



Environmental Protection and Wildlife Acts

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ABSTRACT: *Environmental protection is the activity of people, organisations, and governments to safeguard the natural environment. Their aim is conservation and repair of harm and the reversal trend as far as feasible of natural resources and the existing natural environment. This Act deals with all types of air, water, soil and noise contamination pollutants. It ensures also that safe norms that prevent the use of dangerous materials are implemented. This paper initially begins with discussing the Environment (Protection) Acts. The main aim of introducing this Act into our legislative system, is to provide protection to the environment, and improving the same as much as possible, in order to provide a safe and secure environment to the society. The other major motive of this Act is to protect and prevent the environment from the hazardous activities of human beings and other living creatures; animals and properties on the earth. This paper then concludes while discussing the policies related to forest, as they are the most important and virtual resources for survival of all life on this planet. Hence, protecting and saving the forest and its resources should be a major point of concern nowadays, where the Environment (Protection) Act came into existence.*

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

INTRODUCTION

Forest is an ecosystem where flora and fauna or animals interrelate with each other and with physical world. Every country differs in their forest covers [1], [2]. 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 a 7th largest country in the world which occupies 2.4 % of total world areas [3]. Our country has only 1.8 percent of forest cover. Much has been done to enhance forest cover via replanting, largely carried out under the planning authority's compensatory afforestation management, however India's forest situation is still very devastating [4], [5].

There is a policy of having 33 % areas of the country should be forest and it 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. Our country's population is growing extremely quickly, and because of that, unlawful actions such as the preaching of illegal logging of forest land, over exploitation and exploration, adds only to the harm caused by the forest [6], [7]. The proper and systematic management for forest initiated in the 19th century. India's first policy related to forest enunciated in 1894 and its main focus was on commercial mistreatment of ligneous and it gave prominence to perpetual 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 $1\frac{1}{3}$ area of country under forest and tree cover [8].

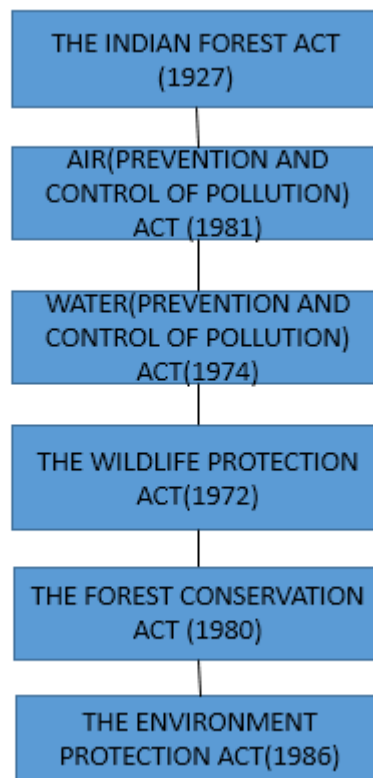


Figure 1: Six laws related to environmental protection and wildlife which are modifying to help more secure environment and wildlife.

Protection of the environment is one of the essential conditions for any country in the world's overall development. As environmental consciousness is grown, human awareness of the need to maintain the environment via the prevention of negative effects on nature is also created. To safeguard the environment by recycling the use of power; to make better transport choices; to reduce the consumption of electricity; to buy local products; to donate to conservation organizations.

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 Scheduled Tribe & Other Traditional Forests Dweller Act 2006. This paper helps to understand the environment and also helps to understand the environmental acts. In 1986, the Environment (Protection) Act was enacted to ensure environmental protection and enhancement. The Environment Rules give forth processes for establishing environmental emission or release criteria.

DISCUSSION

Environmental legislation is a collective phrase which includes environmental protection components of the law. The administration of certain natural resources, such as forests, minerals or fisheries, is a similar but separate group of regulatory regimes which are currently affected by environmental law concepts.

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 [9], [10]. 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.

