

**Post Graduate Diploma in Environmental Law and Policy**  
**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 right to a healthy environment is the product of judicial interpretations adding new dimensions to the right of life in art 21 of the Constitution of India. On the other hand, the forty-second amendment to the Constitution had imposed a duty on the state and the citizens to protect and improve the environment, by adding art 48A to the directive principles and art 51A(g) as a fundamental duty. These insertions in the Constitution have acted as the foundations for building up environmental jurisprudence in the country<sup>1</sup>.”*

**Briefly discuss the constitutional provisions protecting the environment.**

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

Q2. The generation of solid waste in India on a daily basis is a huge number, however, the rules governing the solid waste management still remains non-satisfactory. Similarly, when it comes to protection of wetlands, though the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has issued new rules in 2017, not much effort has been taken to upgrade their protection.

Recently, an application was filed before the National Green Tribunal (‘NGT’) on dumping of solid waste in WullarLake, Baramulla district situated in Jammu and Kashmir. The petitioner submitted before the Tribunal that it amounts to blatant violation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017. The case is ongoing and the matter would be heard next towards the end of this year.

- a) **The Solid Waste Management, Rules, 2016 replaces the earlier Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000. Do you think the new Rules are robust or have diluted the earlier Rules? Comment.**
  
- b) **The Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 replaces the earlier Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010. Do you think the new Rules are robust or have diluted the earlier Rules? Comment.**

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

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<sup>1</sup> P Leelakrishnan, Environmental Law in India, LexisNexis, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 2008, at 237.

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

- a) **Briefly discuss on the effectiveness of 'Carbon Offsetting'.**
- b) **In 2015, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted along with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets. The SDGs represent a concerted global effort in acknowledging the central role of environment in the socioeconomic development.**

**Discuss the effectiveness of SDGs in rendering protection to environment at international and national level.**

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