



ECOBUZZ

A BUZZ TO THE GREEN FUTURE!!

AUGUST EDITION

Contents:

- Green Update: National and State2
- Green Justice3
- Green Laws4
- Thoughts on SDGs5
- Upcoming Events6
- Van Mohatsav7

Greetings from Faculty of Law, GLS University!

I am very happy to learn that for this month's edition of EcoBuzz the students have chosen the SDG 8 as the theme. India has embarked on its journey to attain the SDG goal 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth for all. Programme like Make in India, Start-up India, Skill India, Digital India have this very principle at its core i.e. creating employment opportunities for the country's youth. Government is laying immense emphasis on creating conducive trade and business environment. It is also pertinent to note that India has backed the resolution passed by the President of the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly Abdulla Shahid that recognized for the first time, that everyone, everywhere, has a human right to live in a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

All these initiatives reflect that India is committed to attain the targets set forth and it is employing various effective strategies of growth and employment to achieve the same. To attain the underlined goals, India needs to focus on two aspects: Urbanization and Manufacturing. Also, key to all of it is innovation - especially innovation in our education system. There is also a need to understand that SDG's are interlinked. To attain the goals of one SDG, several other SDG's also need to be evaluated and achieved.

I along with SDG 8 would also want the readers to reflect upon the grave repercussions of Climate change that we are seeing almost every now and then. In the recent times the world has been a witness to grave effects of climate change like frequent heat waves and wildfires in various parts across the globe. Let us all be mindful of the impacts that we are causing to the environment in this process of economic growth and development.

Regards,

Dr. Mayuri H. Pandya

Director, Faculty of Law, GLS University

ECOBUZZ TEAM

Patron:

Dr. Sudhir Nanavati
President, GLS University

Chief Editor:

Dr. Mayuri Pandya

Concept:

Dr. Parna Mukherjee

Editors:

Dr. Payal Mehta
Dr. Jiya Matharani
Ms. Hiral Shukla
Dr. Foram Pandya

Student Members:

Maitri Patel	Tapati Dave
Jyot Baxi	Yuvraj Goswami
Vritika Sajnani	Sugandha Somani
Jeel Pathak	Malhar Faldu
Jaydev Bhatt	Kripalsinh Gohil
Mahir Shah	Pratham Mehta
Sanskriti Trivedi	Sanya Gupta
Sahil Nair	Honey Sojitra

National Updates

Five more Indian wetlands get Ramsar recognition of international importance.

Five more Indian sites have been recognised as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention. Three of these wetlands are in Tamil Nadu and one each in Mizoram and Madhya Pradesh, making a total of 54 Ramsar sites in the country. The sites include the Karikili Bird Sanctuary, Pallikarainai Marsh Reserve Forest & Pichavaram Mangrove in Tamil Nadu, Pala wetland in Mizoram, and Sakhya Sagar in Madhya Pradesh.



NGT orders phase out of all 15-year-old vehicles, including private cars.

The eastern zone branch of the national green tribunal has directed the West Bengal government to phase out within six months all vehicles older than 15 years, including private cars. The phase-out is expected to reduce the air pollution in Kolkata and Howrah. Firhad Hakim, the state transport minister, said the government would appeal to the bench for more time as lakhs of vehicles will have to be phased out.



Highway Projects Near Borders Don't Need Environmental Clearance

All highway projects within 100 km of India's "Line of Control (LoC) or border" will now be exempt from environmental clearances. This is in view of their importance for defence and national security, as per a notification issued on July 14 by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC). The notification is unclear about whether 'borders' refer to both land and coastal borders. If it applies to both, highway projects in around 35% of India's land area - which includes all four of India's biodiversity hotspots - would be exempt from environmental clearances.



Project Lion Roadmap has no proposal to let lions roar beyond Gujarat

Madhya Pradesh government is awaiting the arrival of the first batch of African Cheetahs from Namibia to be released in the enclosures in the Kuno Palpur sanctuary, the sprawling forest with an adequate prey base. This area was originally readied for translocation of Asiatic lions from the Gir forest in Gujarat over two decades ago.

World's largest Zoo in Gujarat's Jamnagar soon

The Central Zoo Authority (CZA) in 2019 subject to certain conditions approved the Detailed Project Report (DPR) along with the Master (Layout) Plan for the establishment of the Greens Zoological Rescue and Rehabilitation Kingdom at Jamnagar by Reliance Industries Limited. As per the layout plan, the zoo will have dedicated sections for different types of organisms, namely Forest of India, Frog House, Insect Life, Aquatic Kingdom, Dragons Land, Marshes of West Coast, Land of Rodent, Indian Desert, Wild Trail of Gujarat, and Exotic Island.

