially during events like Swachh Bharat campaigns, municipal policy changes or environmental drives. Smaller in volume, its stories arguably carried more analytical weight. Interestingly, with an average of 16–18 stories, the number of articles each month remained consistent, holding its ground among other national stories. September recorded the highest coverage (18 articles). This was possibly due to a concentration of awareness campaigns or localised waste incidents during that period. Overall, the data shows that this is not pack journalism chasing a seasonal crisis. It is a beat being maintained.

If one story defined the eco-beat across these six months, it was climate change. It emerged as a consistently covered environmental topic. This extensive attention reflects growing public concern around global warming, carbon emissions, climate policies and the socio-economic impacts of climate change. A conscious gatekeeping decision clearly drove the papers' climate coverage—this topic earns above-the-fold placement, not just an occasional sidebar. *Hindustan Times* led the coverage with 239 articles, contributing nearly 43% of the total. *The Times of India* followed closely with 177 articles (31.8%), while *The Hindu* published fewer articles (107 or 19.2%). For a paper serving a largely urban, middle-class readership, climate stories carry an immediate peg: rising temperatures, erratic monsoons, air quality emergencies. HT did not treat climate change as a niche beat. It treated it as front-page business. *The Hindu* maintained a high-quality and in-depth approach to the subject. True to its editorial identity, the paper functioned less as a breaking news desk on climate and more as a paper of record. It offered backgrounders on policy shifts, explainers on scientific research, and long-

read analysis of long-term climate strategy. These are not stories chasing the news cycle. They are stories that outlast it. 83 to 91 climate-related articles appeared in columns and news pegs each month. October and November registered slightly higher counts, almost certainly tied to COP summits and the seasonal concerns that accompany them—winter pollution, shifting rainfall, cold wave advisories. But even in leaner months, the beat held. This data shows that climate change is no longer a niche topic; it has moved from niche environmental copy to the mainstream news agenda.

Though India is an agriculture-dominated nation, it rarely makes a splash in the news columns. Only 89 articles intersecting agriculture and the environment, covering a wide range of topics, including the environmental impact of farming practices, organic and sustainable agriculture, irrigation concerns, crop damage due to climate change and government schemes related to agro-environmental reforms, made the beat. *Hindustan Times* led with 37 articles, about 38.5% of the total. This volume itself reflects the publication's recognition of the deep link between agriculture and environmental issues. The editorial line seems clear: agri-environmental stories belong on the news agenda, not just during crises. *The Times of India* followed with 33 articles (34.4%). Its copy tracked the practical end of the story—water scarcity, pesticide regulation, GM crop debates and farmer responses to erratic weather. These were not long analytical pieces. They were event-driven dispatches that kept the beat moving month to month. *The Hindu* published 19 articles (19.8%)—fewer in number, but different in character. True to form, the paper leaned toward explainers and backgrounders — policy reform, expert commentary, sustainability debates. This kind of copy doesn't chase the news cycle; it contextualises it. October recorded the highest number of articles (18), likely due to harvest season activities, changing weather conditions or government policy announcements around farming. Agriculture and environment may not always earn column inches on page one. But editors across all three papers clearly decided it deserved a place in the mix, every month, without fail.

A total of 162 articles on biodiversity, with a growing focus on ecological preservation and wildlife protection, were published. Stories on species-level conservation reporting, habitat loss, endangered animals, forest degradation and human-wildlife conflict were the main focus. *Hindustan Times* led with 74 articles, accounting for 45.7% of the total. This points towards a strong editorial emphasis on biodiversity-related issues, likely driven by urbanisation pressures and wildlife conflicts in states like Delhi, Uttarakhand and Maharashtra. Offering consistent updates on wildlife sanctuaries, conservation campaigns and biodiversity-focused reports, *The Times of India* contributed 52 articles (32.1%). Its coverage reflects both national and international biodiversity concerns. Typically focusing on expert views, policy analysis and ecological research, *The Hindu* published fewer articles (36 or 22.2%). October had the highest number of articles (26), likely coinciding with Wildlife Week (October 2–8) or major conservation campaigns. Other months, such as November and December, also showed steady coverage, suggesting sustained media interest in the subject. Overall, while

biodiversity may not dominate headlines like pollution or climate change, the consistent stream of articles shows that the Indian media is increasingly recognising the urgency of preserving ecological balance and addressing biodiversity-related challenges.

