



# ECOBUZZ

A BUZZ TO THE GREEN FUTURE!!

FEBRUARY EDITION

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Greetings from Faculty of Law, GLS University!

With each passing day the environment requires mankind to join hands and act unitedly as the global citizens to acknowledge the urgency and to continue the efforts to protect our blue planet earth to strengthen our support and cooperation and remain convinced that collective action is essential to successfully address global challenges. We are deeply concerned about the devastating global effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, creating grave health and other socio-economic challenges, especially in developing countries thus undermining our common efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

We realize that human health and wellbeing are dependent upon nature and the solutions it provides, and we are aware that we shall face recurring risks of future pandemics if we maintain our current unsustainable patterns in our interactions with nature. The fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly that shall take place online and in Nairobi on 28 February – 2 March 2022 with the theme “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals” shall be pivotal in social, economic and environmental sustainable development. The Assembly has also planned to hold a Special Session of the Assembly on March 3 – 4, 2022, which is devoted to the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the creation of UN Environment Programme in 1972 (UNEP@50) which shall play crucial role in bringing about awareness for environmental conservation and execution of responsible behavior in international arena.

Our untiring efforts shall continue to spread awareness and plan activities on pertinent issues of environment with the sole object of creating an Environment that is vivacious, green and healthy.

Dr. Mayuri H. Pandya Director,  
Faculty of Law  
GLS University

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# National Updates

## Green piece: Let us shift to greener ways in the fight against Covid-19

The Covid-19 has resulted in significant amounts of plastic waste now. The detritus of the pandemic can be seen everywhere – PPE suits lying discarded behind hospitals and crematoriums, surgical masks and shields being thrown as part of household waste and of course, sanitizer bottles, gloves and the like found in street corner garbage dumps. According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), India produced 45,308 tons of COVID-19 biomedical waste.



## India plans to introduce 50 cheetahs in 5 years:

The Union government launched an action plan under which 50 cheetahs will be introduced in the country in the next 5 years. Union environment minister Bhupender Yadav, in a statement, said, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi is keen on protection and conservation of seven major big cats. Cheetah numbering 50 over a period of five years will be introduced in various parks". As per the plan, the Ministry will create a formal framework to collaborate with governments of Namibia and/or South Africa, through the Ministry of External Affairs.



## Supreme Court asks Centre to create an Indian Environment Services:-

A petition was filed by lawyer, Mr. Samar Vijay Singh owing to which a notice was issued. The bench consisted of Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Justice MM Sundresh, which talked about creation of an independent Indian Environment Service at the all-India level. The report said, "Current approval systems and monitoring mechanism function in a quasimetric manner, leading to sub-optimal management of environmental issues. It is now proposed that a new Environment Service be created, as an All-India Service, which will act as an expert group".



## In the matter of Sabarmati River pollution pseudo motto's marathon verdict:-

The verdict was passed by Justice J.B. Pardiwala and Justice Vaibhavi D. Nanawati of High court of Gujarat which said, "If society is polluting Sabarmati river, cut off their water, electricity and sewage connections". It also added, corporate nor residential section is allowed to pollute Sabarmati. This judgment was held with respect to Polluter Pays Principle.

## Lions at Sakkarbaug zoo to be part of coronavirus vaccine trial-

Sakkarbaug in Junagadh is one of the six zoos in the country where clinical trials will be conducted on lions and leopards to test its efficacy in keeping animals safe. The trial, however, will be conducted only on 15 animals. Designed specifically for animals, the vaccine will be administered in two doses with a gap of 28 days between the two.

## Chhara LNG terminal faces pipeline delay, work yet to begin-

The upcoming LNG terminal at Simar port in Gir-Somnath district's Chhara region being built at an estimated cost of 4300 crore, will be ready for commissioning in April- May period next year. Gujarat State Petronet Ltd, the transmission company of GSPC is to lay an 86 km R- LNG evacuation pipeline.

एक एवाग्निर्बहुधा समिद्ध एकः सूर्यो विश्वमनु प्रभूतः ।  
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# GREEN JUSTICE

## RAMMANOHAR LODHI VS STATE OF MADHYA PRADESH

CITATION: Original Application No. 81/2021

The court directed the Chief Secretary, State of Madhya Pradesh to take necessary steps and develop mechanism that the guidelines issued by the CPCB in the matter of operation of jaggery units and recommendation of the Joint Committee must be strictly observed and complied with. Further, Collector Narsinghpur be directed to strictly enforce the guidelines issued by the Central Pollution Control Board. The State Pollution Control Board is directed to periodically monitor the units and compliance of the guidelines issued by Central Pollution Control Board and in case of any violation to take necessary legal action in addition to the assessment and realisation of environmental compensation.

