

In a major breakthrough that could help in the fight against global warming, a team of five Indian scientists from four institutes of the country have discovered a naturally occurring bacteria which converts carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) into a compound found in limestone and chalk.

When used as an enzyme — biomolecules that speed up a chemical reaction — the bacteria has been found to transform CO<sub>2</sub> into calcium carbonate (CaCO<sub>3</sub>), which can fetch minerals of economic value, said Dr Anjana Sharma from the biosciences department of RD University, Jabalpur, who was part of the Rs 98.6 lakh project sponsored by the department of biotechnology (DBT) under the Union science and technology ministry.

**TVNL Comment: The problem with too much CO<sub>2</sub> is that we have been poisoning the oceans. It is ocean plant life that consume CO<sub>2</sub> and provide us with oxygen. If we don't stop killing the ocean we will not have enough oxygen to survive. That is the REAL problem.**

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