Plastic ban: Maharashtra, Gujarat among top Indian plastic waste producers.

India ranks as the fifth-highest country in the generation of plastic waste with an annual discharge of 3.5 million tonne in fiscal year 2020, according to a note by Kotak Institutional Equities. Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat are among the top Indian plastic waste producers, according to a Kotak Institutional Equities that has cited the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in its recent note.

State Updates

दशकूपसमा वापी दशवापीसमो ह्रदः ।
दशह्रदसमः पुत्रो दशपुत्रसमो ह्रुमः ॥

A pond equals ten wells and a reservoir equals ten ponds. A son equals ten reservoirs, and a tree equals ten sons!

~ Matsya Puran 154:512

GREEN JUSTICE

ROSHAN JOSHI VS STATE OF UTTARAKHAND

CITATION: Original Application No. 138/2022

Grievance of the applicant is in respect of violation of CPCB guidelines issued vide its Office Memorandum dated 07.01.2020, 'Guidelines for setting up of new petrol pumps', which provide for a minimum distance of 50 meters from residential areas to be maintained by any new petrol pump/ filling station sought to be established. Vide order dated 22.02.2022, the Tribunal constituted a joint Committee of State PCB and District Magistrate, Dehradun to undertake site visit. Based on the observations of the Joint Committee, Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board has suggested the District Magistrate Dehradun vide letter dated 18.04.2022 to cancel the said permissions issued by the District Magistrate, Dehradun, as per rules. The application is disposed of.

JORJO TANA TARA VS UNION OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE THROUGH ITS SECRETARY

CITATION: IA No. 16/2019

original application has been filed by the Applicant alleging indiscriminate felling of trees in reserved forest area which is part of Papum Reserved Forest, and part of Pakke Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh. According to the Applicant, indiscriminate felling of trees is taking place and though Government authorities were aware of this, no effective steps have been taken by them to curb the same and on account of the felling of the trees, it is likely to create human-animal conflict and that may affect even the life of tigers in that area. The Tribunal called for a Report from the Divisional Forest Officer, Khellong Forest Division and Director, Pakke Tiger Reserve, Cicigusa, Arunachal Pradesh. It was held that the Committee shall prepare an Action Plan for complying the directions given herein and hold its meeting necessarily every three months to monitor the progress. Therefore, the court disposed of the Original Application with a direction to the High-Level Committee constituted by the Chief Secretary, Arunachal Pradesh to regularly monitor the green coverage in the State of Arunachal Pradesh including restoration of the waterbodies which have shown a drastic decrease between 2009 and 2019.

FAKEERSA NAIKODI ALIAS FAKIRSA NAIKODI VS MEMBER SECRETARY GOA COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

CITATION: Appeal No. 24/2017

Learned counsel for the appellants submitted that the construction in question is in CRZ-II area, as against CRZ-III, wrongly mentioned in the show cause notice of the GCZMA. In CRZ II, constructions on private land seaward from road are not prohibited. The GCZMA wrongly assumed the constructions to be on government land. On the other hand, learned counsel for the GCZMA submitted that the construction is on the Government land, without requisite permission. In the present set of appeals, constructions are claimed to be on private land and sale deeds are on record. There is no firm finding rejecting the said stand. Further, no NOC or permission is required in CRZ-II. On due consideration of the rival submissions, we find merit in the contention raised by appellant. The impugned order does not rule out the construction being in CRZ-II and on private land.

मूल ब्रह्मा त्वचा विष्णु शाखा रुद्रमहेश्वरः ।
पातले पातले देवानाम् वृक्षराज नमोस्तुते ॥

With Brahma in your roots, Vishnu in your body, Shiva in your branches and other Gods & Goddess living in your leaves, oh tree- the King I salute you!

