

Protection of the Ecological Environment and Related Wildlife Acts

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ABSTRACT: *Individuals, organizations, and governments all have a role in environmental preservation. Its goals are to protect natural resources and the current natural environment while also repairing harm and reversing trends, when feasible. This law applies to all types of pollution, including air, water, soil, and noise. It also ensures that the safe standards, which prohibit the use of dangerous materials, are followed. The Environment (Protection) Acts are the first topic discussed in this article. The primary goal of enacting this Act into our legal system is to offer environmental protection and to improve it as much as possible in order to create a safe and secure environment for society. The Act's second main goal is to preserve and prevent the environment from being harmed by humans and other living things, as well as animals and property on the planet. The article ends by addressing forest policy, since forests are the most essential and virtual resources for all species on our planet's existence. As a result, now that the Environment (Protection) Act has been passed, preserving and saving the forest and its resources should be a significant priority.*

KEYWORDS: *Environment, Forest, Prevention, Pollution, Protection.*

INTRODUCTION

Popular press coverage of wildlife crime typically focuses on poaching of a small number of high-profile species, such as tigers, rhinoceros, and elephants. While these majestic animals rightfully deserve coverage and attention, there are many more species that are targets of crime. The focus on land animals may be due to the usage of “wildlife” in common parlance, which typically does not include marine species, even though this “terrestrial bias has little rational basis”[1]. Indeed, the press's emphasis on land species has been at the expense of marine creatures. Given that over 70% of the Earth is covered in water, the focus on land animals misses a significant element of the Earth's wildlife. One of the contributors to the scattered effort to tackle wildlife crime is taxonomic bias, which means a few charismatic species (e.g., rhinoceros, tigers, elephants) are treated as representative of broader wildlife crime reality[2].

This results in the vast majority of harmed species being overlooked. Furthermore, taxonomic bias exists within marine wildlife, with the majority of conservation efforts and research focusing on charismatic species, such as dolphins and turtles, or commercially important ones, such as tuna[3]. For these reasons, research and understanding of marine species in regard to crime lag behind terrestrial ones. To endeavor to address this, we develop a classification of crime affecting marine species with a focus on the United States[4]. This study uses structured in-depth interviews with three marine-life experts from the forefront of marine research. Then, based on marketing and psychology literature in de-marketing and counter-marketing, we suggest what actions can be taken to reduce these various types of marine wildlife crime [5].

Forest is an ecosystem where flora and fauna or animals interact with each other and with the physical world. Every country differs in their forest covers. This forest covers an area proportionally depending on many factors and varies from region to region. These factors are land availability, population density, climate etc. Forest is very important in main training the environment quality without forest we cannot imagine the human world also. It provides us many things that benefit our daily life like fuel, wood fodder manures ranges between products, fruits, vegetables etc. and it provides us with intangible services also like habitat for wildlife climate change mitigation hydrological cycle slc. India is the 7th largest country in the world which occupies 2.4 percent of total world area [6]. Our country has only 1.8 percent of forest cover. Many effects are made to increase forest cover through reforestation which are mainly carried out under compensatory afforestation management of planning authority but still the condition of India forest is very devastated [7], [8].

There is a policy of having 33 percent of area of the country should be forest and this should be reported by the union minister of government and forest in 2007, human beings have only 21 percent of forest cover area and in that also dense forest area is only 13 percent. So we are very far away from achieving this figure. Population of our country is increasing at a very rapid rate and due to this there is an over utilization and over exploration of the forests land illegal activities such as preaching illegal logging unauthorized occupation of forest land only adds to the damage to the forest. The proper and systematic management of forest began in the 19th century. India's first policy related to forest enunciated in 1894 and its main focus was on commercial exploitation of timber and it gave importance to permanent cultivation. This policy was again revised in 1952 and it recognized the importance of the forest, so it proposed another policy which states that it is necessary

to have 1 ½ area of country under forest and tree cover. The six laws related to environmental protection and wildlife are: The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986; The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972; Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974; Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and The Indian Forest Act, 1927.

