

**Post Graduate Diploma in Tourism and Environmental Law  
October- 2021-2022**

Refer to the timeline for submission date  
**Total Marks: 50**

The word limits and marks allocated to each question are mentioned after the question

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**Assignment – 1**

Q1. The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) is the United Nations agency which is responsible for the promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism.

UNWTO encourages the implementation of Global Code of Ethics for Tourism which consists of ten principles which cover the economic, social, cultural and environmental components of travel and tourism. The Article 3 which relates to ‘Tourism, a factor of sustainable development’ reads as under:

- 1. All the stakeholders in tourism development should safeguard the natural environment with a view to achieving sound, continuous and sustainable economic growth geared to satisfying equitably the needs and aspirations of present and future generations;*
- 2. All forms of tourism development that are conducive to saving rare and precious resources, in particular water and energy, as well as avoiding so far as possible waste production, should be given priority and encouraged by national, regional and local public authorities;*
- 3. The staggering in time and space of tourist and visitor flows, particularly those resulting from paid leave and school holidays, and a more even distribution of holidays should be sought so as to reduce the pressure of tourism activity on the environment and enhance its beneficial impact on the tourism industry and the local economy;*
- 4. Tourism infrastructure should be designed and tourism activities programmed in such a way as to protect the natural heritage composed of ecosystems and biodiversity and to preserve endangered species of wildlife; the stakeholders in tourism development, and especially professionals, should agree to the imposition of limitations or constraints on their activities when these are exercised in particularly sensitive areas: desert, polar or high mountain regions, coastal areas, tropical forests or wetlands, propitious to the creation of nature reserves or protected areas;*

*5. Nature tourism and ecotourism are recognized as being particularly conducive to enriching and enhancing the standing of tourism, provided they respect the natural heritage and local populations and are in keeping with the carrying capacity of the sites*

**Comment on the following:**

- a) Define tourism and discuss any five characteristics of tourism. What are the key differences between tourist and visitor?**
- b) UNWTO's Global Code of Ethics for Tourism('GCET') helps in minimizing the potentially negative impact on the environment. It is not a legally binding document but Article 10 of the Code provides for a voluntary implementation mechanism. Discuss the role of GCET's framework in promoting sustainable tourism.**

**(10 marks each, 800-1000 words each)**

Q2. Recently a mega wedding of billionaire Gupta family happened in ecologically sensitive Auli, Uttarakhand which left tons of garbage behind and raised alarming environmental concerns. The State Government supports the view that such weddings will promote the tourism in the State which would further help in generating jobs and is beneficial for the economy. However, the State Government has not made any efforts to find out the carrying capacity of Auli. The Court while hearing the petition relating to this case observed that<sup>1</sup>,

*“Auli is the only skiing destination in Uttarakhand, for sports and adventure lovers. It is also the place which holds winter games. It is necessary therefore that the Government limits its activities in “Auli” only in the field of sports and adventure tourism, and not to venture in any other activities which are not compatible with the principles of “Sustainable tourism”. The Government must remain focused in these areas. “Auli” should never be a destination for large events, the kind we have just witnessed.”*

- a) On one hand, tourism helps to generate revenue and creates employment opportunities and on the other hand, it exerts a big threat on the environment especially when it is an ecologically sensitive area. Can these two contrasting**

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<sup>1</sup> Judgment dated 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020, Rakshit Joshi vs. State of Uttarakhand, Writ Petition (PIL) No. 74 of 2019, High Court of Uttarakhand.

dynamics be reconciled? Express your views on what measures can be taken by the Government in addressing the negative impact of tourism on the environment, keeping in mind the growing consensus that sustainable tourism is possible.

b) The World Tourism Organisation defines the term ‘carrying capacity’ as:

*“The maximum number of people that may visit a tourist destination at the same time, without causing destruction of the physical, economic, socio-cultural environment and an unacceptable decrease in the quality of visitors' satisfaction.”*

Comment on how the approach of carrying capacity helps in sustainable tourism. Discuss what kind of measures, the Government can resort to allow tourism in the most planned manner.

(10 marks each, 800-1000 words each)

**Q3. Write short notes on the following:**

- a) Medical and Wellness tourism in India.
- b) How does ‘Adopt a Heritage: ApniDharohar, ApniPehchaan’ project recently launched by Ministry of Tourism helps in promoting heritage tourism.

(5 marks each, 300-500 words each)