Conservation is not a beat that commands the splash. With 49 articles across six months of the study, it sits at the quieter end of the environmental news agenda — but it holds its ground. These articles covered efforts to protect forests, wildlife habitats, endangered species, water bodies, and other natural resources. *Hindustan Times* reported the most in this category, publishing 22 articles, about 44.9% of the total. The gatekeeping decision here appears deliberate and reflects the paper's strong interest in ecological protection and nature-focused journalism. This is particularly relevant given India's rich biodiversity and frequent ecological conservation challenges amid growing concerns about unplanned development. *The Times of India* followed closely with 16 articles (32.7%) offering regular but slightly more spaced-out coverage. Its copy leaned toward state and national-level conservation efforts. *The Hindu* published 11 articles (22.4%). It provided backgrounders and explainers that outlast the news cycle and hold up as reference material. In terms of monthly trends, September (9 articles) and October (8 articles) saw the most attention to conservation topics. Global environmental observances and India's seasonal eco-awareness campaigns likely served as the peg. Although conservation does not receive as much media coverage as climate change or pollution, this steady flow of articles shows a growing awareness in Indian journalism about the urgent need to protect the country's natural heritage and ecosystems. This pattern suggests that newspaper stories follow seasonal cycles.

Eco-tourism received minimal media attention during the six-month study period, making more of a footnote than a news beat. Only 18 articles on eco-tourism were published across all three newspapers. *Hindustan Times* carried the weight almost entirely, with 13 articles contributing over 61% of the total, followed by *The Times of India* with just 5 articles (38.5%). At the same time, *The Hindu* notably did not publish any dedicated articles on eco-tourism during this period. This is either an editorial blind spot or — more charitably — a gatekeeping choice to fold eco-tourism narratives into broader environmental coverage rather than treat it as a standalone beat. Monthly distribution showed a slight peak in October and December. Despite this, the overall low numbers suggest that eco-tourism remains largely under-reported in mainstream media, reflecting a lack of editorial decision to treat it as a beat—to assign it, file on it regularly, and give it the column inches it warrants.

Over the period from July to December, editorial engagement with environmental issues across India's leading English-language newspapers remained surprisingly modest. The institutional voice of *The Times of India* (TOI) emerged as the most consistent contributor. With seven editorials, TOI addressed environmental concerns each month, showing a degree of editorial commitment not mirrored by its counterparts. In its opinion section, TOI





maintained a steady presence of environmental topics such as the challenges of air pollution, climate change impacts or the broader implications of energy and environmental policy. This pattern suggests that TOI views environmental issues not merely as transient news items but as subjects warranting deeper institutional reflection. In contrast, *The Hindustan Times* (HT) published just one editorial, in November, giving environmental themes limited discursive space in column inches. This single entry suggests an editorial decision not to prioritise these themes with the same regularity as in reporting. Perhaps most notably, *The Hindu*, often praised for its in-depth reporting on development and social justice, failed to feature a single editorial dedicated to environmental issues in this period. Editorials play a crucial role in shaping public opinion and influencing policy dialogue. When newspapers choose not to engage with environmental matters at the editorial level, it signals a gap between awareness and advocacy. At a time when environmental degradation and climate change are becoming defining challenges, this lack of robust editorial commentary calls into question the media's role in society. Continuing the trend, opinion columns were also scarce. Over these six months, only 25 opinion articles across *The Times of India*, *Hindustan Times* and *The Hindu* focused on environmental matters. That's an average of just over four articles per month across three major national dailies. Among the three publications, *The Hindu* stands out, contributing 14 out of the 25 pieces, which is more than half. This points towards a clear editorial inclination towards engaging with environmental themes through thoughtful commentary from voices from academia, civil society and scientific communities, voices essential to broadening public understanding. *The Times of India*, India's highest-circulating English daily, contributed 10 opinion pieces, representing 40% of the total, demonstrating consistent output by publishing approximately 1–2 environmental opinion columns each month. This regularity indicates a conscious editorial effort to keep environmental concerns part of the broader public conversation. In sharp contrast, *Hindustan Times* contributed just one opinion piece on ecological issues over the entire six-month period. This lack of opinion columns may suggest a more reportage-centric editorial approach where interpretative and discursive content receives less attention.

To sum up, while *The Hindu* and *Times of India* show signs of progress in elevating environmental discourse through opinions, the overall landscape remains thin. There is immense scope and a pressing need for newspapers to serve a clear agenda-setting function that considers the environment not just as breaking news but as a central narrative deserving rigorous and consistent editorial attention.