Environmental protection is one of the basic prerequisites for the overall development of any country in the world. As awareness of environmental protection is developed, human awareness is also developed about the need to preserve the environment by preventing adverse impacts on nature. To protect the environment by recycling, reusing, and composting; making better transport choices; reducing your electricity usage; buying local; donating to conservation groups; and avoiding toxic chemicals[4].

In this paper author discuss about the forest policies, forest acts, Indian Scenario Forest conservation, Aims of Policy, Forest Policy 1952, Objective, National Forest Policy 1988 and its objectives also, Act to Protect Forest Area, Forest Conservation Act and also discuss about the Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act 2006. This paper helps to understand the environment and also helps to understand the environmental acts. The Environment (Protection) Act was enacted in 1986 with the objective of providing for the protection and improvement of the environment. The Environment (Protection) Rules lay down procedures for setting standards of emission or discharge of environmental pollutants.

2. DISCUSSION

Environmental law is a collective term encompassing aspects of the law that provide protection to the environment. A related but distinct set of regulatory regimes, now strongly influenced by environmental legal principles, focus on the management of specific natural resources, such as forests, minerals, or fisheries.

1. Forest Policies

Forests are the most important and virtual resources for survival of all life on this planet. In the modest day's man used to look for shelter in the forest and used many resources from the forest for its survival. As we are moving towards modernization still the need of forest can't be declined earlier forest was the primary source for humans only but now it has become the primary source for industries too. So, the protection of forests has and always will be a major principal concern for human beings. In India also judiciary is well aware of the need of the forest and tried its best to maintain a balance between the need and development of humans as well as the importance of maintaining forest. The environmental act policy shown in Figure 2.

2. Indian Scenario Forest Conservation:

Society and people are getting conscious of the need to protect forests and have taken many measures towards it. These measures were often localized in different areas. When the bruisers came in India, they bought a sense of government here which was the central authority with great power and looking after some major concerns forest also became the most important concern for them and that is why the genesis of forest policies came from their era. Management of forest started with the Charter Of India Forestry by the bruisers. It was created to restrict and regulate the exploitation of forest through private individuals. Forest foreign legislation of forest was passed by bruisers in 1865, its main aim was to manage the Indian forest. This act was kept revising timely. Finally, it was revised in 1878 and then in 1927.

2.1.Aims of Policy:

- Management of forest for the general well-being of the country.
- Adequate maintenance of forest to preserve physical and climate conditions and to fulfill the requirements and needs of the people.
- These forest policies promote the importance and necessity to meet the needs of the local people.

Later on the need of the forest they were categorized according to their primary function. There were different categories like commercial products protection, minor forest and pasture lands; the Indian forest act 1927 was passed and it was the same as the aim mentioned in forest policy of 1894.

3. Forest Policy 1952:

Past independence the first forest policy came in 1952 in which the exploitation of forest was the main focus. Through the emphasis of the forest policy was on the better management of forest but side by side local needs were also kept in focus.

3.1. Objective

- Evolving the need for system balance and complementary land use.
- The need for checking semudation in mountain areas, on which the water supply of the driver system is based which provide fertility were of the country.
- Need for establishing more and more trees wherever possible for the amelioration of physical and climate conditions which promote general well-being of the people.
- Need for ensuring increasing supplies of grazing small wood for agent cultural implement.
- Need to sustain supply of timber and other forest produce required for defence communication and industry [9].

4. National Forest Policy 1988:

This policy was launched with the aim of ensuring environmental stability and maintenance of ecological balance including atmospheric equilibrium that is essential for the sustenance of all life forms.

4.1. Objective

- Maintenance and restoration of the ecological balance that has been disturbed by serious depletion of forests.
- Conservation of natural heritage and protection of flora and fauna representing the generic diversity of the country.
- Checking sort erosion and devastation in the mountains.
- Increasing forest cover through afforestation and social forestry programme.
- Increasing the forest productivity to meet the essential needs.
- Creating massive people movement including women's involvement and to minimize the pressure of population on existing forests.

5. Act to Protect Forest Area:

This act was enacted during pre-independence and its main objective was to consolidate the law related to forest and transmission of timber and other forest produce. It also focused on merging the area with forest and wildlife. Together this act established forests into three type namely Reserve Forests, Protected Forest and Village Forests.