## VIKRAM DENWAR VS M/S INDIA WASTE MANAGEMENT PVT. LTD

CITATION: Original Application No. 68/2021

The State Pollution Control Board has a statutory authority to monitor the violation and in case of any violation of environmental Rules, the State Pollution Control Board is at liberty and statutorily duty bound to proceed and to take any action in accordance with law. The court was with the view that recommendations as submitted by the Joint Committee must be observed in letter and spirit. The State Pollution Control Board is directed to ensure the compliance of recommendations of the joint committee.

## BRACKISH WATER RESEARCH CENTRE VS MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FOREST

CITATION: Original Application No. 16/2020

Court found that illegal shrimp farms are increasing the risk of man-made floods. Gulf of Khambhat where the two rivers flow is a designated 'Critically Vulnerable Coastal Areas (CVCA)' as per CRZ, 2019, requiring special consideration. The court was of the view that for compliance of environmental Rule of Law, enforcement of CRZ Regulations needs to be assessed and remedial action ensured by a Joint Committee of GCZMA, State PCB, District Magistrates, Bharuch and Surat and Directorate of Fisheries, Gujarat. The State PCB will be the Nodal Agency for coordination and compliance. The Joint Committee may hold its first meeting preferably within two weeks and further action in the light of information compiled may be overseen and ensured so that there is no illegal shrimp farming on the flood plains of the rivers and in violation of CRZ regulations, adversely affecting the ecology.

## BHAVREEN KANDHARI VS GYANESH BHARTI & ORS

CITATION: CONT.CAS(C) 778/2021

Case was about two compliances affidavits filed by PWD Delhi. First was about all trees along outer ring road from Modi Mill to Airport have been regularly washed and kept duly watered. Second affidavit by horticulture department stated that out of 1793 trees in Vasant Vihar, de-concretization of 1688 trees had been ensured. It was observed that there is no report regarding levelling of footpaths or removal of concrete ramps over the footpaths. Also penalty of Rs. 10000 was to be imposed upon person who victimized trees under Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994. In view of above road and other ecology is to be maintained by respective authorities. It will be open to GNCTD to put in public domain. Aforesaid notice and requirement was to be complied with mandate of law and directions as passed by NGT.

## BAWANA PLAST PRIVATE LIMITED VS DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL

CITATION: W.P.(C) 1216/2022

It is only on the basis of the representation made by the petitioner who was the owner of the industry that the Authority has arrived at the Conclusion that the petitioner has violated the environmental law for which the damages were fastened on the petitioner. She does concede to the fact that the notice dated July 06, 2021 was issued to the petitioner regarding pollution done in her industry but that was on the strength of the order passed by the NGT, pursuant to which notices were issued to various industries who had not complied with the requirement of CETPs. Also concedes to the fact, when there is an order of this Court, such a notice, at least, could not have been issued to the petitioner. In any case, she states that no precipitative action has been taken pursuant to the notice dated July 06, 2021. Subject to the petitioner depositing 50% of the damages imposed vide impugned order, with the Registrar General of this Court within eight weeks from today, there shall be a stay of the impugned Order.

नवमासधृतं गर्भं भास्करस्य गभस्तिभिः ।

पीत्वा रसं समुद्राणां द्यौः प्रसूते रसायनम् ॥

For nine months, the sky drank the ocean's water, sucking it up through the sun's rays, and now gives birth to a liquid offspring, the elixir of life - 4.28.3)Valmiki Ramayana



# GREEN LAWS

## GUJARAT SOLAR POLICY 2021

Among the key points of the policy, the main aim is to remove the ceiling on installed capacity. The new policy allows consumers to lease their premises or roofs to third parties for setting up plants to generate and consume power in the same premises. In the same proportion of their ownership of the plant. Earlier, the cap on the solar project was 50 per cent of the sanctioned load or contracted demand. This policy will come into effect from the date of its notification and shall remain in operation for a period up to 31st December 2025.

•The security deposit by a developer to a power distribution company (DISCOM), has been reduced from Rs 25 lakh per MW to Rs 5 lakh per MW. The new policy promises that the state would purchase surplus energy from residential and micro, small and medium enterprises consumers after setting off against their consumption. This means that they would be allowed to sell their surplus power at a tariff of Rs 2.25 per unit. (Gross Metering).

•For other consumers, the surplus power will be purchased at 75 per cent of latest tariff discovered and contracted by GUVNL through competitive bidding process for non-park-based solar projects in preceding six months which shall remain fixed for the project life of 25 years.

•The policy estimates savings to residential consumers in the range of Rs 1.77 – Rs 3.78 per unit, industrial and commercial (captive) in the range of Rs 2.92 – Rs 4.32 per unit and industrial and commercial (third-party sale) in the range of Rs 0.91 – Rs 2.30 per unit.

•For small-scale solar projects below 4 MW, DISCOM will now purchase power from them with an extra incentive of 20 paise per unit over discovered price. Gujarat leads the country in solar rooftop installations, with the state having 51,000 subsidised rooftop solar plants in the residential segment – the highest in India, at the end of March 2020. Quite a contrast to neighbouring Maharashtra for instance, where the DISCOM and poorly designed incentives have made them almost a non-starter.



