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SOURCE IDENTIFICATION OF ATMOSPHERIC CO₂ OVER INDIA

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India has ratified the Paris Agreement with a target to reduce CO₂ emission intensity. To achieve this target, it is of utmost priority to quantitatively understand the processes behind the CO₂ emissions over India. This can be achieved through simultaneous measurement of mixing ratio and stable isotope ratio of atmospheric CO₂. Few efforts have been taken in India to observe CO₂ mixing ratio, but efforts towards monitoring of stable isotope ratio of atmospheric CO₂ is very rare. Bhattacharya et al., 2009 and Tiwari et al, 2011 have revealed direct impact of the large-scale monsoon circulation, characterized by biannual reversal in surface-level winds on the variability of CO₂ mixing ratio over Indian subcontinent. Tania et al, 2010-2015, discussed about mixing ratio and stable isotope observations of CO₂ at Bangalore India. They have identified fossil fuel, biomass burning and cement industry emission as the prominent sources for the station. Single site monitoring can lead to a spatial limitation of data and dependencies of the features of the particular site. In addition, large spatial-temporal heterogeneity of sources in India and local emissions may produces large uncertainty in source estimation based on single site measurement. Thus multiple monitoring stations within a well defined network are in immediate need to develop in India. In summary, Indian monsoon dynamic and the enhancement in investing in renewable technology will have a prominent effect on the future per capita emission of CO₂ from India. In order to design strategies for emission reduction, possible source identification as well as quantitative estimation of their contribution to CO₂ variability are primary important. This highlights the immediate requirement of establishing a monitoring network of multiple stations where high-precision, high-frequency measurement mixing ratio and stable isotope ratio of atmospheric CO₂ as well as other GHGs will be conducted.

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