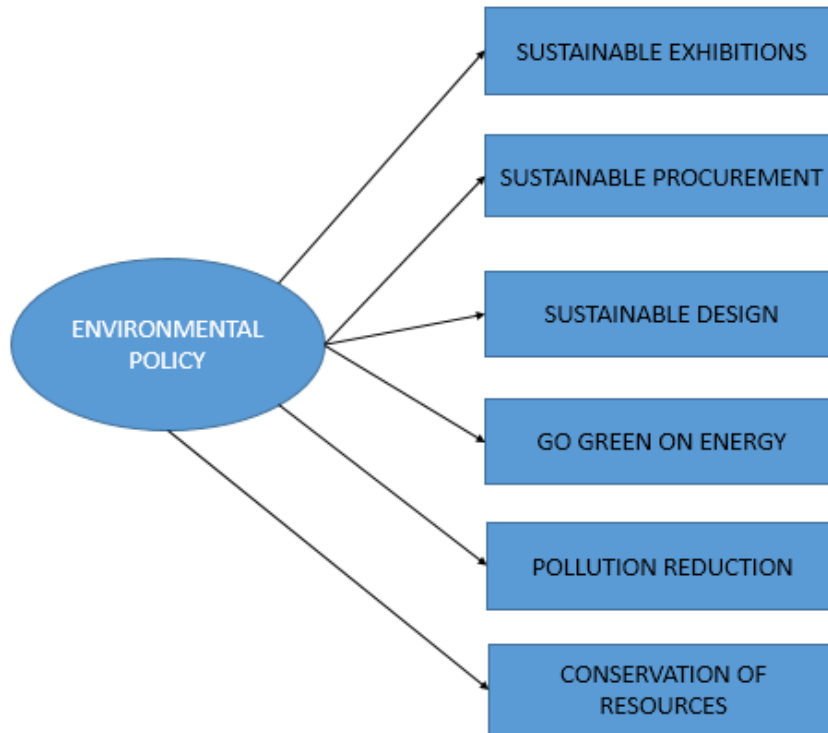


Figure 2: The above diagram shows the environmental policy which are divided into (i) Sustainable Exhibitions, (ii) Sustainable Procurement, (iii) Sustainable Design, (iv) Go Green on Energy, (v) Pollution Reduction, and (vi) Conservation of Resources.

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 British came in India, they brought 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 British [11]. It was created to restrict and regulate the exploitation of forest through private individuals. Forest foreign legislation of forest was passed by British 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 lands uses.
- The required for checking sedimentation in mountain areas, on which water stream of the driver systems is based which provide fertility were of the country.
- Need to establish more and more trees to improve physical and climatic circumstances that support general human well-being wherever possible.
- Need to ensure increased supply of tiny wood grass to cultural agents.
- The need to preserve wood and other forest products necessary for defence and industrial communication [12].

4. *National Forest Policy 1988:*

It is a policy that aims to guarantee environmental stability and maintain ecological balance, particularly atmospheric balance, important to the sustainability of all forms of life.

4.1 *Objective*

- The ecological equilibrium which was disrupted by severe forest loss is maintained and restored.
- Natural heritage preservation and flora and wildlife protection that symbolise the country's widespread variety.
- Checking soil 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 compression of populations on existing forests.

5. *Act to Protect Forest Area:*

This act was ratified throughout pre-independence and its main objective was to combine the law related to forest and transmission of timber and other forest harvest. 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 forest are assigned by state government to any village community but its right are with the government. Apart from these three forests there is other type of forest which is known as the 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 failure in forest cover in the country and to accomplish constitutional obligations under articles 48-A, the parliament enacted a modern legislation which is known as forest conservation act 1980. The principal goal of this Act was the regulation and indiscrimination of forest divestment for non-forestry use and the preservation of national heritage.

This act allowed the diversion of lands only for specific purposes like to meets 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 Another Traditional Forest and Scheduled Tribe Dwellers Act 2006:

This act was passed on Dec 8, 2006 by both the houses. This act aimed at generous ownership rights of forest area to the traditional forests 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 under the individual or to dwell in the wild.
- Right to access or disposal of small forest products.
- Right of entitlements such as the grazing and the traditional seasonal resources access.
- This act provided the procedure for relocating peoples where essential for wild life protections.

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

In order to provide for the prevention and control of water pollution and the preservation or restoration of the health of water in the country, the 1974 Water Prevention and control Act (The Water Act) has been introduced. It also provides for the development of water pollution prevention and control boards for the objectives described above. In addition to a specific requirement, the Water Act bans the release of contaminants to waterways and lays forth consequences for non-conformity. The Water Act has established the CPCB at the Centre, which sets the criteria for water pollution prevention and control. SPCBs operate under the leadership of the CPCB and the government in the Member States.