## BIO MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT RULES , 2016

The whole world is facing pandemic crisis for past two years. Meanwhile a lot of medical waste is generated which could have serious effects on environment but our legal statute already provided guidelines for treatment of bio medical waste ( recently revised in 2016) under Environment Protection Act of 1986.

The Rules of 2016 covers areas such as application, duties of occupier, duties of operator after collecting from occupier, duties of authorities, treatment and disposal, competent or supervisory body, maintenance of records, site for waste treatment/ disposal and liability.

What is Biomedical waste ?

“ Any waste which is generated during the diagnosis and treatment or immunization of human beings or animals or in research activity or in production of testing or in testing of biologicals or in health camps including categories mentioned in Schedule 1 ”

These rules are applicable to all those person who generate, collect, receive, store, transport, treat, dispose or handle biomedical waste in any form.

It provides categories of biomedical wastes and their segregation, collection, treatment, processing and various methods for disposal of such wastes according to their nature. Such methods include incineration, deep burial, local autoclaving, microwaving, mutilation, disposal in landfills, disinfection, chemical treatment, hydroblading, plasma pyrolysis according to nature of category provided in the schedule.

Such wastes must be segregated in different colored plastic bags and labelled accordingly. These should then be transported in authorized vehicles. Further no untreated biomedical waste shall be kept beyond a period of 48 hours without the permission of the competent authority in this regard. Also proper maintenance of records regarding the generation, collection, reception, storage, transportation, treatment and disposal of biomedical waste is to be maintained by the institutions. The institutions are also under an obligation to report an accident at a site where biomedical waste is handled or during transportation to the authority prescribed for purpose.

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एकैवोषाः सर्वमिदं वि भात्येकं वा इदं वि बभूव सर्वम् ॥

Agni, the sole one is kindled in many ways. Sun, the sole one manifests in all things. Usha, the sole one illuminates all universe. The one

(Sole Power) has become all this. - Rigveda 8.58. 2

2 ZERO HUNGER



## END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

### HUNGER TO FIGHT WITH; A GOAL THAT WE STRIVE FOR!

-Sanskriti Trivedi, Tapati Dave

The foreseen goal is to end hunger and end the adversities connected to the issue of hunger! The goal is to attain food security and to improve the nutrition levels! The world we live in, would become much more beautiful to admire and efficient to live in, if the goal of Zero Hunger is achieved, because with the achievement of this goal, there would be an alluring impact of the same over the economy, health, social development, equality and many other aspects. It is the food with which the survival relates the most and therefore, steps towards strengthening No hunger would be steps towards achieving commendable bigger goals. With this goal, there is a hope, a light, a tunnel to the brightness and therefore in order to make this goal a successful future the reality is to be analyzed minutely.

#### THE REALITY:

After decades of steady decline, the number of people who suffer from hunger – as measured by the prevalence of undernourishment – began to slowly increase again in 2015. Current estimates show that nearly 690 million people are hungry, or 8.9 percent of the world population – up by 10 million people in one year and by nearly 60 million in five years. The world is not on track to achieve Zero Hunger by 2030. If recent trends continue, the number of people affected by hunger would surpass 840 million by 2030.

1. By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.

2. By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.

3. By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.

4. By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.

5. An increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries.

**IT IS THE GOAL THAT MATTERS, A GOAL THAT MATTERS, TO THE WELL-BEING OF THE PLANET, BECAUSE, TILL THE HUNGER PERSISTS, THE SORROW DOES EXIST!**

#### FUN FACTS:

1. Fungi are earth's environmental managers!
2. A tree can be used as a compass.
3. The oldest living organism on earth is a stand of the tree.
4. More than half of all tree species are native to one country.



Source: SAGA India  
<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal2>

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## National

6-7th August: 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 of Stockholm declaration and semi-sesquicentennial of Independence of India. Faculty of Law has taken an initiative to walk an extra mile for healthy planet on the glory of 'Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav' by organizing a thoughtful conference on "Climate Change Governance and Law".

7th February: Environment Protection Technology Exhibition.

## International

1st February: International Conference on Renewable, Environment and Agriculture (ICREA)

4th February: International Conference on Renewable, Environment and Agriculture

26th February: International Conference on Natural Science and Environment.

23rd February: 1231st International Conference on Environmental Science and Development.

27th February: International Conference on Biological, Agricultural & Environmental Science

Then



Now



Over 50% of the world's population lives in urban areas and this is growing considerably every year. To ensure a more sustainable future for all, it is crucial that we raise awareness of the importance of the SDGs and the effect on our lives that the current rate of rapidly developing urbanisation has.

Concept: Maitri Patel  
Design: Bhakti Morzaria

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