5.1. Reserve forest:

These forests consist of an area of forest which comes under government control. These are the restrictive clog of forest.

5.2. Protected Forest:

Constituted by the state government these are different from reserved forest government have property right over these forests.

5.3. Village Forest:

These forests are assigned by the state government to any village community but its right are with the government.

Apart from these three forests there is another type of forest which is known as non-government forest. As its name suggests it covers the forest area which is not under the control of governments. Through notification the state government can prohibit the clearing of land for cultivation clearing of vegetation to protect against forms and avalanches etc.

6. Forest Conservation Act:

This act was enacted post-independence. Due to rapid decline in forest covers in the country and to fulfill constitutional obligations under articles 48-A, the parliament enacted a new legislation which is known as forest conservation act 1980. The main objective of this act was to control and indiscriminate the diversion of forest area for non-forestry use and to maintain a balance between the country's development needs and the conservation of national heritage.

This act allowed the diversion of land only for specific purposes like to meet the need of drinking water, rail wages lines, transmission lines power projects defence projects etc. but in conversion of forest land into non-forestry it was compensatory that some land should be afforested so that it will effect can be cured and wildlife can be protected. And to monitor this compensatory afforestation the authority was set up which was named as (Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority).

7. *The Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act 2006:*

This act was passed on Dec 8, 2006 by both the houses. The Lok Sabha as well as the Rajya Sabha. This act aimed at giving ownership rights of forest area to the traditional forest dwellers. In 1999 an independent ministry was established which was named as the MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS. Its objective was to deal with the rights and regulation of scheduled tribes and provide them with these rights. There are around more the 650 officially listed scheduled tribes that comprise and around 2.5 percent of this population lives in forest areas with no contact with the outer world.

The rights under this acts:

- Right to live in forest under the individual or common to occupation for livelihood.
- Right to access use or dispose of minor forest produce.
- Right of entitlements such as grazing and traditional seasonal resources access.
- This act provided the procedure for resettling people where necessary for wild life protection.

8. *The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974:*

The Water Prevention and Control of Pollution Act, 1974 (the "Water Act") has been enacted to provide for the prevention and control of water pollution and to maintain or restore wholesomeness of water in the country. It further provides for the establishment of Boards for the prevention and control of water pollution with a view to carry out the aforesaid purposes. The Water Act prohibits the discharge of pollutants into water bodies beyond a given standard, and lays down penalties for non-compliance. At the Centre, the Water Act has set up the CPCB which lays down standards for the prevention and control of water pollution. At the State level, SPCBs function under the direction of the CPCB and the State Government.

Further, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act was enacted in 1977 to provide for the levy and collection of a cess on water consumed by persons operating and carrying on certain types of industrial activities. This cess is collected with a view to augment the resources of the Central Board and the State Boards for the prevention and control of water pollution constituted under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. The Act was last amended in 2003. This was enacted by the parliament in 1986 to protect and improve the environmental quality, control and reduce pollution from all sources and prohibit or restrict the setting and/or operation of any industrial facility on environmental grounds shown in Figure 3.

3. CONCLUSION

Environmental protection has always been practiced by humans in one form or another. However, as anthropogenic pressures on the environment have escalated over the past century, the need for systematic environmental protection has increased. This has led to considerable experimentation with the domestic and international measures that are used to achieve environmental protection objectives. Some of these have been successful, but the overall picture is one of failure. Forests are the blessing of nature on us humans. These are homes to various kinds of animals and are the most important part of our livelihood. The human cannot imagine any life on our planet without these forests. It's our duty and responsibility also to recognize how important forests are for and should take proper steps and measures to tackle deforestation. Environmental protection is one of the basic prerequisites for the overall development of any country in the world. As awareness of environmental protection is developed, human awareness is also developed about the need to preserve the environment by preventing adverse impacts on nature. In future Prevent and control degradation of land, water, vegetation and air. Conserve and enhance natural and man-made heritage, including biological diversity of unique ecosystems. Improve condition and productivity of degraded areas. Raise awareness and understanding of the link between environment and development.

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