



Kristu Jayanti College

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DE FACTO

ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE



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ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE



Department of Political Science
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ABOUT THE INSTITUTION

Kristu Jayanti College, founded in 1999, is managed by "BODHI NIKETAN TRUST", formed by the members of St. Joseph Province of the Carmelites of Mary Immaculate (CMI). The College is affiliated to Bengaluru North University and is reaccredited with grade 'A++' in 2021 by NAAC in the Third Cycle of Accreditation. The college is recognized by UGC under the category 2(f) & 12(B). The College has been accorded Autonomous Status since 2013 by the University Grants Commission, the Government of Karnataka & Bangalore University. In the NIRF 2022 rankings, the college was placed among the top 150 colleges in the country and ranks as one of the five colleges from Karnataka. The institution strives to fulfill its mission to provide educational opportunities for all aspiring young people to excel in life by developing academic excellence, fostering values, creating civic responsibility, inculcating environmental concern and building global competencies in a dynamic environment

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

Established in the year 2006, the Department of Political Science provides a comprehensive program of instruction and research in the fundamental areas of the discipline: political institutions and processes; the origins, development and transformation of theory and concepts; understanding different approaches to political analysis; political philosophy; social theory; political economy, public administration, its principles, International relations, approaches to world politics and peace. As a community of students, faculty and staff, the Department of Political Science is committed to academic freedom, equal access to education and collegial self-governance through experiential learning. The method of teaching is sanctioned by the ICT enabled techniques with emphasis upon class interaction and there is a continuous evaluation incorporating the surprise class tests and pragmatic assignments. Our ultimate aim is to enable our diverse student body, to be an ideal citizen and to become successful professionals' in the future social, political and academic life of their home countries.

From the Principal's Desk

“DE-FACTO” is an annual magazine published by the Department of Political Science to inculcate students’ awareness of critical global and national issues. This year’s edition, titled, “Environmental Governance”, turns its lens towards one of the most pressing concerns of our time. In a world which is in battle with the consequences of industrialization



*Fr. Dr. Augustine George
Principal,
Kristu Jayanti College*

and consumerism, good environmental governance is no longer an option but a necessity.

Effective environmental governance is built on transparency, accountability, community participation, and long-term planning. It is not just about saving trees or cutting off emissions but about redefining our relationship with the planet.

I compliment the Department of Political Science for selecting a theme as important as this and also for conducting different webinars and events for our students that provide them with a wealth of knowledge and opportunities. I offer my warm congratulations and best wishes to the editorial team, faculty and students involved for producing such excellent work. Your dedication to intellectual excellence and the environment is commendable.

Message from Vice Principal

With great pleasure and pride, I take part in this year's Political Science Newsletter "DE-FACTO", focusing on the theme of "Environmental Governance". This magazine offers diverse perspectives and a thorough understanding of the theme and its current policy implementations. Greater support and encouragement in learning about environmental governance will contribute to holistic approaches both at the citizen as well as governmental level. This edition of the Newsletter explores human interaction with the environment aiming for sustainable development. We are working to not only protect ecosystems through strengthening environmental governance but also focusing on promoting social equity and economic resilience.

I sincerely commend the Department of Political Science for choosing such a vital theme. I also extend my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the editorial team, faculty and students who worked tirelessly in publishing this Newsletter.



*Fr . Lijo Thomas
Vice Principal and CFO
Kristu Jayanti College*

From the Dean

It is with immense pride and sense of responsibility that I extend my message for this publication. I am very much pleased to witness the commendable efforts of the students of the Department of Political Science, who put together a new edition of DE-FACTO, focusing on the theme, "Environmental Governance." This magazine serves as an important platform for the students to explore and critically engage with the pressing issues of our time, especially the urgent need for sustainable environmental practices and effective governance structures. Through their contributions, students not only are voicing their insights but also re-affirming their commitment to a future that balances development with ecological sustenance.

Furthermore, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all those who have contributed to this edition and also express my heartfelt appreciation to the editorial heads, Ms. Aqsa Sharieff and Mr. Ribin Thomas and their team, the Club Coordinator, Prof. Anjali Bajaj and all the other faculty members and the ever creative team for their laudable efforts in putting together such an excellent work. Let this edition inspire more minds to take conscious steps towards protecting our planet.



*Dr. Gopakumar A.V
Dean,
Faculty of Humanities*

From Head of the Department

As the Head of Department of Political Science, it is my pleasure to introduce this edition of "De-Facto," the newsletter of our department. "De-Facto" which serves as an important forum for sharing different insights, research and views on the ever-changing world of politics, presents to you a variety of articles, analysis, field visits and practical exposure and updates covering the extent and depth of expertise in our department.

From inspiring guest lectures and thought-provoking seminars to effective student research projects and vibrant departmental events, every experience plays an integral part in creating an enriched learning environment that enables our students to become active and informed citizens.