~ Srimad Bhagwat

GREEN LAWS

NATIONAL WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN 2017-2031

India, the land of Buddha and Mahavira, following the ethical principles of "Jivah Rakhshati Rakhshatah" (Protect life and be protected) has been conserving all creations of Mother Earth since time immemorial, thereby maintaining a fine and delicate balance between man and nature. However, with the rise in human populations, changed socio-political environment and increased materialistic aspirations, this balance has lately been disturbed and nature (including wildlife as its integral part), became a causality in the mid-1900s. For reversing this trend, efforts were initiated in the early years of independent India, when the Indian Board for Wild Life (IBWL) was constituted in 1952 under the chairmanship of Shri Jayachamaraja Wodeyar ex-Maharaja of Mysore State. To reinforce the nation's faith in the conservation of forests and wildlife, the following two sections were inserted in 1976 through the 42nd amendment of the Indian constitution. With a view to have a concerted approach to protection, conservation and management of wildlife throughout the country, a decision was taken at the XV meeting of the IBWL in 1982 to prepare a National Wildlife Action Plan. Accordingly, the first Action Plan (NWAP-1) was drafted and adopted in 1983. It was implemented from 1983 through 2001. On its completion and based on new concerns and challenges viz. increased commercial use of natural resources, growth in human and livestock population, changes in the consumption patterns, rising interest in biodiversity conservation etc., the Plan was revised and a new Action Plan (NWAP-2) was put in place for the period 2002-2016. The comments of the stakeholders were considered and accepted/included/modified/rejected (based upon the view taken by the committee) during its eighth and final meeting held for two days at Sasan Gir, Gujarat in February 2016, to arrive at the final draft. Editing of the approved draft was done by Shri Vivek Menon to maintain flow and other requirements in the text. Thus this new National Wildlife Action Plan (NWAP-3) is prepared.



- For ease of monitoring and evaluation, the new plan has been drafted on-similar lines as the second plan. Most of the chapter headings of NWAP 2 have been retained as such. However, in view of the changed circumstances, a few chapters have been modified and a few new ones have been added.
- The Plan is based on the premise that essential ecological processes that are governed or strongly moderated by ecosystems are essential for food production, health and other aspects of human survival and sustainable development. It also keeps in focus the intrinsic value of nature and its manifold components. The maintenance of these ecosystems, which can be termed as 'Life Support Systems, is considered vital for all societies regardless of their stage of development.
- It also emphasizes on two other aspects of nature conservation viz. preservation of genetic diversity and sustainable utilization of species and ecosystems, which have a direct bearing on our scientific advancements and support to millions of rural of the communities.
- The Plan adopts a landscape approach in conservation of all wildlife ie uncultivated flora and undomesticated fauna that have an ecological value to the ecosystem and to mankind irrespective of where they occur.
- It accords special emphasis to recovery of threatened species of wildlife while conserving their habitats which include terrestrial, inland aquatic, coastal and marine ecosystems.
- It takes note of concerns relating to climate change on wildlife, by integrating actions to be taken for its mitigation and adaption into wildlife management planning.
- It underlines the fact that despite being one of 17 mega biodiversity countries of the world, national planning has not taken serious note of adverse ecological consequences of reduction and degradation of wilderness areas from the pressures of population, commercialization and development projects. Accordingly, the plan has brought to focus the alarming erosion of our natural heritage comprising of rivers, forests, grasslands, mountains, wetlands, coastal and marine habitats, arid lands and deserts.
- The Plan underscores the increasing need for people's support for conservation of wildlife and to this effect recommends strengthening the 'core-buffer- multiple use surround structure with higher inputs for eco-development, education, innovation, training extension, conservation awareness and outreach programs. Wildlife health and disaster management have received due attention in this Plan.
- Management of tourism in wildlife areas with related plough back mechanism, development of human resource and staff welfare has undergone a reorientation in the Plan.
- The plan is alive to communities, inhabiting forest lands and other wilderness areas, to be treated appropriately in the light of Forest Rights Act keeping in mind their inadequacy of resources and strong dependence on natural biomass resource.

दशकूपसमा वापी दशवापीसमो ह्रदः ।

दशह्रदसमः पुत्रो दशपुत्रसमो ह्रुमः ॥

A pond equals ten wells and a reservoir equals ten ponds. A son equals ten reservoirs, and a tree equals ten sons!

~ Matsya Puran 154:512



PROMOTE SUSTAINED, INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH, FULL AND PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK FOR ALL

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH :JAYDEV BHATT

While the whole world is trying to keep a balance between environment and economy many countries and various international commissions have taken steps towards creating the balance between the two of them. If we talk about the economy, the environment is hindered and vice-versa. Development and environment are inversely proportional to each other. Development will cost the environment and vice-versa and therefore the government of India have to always choose between both of them. Therefore the whole concept of sustainable development revolves around this. Sustainable development talks about how to maintain the environment and keep the development of the country going by taking several steps and using resources smartly. Various environmental policies are also implemented so as to make sure the environment is taken care of. Various forest policies are introduced for preservation and conservation of forest. Certain trees and plants are being categorized as endangered, vulnerable and extinct species so as to take necessary measures for the protection of the species. Economic growth is commonly defined as increases in total output from new resources or better use of existing resources; it is measured by increased real incomes per capita. All economic growth involves transforming the natural world, and it can affect environmental quality in one of three ways. Environmental quality can increase with growth. Increased incomes, for example, provide the resources for public services such as sanitation and rural electricity. With these services widely available, individuals need to worry less about day-to-day survival and can devote more resources to conservation. Second, environmental quality can initially worsen but then improve as the growth rate rises. In the cases of air pollution, water pollution, and deforestation and encroachment there is little incentive for any individual to invest in maintaining the quality of the environment. These problems can only improve when countries deliberately introduce long-range policies to ensure that additional resources are devoted to dealing with them. Third, environmental quality can decrease when the rate of growth increases. In the cases of emissions generated by the disposal of municipal solid waste, for example, abatement is relatively expensive and the costs associated with the emissions and wastes are not perceived as high because they are often borne by someone else.