Photographs play a critical role in storytelling and creating an emotional tone and urgency with which the environment is presented to readers. Across six months, *The Hindustan Times* led in photographic engagement with 38% of all visuals tied to environmental reporting, while *The Times of India* contributed 34.5% of the images, and *The Hindu*, while leading in analytical content such as opinion pieces, had the lowest share of photo-driven coverage (27.5%). This may point to a clear editorial calculus favouring a more text-

centric philosophy, where substance is prioritised over spectacle. This might also reflect minimal lead-story placements or reduced splash positioning. The month-on-month increase in total environmental photos from 65 in July to a peak of 81 in November points to a progressive editorial escalation linked to seasonal or event-driven surges.

The data reveals that all three newspapers recognise the importance of imagery in environmental storytelling. However, *Hindustan Times* uses photos to create emotional and visual engagement; *The Times of India* balances visual and textual elements; and *The Hindu* prefers analysis to visual representation. In a world dominated by visuals, a compelling image can invoke empathy, prompt action, or simply anchor a story in public memory. Environmental news dominated coverage in *Hindustan Times*. *The Times of India* stayed close behind, thus showing consistency. *The Hindu* maintained its trend of selective, impactful, and insightful coverage. *Hindustan Times* provided the most coverage of regional environmental news, including local protests, village-level water issues, state government initiatives, and region-specific ecological threats. This was closely followed by *The Times of India*, while *The Hindu* preferred to focus on the broader implications of the issues.

The priority newspapers give to environmental stories on the front page shows their commitment to the environmental issues of the time. In this regard, the six-month data shows that, with 102 front-page environmental stories, *Hindustan Times* accounts for over two-thirds (67.1%) of the total coverage. In comparison, *The Times of India* shows a medium level of emphasis with 34 stories (22.4%). Though it is the country's highest-circulation English daily, by maintaining a consistent 5–6 stories each month, TOI appears economical in utilising its front page for environmental content. On the other hand, *The Hindu* featured just 16 front-page environmental stories (10.5%). This number may reflect the paper's editorial priorities, which often lean toward in-depth coverage and policy discussions rather than headline drama.

V. CONCLUSION

Thus, in line with the objectives set for the study, and after a thorough analysis of the three newspapers, it is concluded that while environmental journalism in India is set on a progressive trajectory, it still needs to develop a strong course line, one that matches the increased pace of development in the country. Regarding environmental news coverage, gaps in editorial leadership, a lack of visual data, and limited audience engagement point to a dire need to make environmental news not just frequent but influential and engaging. By intersecting environmental reporting within every domain of life- from politics to business to culture- ecological concerns can be made an integral part and parcel of the daily life of the readers. This creates widespread awareness of environmental concerns across the nation. Furthermore, the study also highlights the need for effective collaboration between journalists and scientists. This should be done by training reporters in environmental



literacy. The study underlines that environmental news coverage is still event-driven, and that newspapers strongly need to create dedicated space for an environment section. At the same time, there is a need to support and incentivise trained reporters who can bring deeper stories of climate change, conservation, and sustainable development to the forefront. By making better use of editorials, visual columns, and real-life-driven narratives, newspapers can help bridge the gap between complex environmental jargon and the common man, making environmental news more accessible to readers. This will help not only create awareness but also prompt action from both the government and the people of the nation. Also, collaboration among journalists, subject experts, and policymakers can further refine the quality and reach of reporting, helping build a society that is better informed and more willing to protect its environment.

DECLARATION STATEMENT

After aggregating input from all authors, I must verify the accuracy of the following information as the article's author.

- **Conflicts of Interest/ Competing Interests:** Based on my understanding, this article has no conflicts of interest.
- **Funding Support:** This article has not been funded by any organizations or agencies. This independence ensures the research is conducted objectively and without external influence.
- **Ethical Approval and Consent to Participate:** The data provided in this article are exempt from the requirement for ethical approval or participant consent.
- **Data Access Statement and Material Availability:** The adequate resources of this article are publicly accessible.
- **Author's Contributions:** The authorship of this article is contributed equally to all participating individuals.

