



Post Graduate Diploma in Environmental Law and Policy
October 2021-2022

Last date of Submission 24th August, 2022

Total Marks: 50

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

Course 5: National Environmental Law and Policy-II

Assignment 5

Question 1:

India is transitioning towards cleaner sources of energy in order to achieve their COP26 targets. Renewables like solar are to play a major role in the said transition.

- a) The lifespan of solar panels is 20-25 years. However, presently, India does not have any policy in place to manage the inevitable waste.

The NGT took *suo moto* cognizance due to article published in Down to Earth dated 13 January 2022 titled “*Time's Running Out: Is India Ready to Handle 34600 Tonnes of Solar Waste by 2030*” [Original Application No. 112/2022] and formed a joint committee to formulate an action plan.

Discuss the possible policy actions that India may undertake to tackle this waste conundrum.

(15 marks, 1000-1200 words)

- b) The number of projects for utility-scale solar power plants are increasing in the country. However, in lieu of a clarification given by MoEFCC, the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 (“EIA”) is not applicable to Solar PV Projects.

Giving reasons, critically analyse whether there is a need for prior EIA for solar power projects.

(15 marks, 1000-1200 words)



Question 2:

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) '*Global Trends Report, 2021*', there were 23.7 million new internal displacements globally due to disasters, of which, India accounted for 4.9 million alone. According to the World Bank's Groundswell report, climate change could force 216 million people to be internally displaced by 2050.

In light of the above, answer the following questions:

- a) What is the difference between a displaced person, an internally displaced person and a refugee under international law?

(5 marks, 500-800 words)

- b) What is the meaning of 'climate induced displacement'? Giving reasons, is there such a thing as a 'climate refugee' under international law?

(5 marks, 500-800 words)

- c) What is planned relocation in the context of climate change? Citing examples, discuss the need for a planned relocation legislation/policy/guideline in India.

(10 marks, 800-1000 words)