In 1977 the Cess Act for the levied and collection of cessation on water consumption by those who work and do certain sorts of industrial activities was also introduced. The Act was adopted in 1977. This cease-fire is collected with a view to increasing the resources for the prevention and control of water contamination set up by the Central Board and the State Boards under the 1974

Water (Pollution Prevention and Control Act) Act. It was adopted by Parliament in 1986 to preserve and enhance the environment, control and minimise pollution from all sources, and to ban or limit the establishment and/or operation for environmental reasons of any industrial facility as illustrated in Figure 3.

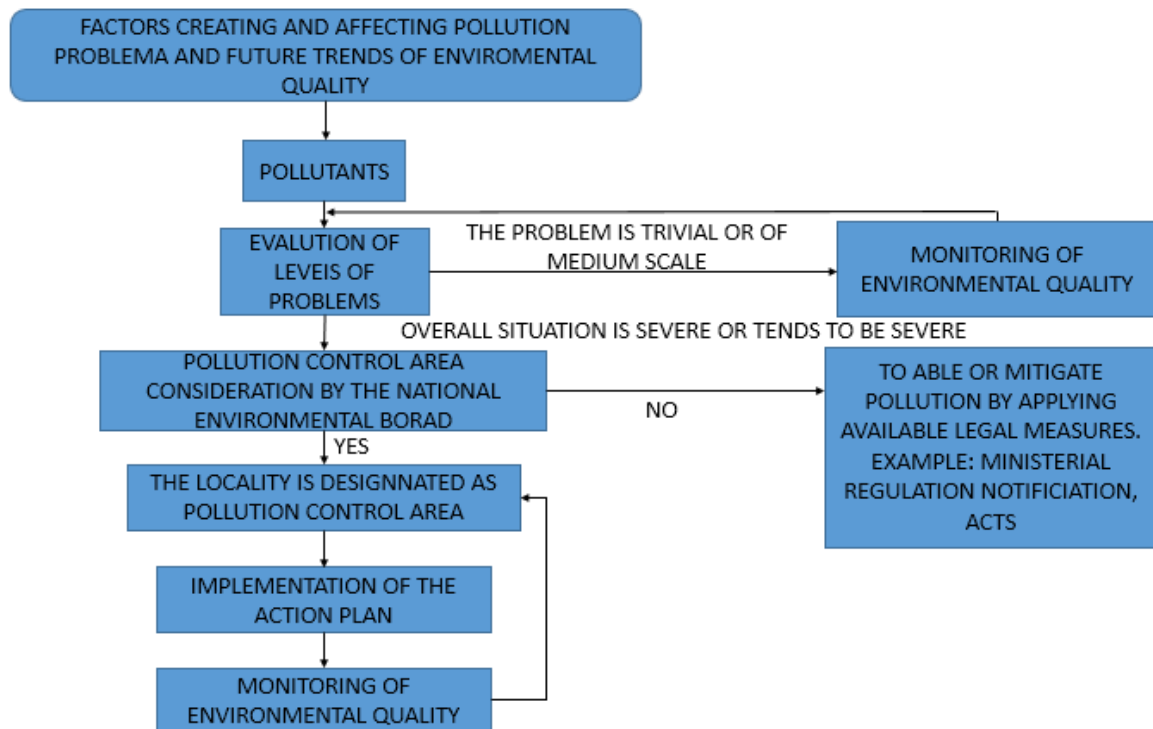


Figure 3: The Environmental Act by Improving and Protecting the Environmental Quality.

CONCLUSION

Human beings have long undertaken environmental conservation in one manner or another. Nevertheless, the necessity for comprehensive environmental preservation is increasing as anthropogenic pressures have grown in the last century. This led to extensive experiments with local and international actions for achieving environmental protection goals. Some have succeeded, yet the overall image 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. Protection of the environment is one of the essential conditions for any country in the world's overall development. As environmental consciousness is grown, human awareness of the need to maintain the environment via the prevention of negative effects on nature is also created. For the future Degradation of soil, water, vegetation and air prevents and controls them. Preserve and strengthen the natural and man-made legacy of distinct ecosystems, including biological diversity. Improve deteriorated regions' condition and production. Sensitive and comprehend the relationship between environment and development.

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