REFERENCES

1. Rashmi, C. P. *Understanding the Impact of Environmental Journalism on Public Perception and Policy Initiatives*. *J. Current World Environment*, 19.3 (2024). DOI: [10.12944/CWE.19.3.34](https://doi.org/10.12944/CWE.19.3.34)
2. Thaker, J. *English and Regional Media Coverage of the 2022 Heat Waves in India*. *J. Journalism Studies*. 19.3, 483-499 (2025). DOI: [10.1080/17524032.2024.2420799](https://doi.org/10.1080/17524032.2024.2420799)
3. Pendharkar, A., Bhagwat, P., & Sardesai, A. *Aarey Conservation: A Multifaceted Opportunity for Climate Mitigation in an Urban Setting*. *J. Amrita Journal of Medicine*, 19.2, 88-93. (2023). DOI: [10.4103/AMJM.AMJM.39.23](https://doi.org/10.4103/AMJM.AMJM.39.23)
4. Thaker, J., Zhao, X., & Leiserowitz, A. Media Use and Public Perceptions of Global Warming in India. *J. Environmental Communication* 11.3, 1-14 (2017). DOI: [10.1080/17524032.2016.1269824](https://doi.org/10.1080/17524032.2016.1269824)
5. Carvalho, A., & Margit van Wessel, & Pieter Maesele. Communication Practices and Political Engagement with Climate Change: A Research Agenda. *J. Environmental Communication*, 11.1, 122-135. (2017) DOI: [10.1080/17524032.2016.1241815](https://doi.org/10.1080/17524032.2016.1241815)
6. Waisbord, S. Truth is What Happens to News: On Journalism, Fake News, And Post-Truth. *J. Journalism Studies*, 19.13, 1866-1878. (2018). DOI: [10.1080/1461670X.2018.1492881](https://doi.org/10.1080/1461670X.2018.1492881)
7. Barel-Ben David Y, Garty ES, Baram-Tsabari A. Can Scientists Fill the Science Journalism Void? Online Public Engagement with Science Stories Authored by Scientists. *J. PLoS One*. 15.1: e0222250. (2020). DOI: [10.1371/journal.pone.0222250](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0222250)
8. Brüggemann, M., & Engesser, S. (2017). Beyond False Balance: How Interpretive Journalism Shapes Media Coverage of Climate Change. *J. Global Environmental Change*, 42, 58-67. DOI: [10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2016.11.004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2016.11.004)
9. Weathers, R. Melinda, Deepti Ganapathy, et al. The Evolution of News Coverage about Climate Change as a Health Issue: A Decadal Analysis

in China, India, and the USA. *J. Science Direct*. 9.11, 1-11. (2025).

DOI: [10.1016/j.lanplh.2025.101335](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lanplh.2025.101335)

10. O'Neill, S., & Nicholson-Cole, S. Fear Won't Do It: Promoting Positive Engagement with Climate Change through Visual and Iconic Representations. *Science Communication*, 30.3, 355-379. (2018).

DOI: [10.1177/1075547008329201](https://doi.org/10.1177/1075547008329201)

AUTHOR'S PROFILE



Ms Tanvi recently completed her postgraduate degree in Journalism from Punjab Agricultural University, where she developed a keen interest in media, communication, and creative storytelling. Passionate about visual communication, she works as a freelance designer and video editor, creating engaging digital content for diverse platforms. Her skills in graphic design, layout creation, and video editing allow her to blend creativity with effective communication. Alongside her creative pursuits, she is an ardent reader of newspapers and closely follows current affairs, which keeps her informed and inspired. With a strong foundation in journalism and multimedia design, Tanvi aspires to contribute meaningfully to the evolving media landscape.



Dr Sumedha Bhandari, a Professor of English, has enriched the academic community for years. With a B.A. and M.A. from Panjab University, Chandigarh, an M.Phil., and a PhD from Punjabi University, Patiala, her academic journey is marked by significant achievements. Specializing in Afro-American Literature and Ecocriticism, Dr. Bhandari is a member of the Editorial Board for the *Indian Journal of Ecology*, and an Associate Editor for the *International UGC Care Journal - Literary Voice*. Additionally, she is a Peer Reviewer for the *Francis & Taylor Journal - Cogent Humanities* and a Co-PI on a NASF-funded national research project.

Disclaimer/Publisher's Note: The statements, opinions, and data contained in all publications are solely those of the individual author(s) and contributor(s) and not of the Publisher /Journal and/or the editor(s). The Publisher /Journal and/or the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to people or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions, or products referred to in the content.