However, A wind turbine's effectiveness in generating electricity depends on the weather; thus, it can be difficult to predict exactly how much electricity a wind turbine will generate over time. If wind speeds are too low on any given day, the turbine's rotor won't spin. Also, the noise which the windmills make is comparatively huge. A wind turbine's blades are very large and rotate at very high speeds. Unfortunately, their blades can harm and kill species that fly into them, like birds and bats.

As we can see, no energy can be totally perfect but if we compare non renewable and renewable, we should always choose renewable because it has lesser cons and comparatively more pros. The more sustainable option should be regarded the first priority in this era as environment is at a very crucial stage today and the future is unpredictable.

The government is working tirelessly to cut the pollution as much as possible. All the departments of the cabinet are focusing on sustainable development of the country. But, the fight is far from over yet. New reforms and ideas need to be implemented by the government and to focus more and more on renewable sources of energy for the country. New and innovative ideas involving sustainable development should be motivated. Thus, with small and steady steps all the goals of sustainable development can be achieved.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

- 8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances
 - 8.1.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita
- 8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation
 - 8.2.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person
- 8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity, and innovation
 - 8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in non-agriculture employment, by sex
- 8.4 Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production
 - 8.4.1 Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP
 - 8.4.2 Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP
- 8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men
 - 8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities
 - 8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
- 8.6 By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training
 - 8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training
- 8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking
 - 8.7.1 Proportion and number of children aged 5-17 years engaged in child labour

Image Source: United Nations Sustainable development goals
<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal8>

मूल ब्रह्मा त्वचा विष्णु शाखा रुद्रमहेश्वरः ।
पातले पातले देवानाम् वृक्षराज नमोस्तुते ॥

With Brahma in your roots, Vishnu in your body, Shiva in your branches and other Gods & Goddess living in your leaves, oh tree- the King I salute you!

~ Srimad Bhagwat

UPCOMING EVENTS

National

6-7 August, 2022: Faculty of Law, GLS University is organizing the 2nd International (Virtual) Conference on the theme "Climate Change Governance and Law" to commemorate the semi-centennial year of Stockholm Declaration(50 years) and Semi-Sesquicentennial of Independence of India(75 years). Theme 6 for the said conference is on "Mitigation and Adaptation of Climate Change ". Theme 7 is about "Climate Change Cluster".

12 August ,2022: Greenprener conventions and awards.

International

1st August ,2022 : International conference on sustainable water management in Myanmar.

First week of August: Marine week to be celebrated in United Kingdom

10- 13 August, 2022: Waste conversion technology conference and trade show in San Diego, USA.

29 August, 2022: Meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste in Romania.



Concept and Design: Tapati Dave

दशकूपसमा वापी दशवापीसमो ह्रदः ।

दशह्रदसमः पुत्रो दशपुत्रसमो ह्रुमः ॥

A pond equals ten wells and a reservoir equals ten ponds. A son equals ten reservoirs, and a tree equals ten sons!

~ Matsya Puran 154:512

WORLD UPDATE :

UN General Assembly declares access to clean and healthy environment a universal human right. The UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, welcomed the 'historic' decision and said the landmark development demonstrates that Member States can come together in the collective fight against the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.

“The resolution will help reduce environmental injustices, close protection gaps and empower people, especially those that are in vulnerable situations, including environmental human rights defenders, children, youth, women and indigenous peoples”, he said in a statement released by his Spokesperson’s Office.

FOREST LAWS EXHIBITION , "VAN MAHOTSAV"

Organised by Environmental Law Clinic
Faculty of Law
GLS University



मूल ब्रह्मा त्वचा विष्णु शाखा रुद्रोमहेश्वरः ।
पातले पातले देवानाम् वृक्षराज नमोस्तुते ॥

With Brahma in your roots, Vishnu in your body, Shiva in your branches and other Gods & Goddess living in your leaves, oh tree- the King I salute you!

~ Srimad Bhagwat