We believe that these activities are important in providing a well-rounded education, which prepares our students with the tools and information they need to face the challenges and opportunities of the future. I invite you to discover the wide variety of activities featured in this newsletter, and to join us in our appreciation of the rich intellectual life of our department.



Dr. Kaveri Swami
***Head, Department of Social
Sciences and Languages***

Note from the Faculty Club Coordinator

"Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, working together is success."

I am thrilled to be a part of the of the newsletter -

"DE-FACTO" – by our UG BA students, who have instilled enormous effort and strived for the best outcome of the newsletter. The passion, keenness and commitment of the students is appreciable and it is reflected in the magazine which they have prepared working tirelessly.

Exemplary job by the editorial team, designing team and other students who directly or indirectly have contributed resulting in such a great outcome of the magazine.

Kudos to you endeavours.



Ms Anjali Bajaj
***Faculty Coordinator Political
Science Club***

MESSAGE FROM THE STUDENT CLUB COORDINATORS

The Coordinators of the Political Science department are excited to announce the 6th edition of “Defacto” which revolves around the theme of “environmental governance”.

The magazine consists of several articles, poems, facts and other works that inform the readers on the contemporary relevance of environmental governance. It throws light on numerous environmental hazards and simultaneously emphasises the need to improve, protect and conserve fauna and flora.

Environmental governance refers to collective measures that are undertaken to reduce environmental damage while simultaneously working for the creation of a better, hospitable, healthier and sustainable ecosystem.

The process of compiling this magazine was an enriching experience for us. The magazine covers a wide range of topics pertaining to the theme “Environmental Governance” which are thought provoking, mesmerising and engaging to the readers. The diverse ways in which the theme is approached through this magazine makes it a unique one. We express our heartfelt appreciation to all the students who have contributed their work for the making of this magazine as well as the editing team, designing team and all the magazine committee members for their hard-work and sincere dedication which led to the culmination of this magazine. Your efforts have made this magazine worth reading and we are truly appreciative of all the help you have rendered.

We encourage the readers to join us on the journey of thinking, analysing, exploring and reflecting on the theme environmental governance through this magazine. Let us understand, learn, grow and develop into responsible and active citizens, significantly contributing to the nations progress.



Babita H, III BA HSPS
Monesh Babu, III BA PSSO

EDITOR'S NOTE

Environmental governance is a concept that is highly relevant in present times, with major environmental challenges that the world is currently facing. Many global institutions have taken up efforts to formulate effective policies and strategies to address the present challenges as well as prevent future environmental problems. The dependence of humans on nature emphasizes the importance of sustainable development, in order for the continual progress of humanity.



Aqsa Mariam Sharieff, III BA PSSO
Ribin Thomas, II BA PSSO

Environmental governance is essential as it promotes key decision making, effective policy formulation and implementation, stakeholder participation and overall development. It also helps in overcoming environmental concerns such as pollution, climate change, biodiversity loss, extinction, excess resource extraction and consumption etc. Globalization has fostered connectivity between countries across the globe, utmost advantage should be taken of this to ensure sustainable growth and development in world economy and society. It is known that single handedly no nation can bring about great change, hence collective global environmental governance can assure that the future generations shall have sufficient resources and opportunities, living in a clean and healthy environment.

As editors through this magazine, we aim to explore several aspects of environmental governance and the way in which different nations have significantly taken measures to address environmental challenges, progressing towards a more sustainable and eco-friendlier world.



VOX POPULI

Curated by -
Junia Anna John II BA PSSO
Javeriya Khan III BA HSPS



Transparent, accountable, and inclusive decision-making procedures that put the needs and welfare of the populace first are all components of good governance. In the end, good governance improves everyone's quality of life by promoting stability, prosperity, and trust.

FR. JOSH Y MATHEW

DIRECTOR, LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CENTRE

DIRECTOR, HR DEPARTMENT

HEAD, DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Environmental governance is no longer a choice but a necessity. It can be successfully implemented if sustainable and wise practices that conserve the environment are included in our curriculum and education system.

DR. CALISTUS JUDE A.L.
DEAN, FACULTY OF SCIENCES



Biodiversity is one of the most valuable resources. The diversity of species is essential for a healthy and functioning ecosystem, as it provides clean air and nutritious food for people.

