



Post Graduate Diploma in Urban Environmental Management and Law
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: Urban Development and Environment Protection Mechanisms

Assignment 5

Question 1:

On 31st May, 2022, the NGT in *University of Delhi v. MoEFCC [Appeal No. 17/2021]* disposed of an appeal filed against an Environment Clearance under EIA granted to M.I. Builders for a group housing project in Delhi.

While critically analysing the judgement, discuss the various drawbacks of the manner in which the EIA process was conducted.

NGT Judgement:

https://greentribunal.gov.in/gen_pdf_test.php?filepath=L25ndF9kb2N1bWVudHMvbmd0L2Nhc2Vkb2MvanVkZ2VtZW50cy9ERUxISS8yMDIyLTA1LTMxLzE2NTM5OTE5ODMxNzI5NDg3MDc0NjI5NWVhMmZjZDA1Mi5wZGY=

(15 marks, 1000-1200 words)

Question 2:

The UNEP Report titled ‘*Smart, Sustainable and Resilient cities: The Power of Nature-based Solutions*’ discusses the importance of Nature-based Solutions (“**NbS**”) in urban development.

“Cities need to move away from business-as-usual urban planning and move towards urban design that is nature-sensitive.”

In light of the above report, answer the following questions:

- What is NbS? What are its benefits and drawbacks? So far, what have been the barriers to the growth of NbS?



- b) While assuming you have been given the responsibility, suggest how you will promote and implement NbS in your city?

UNEP Report:

<https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/36586/SSRC.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

(10 marks each, 800-1000 words)

Question 3:

“There are 16 planning agencies and 43 utilities in Mumbai. Even constructing a footpath is a challenge.” - Aaditya Thackeray at the international conference on ‘Climate Crisis 2.0 – Mobilizing Finance for Coastal Cities’. As a solution, he proposed a Single Planning Authority under a Mayor who is elected through a democratic process.

Critically analyse the pros and cons of such a move to decentralise to a single planning authority under an elected mayor in Mumbai while taking into consideration its effectiveness in cities such as London, Tokyo and New York. Also, do you foresee a positive or negative impact on the environment from such a move?

(15 marks, 1000-1200 words)