



## NEERI-IndAIR

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### Why in News

The **Council of Scientific Industrial Research-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI)** recently launched the country's **first interactive online repository** named as **IndAIR (Indian Air quality Studies Interactive Repository)**.

### Key Points

- The **aim** of the project is **to make air quality research available to everyone**. It presents these studies in an easily **accessible web format** for the media, researchers, and academics.
- It is the first comprehensive effort to enlist existing Indian research and analysis on air pollution, its causes and effects.
- IndAIR has archived scanned documents from pre-Internet times (1950-1999), research articles, reports and case studies, and over 2,000 statutes to provide the history of air pollution research and legislation in the country.  
It includes all major legislations in the country dating back to 1905.
- NEERI received support from institutions such as the National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources (NISCAIR), BARC and National Archives of India (NAI). Institutions such as TERI, MoEFCC, and CPCB also partnered with NEERI for the project.

## TRACKING AIR POLLUTION STUDIES IN INDIA

➤ First air pollution study in India was done for Bengal Smoking Nuisance Act in 1905

➤ Studies by SC Roy from Meteorological Office examined cloud seeding for dealing with famine-ridden areas in 1954

➤ In 1970, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Central



Public Health Engineering Research Institute (now NEERI) and National Productivity Council were assigned task of fabricating air pollution monitoring equipment

➤ Prior to that, dust and Ringelmann's charts were used to study plume from stack and decide on pollution levels



➤ Seminars and events to discuss ills of air pollution began wholeheartedly in 1970s...

➤ ..But studies were done as early as 1950s by key researchers in India

➤ Delhi-NCR has most number of studies – **262** – on air pollution

### Council of Scientific & Industrial Research- National Environmental and Engineering Research Institute

- **CSIR-NEERI** is a research institute created and funded by the Government of India. It functions under the **Ministry of Science & Technology**.
- It was established in Nagpur in 1958 with focus on water supply, sewage disposal, communicable diseases and to some extent on industrial pollution and occupational diseases found common in post-independent India.
- CSIR has 38 national laboratories working in various areas of science and technology. CSIR-NEERI is one of those laboratories.

**Source: IE**