MR. JERRIN JOSE
COORDINATOR (UG)
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH





*Environmental governance is key.
For a cleaner world, it's plain to see.
With laws and policies that guide the way,
We can protect the earth each day.*

*"Take a stand, make it clear,
A greener future starts right here."
Through shared efforts, we will find,
A healthier planet for all mankind.*

*"Act today, don't wait too long,
Together, we can right the wrong."
By working in unity, we can rise,
And restore nature's beautiful skies.*

MR.SOMASUNDARAM THIRUNAVUKKARASU
DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT

*Sustainable development integrates ecology with
one's life direction and economic development while
ensuring a world where fairness exists socially or in
regards to the economy, energy needs, and
biodiversity, isampas as above.*

DR.ASHWINI BARLA
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY



*The notion that we must save the world is sheer
arrogance on our part. It is we who will need to
be saved, for if we do not act swiftly, we will
surely perish. The Earth will retaliate, and in
doing so, our species may well be gone.*

DR.DEEPMALE SUTAR
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY





Strong environmental governance begins with vision but thrives on action. Transparent policies, community engagement, and sustainable innovations are the pillars of lasting change. A greener future is not just a goal—it's a responsibility we shape today.

PROF. MARY SANJANA JOSEPH
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Environmental governance exemplifies the international framework for regulating non-traditional securities and promoting functionalism across national boundaries. This governance system establishes the legal and ethical parameters necessary for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

DR.SHRESHTA CHOWDHURY
KRISTU JAYANTI COLLEGE OF LAW



Environmental governance is a self driven policy and practice advocating on decision making process which aims at conservation and preservation of our own natural surroundings from various forms of pollution and ecosystem's deterioration.

DR.MANISHA SEAL
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT





As a student of political science ,I firmly believe that environmental governance is crucial for striking a balance between development and responsibilities. In context to India, the government has taken significant steps for promoting sustainability.

VERKHA THAPA
I YEAR HPS

Policies that provide a way to guide businesses and industries to use natural resources responsibly must be a part of environmental governance. A strong nation for a strong future is the result of strong environmental governance.

GEOFFREY
II YEAR JOPS



Environmental governance is a requisite mechanism to lead a sustainable life.

It is the process that delivers the actions and knowledge for the betterment of the environment as well as human well-being.

CHRISTY
III YEAR HSPS





Environmental governance is like a game—only the game is survival, and we are all playing, whether we subscribed or not. So, it is everyone's responsibility, it is the balance of law, action, and responsibility for the planet.

SHANESSA
III YEAR PSSO

For me, Environmental governance is deeply personal. It's about taking care of the world, recognizing the justice-environmental nexus, and especially considering impacts on marginalized groups.

A PRIYADHARSHINI
ALUMNI



Being an advocate of sustainable development, I firmly believe that environmental governance plays a vital role in balancing accountability and development. It's not about legislations and laws but a common attitude where governments, companies, and people share the responsibility for the future of our planet.

LOHIT CHAPAGAIN
ALUMNI





ARTICLES & POEMS

THE ROLE OF CITIZENS IN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IN INDIA

Citizens are the roots and the foundation of a country, as they play a pivotal role in the shaping and strengthening of a country. India, being the largest democratic country in the world, where power is vested in the hands of the people, requires the support and participation of the people, in order to function effectively. Moreover, the involvement of the citizens is essential whether it is in the social, economic or political process as they contribute to the functioning and development of the country. Citizens can also contribute to environmental conservation through various means such as engaging in community-based initiatives, public awareness campaigns and advocacy for policy changes.

India as a country with diverse culture and rich natural heritage, is also experiencing several issues and challenges regarding its environment where several implementations have to be done to address these complications and issues. The role of the citizens, the community, the society and the government including the non-governmental organisations are very important as they have to join hands and work together for the protection of the environment and for the betterment of the society.



The management and protection of the environment can't be done by an individual alone but only through teamwork and strength of the people as a whole. Being a citizen of India, comes with several rights and privileges they are also tasked with the responsibility of taking care of the environment by holding accountabilities in such cases.

One of the most important roles of the citizens is to participate in the societal and political structure and processes, where public awareness and education can be given to the people regarding environmental issues and challenges. Also, through community engagements and interactions, citizens can work together and implement policies for the development and management of the environment, NGOs could also play an important role by working with small communities who advocate for the protection of the environment and surrounding nature.

Pollution, deforestation and water scarcity may be some of the major challenges that India faces subsequently several changes and effective implementations have to be taken to save the environment and preserve the surrounding for our future generations. Like previously, NGOs could again play an important role as they work with the marginalised communities and educate the people providing them with certain awareness about the importance of managing and caring for the environment so as to protect ourselves and our own homes.

With technological advancements and development, the number of vehicles emitting toxic substances are also Increasing day by day, which is very harmful not only for human beings but also for the environment as it can result in a negative impact due to the direct and indirect exposures, it is the duty of the citizens to come up with certain solutions to safeguard the environment of the country. These can be done by creating public awareness among the people by educating them and guiding them.

Effective environmental management can create jobs and stimulate local economies through eco-tourism, sustainable agriculture and renewable energy.

It can also help in preserving cultural heritage sites, protecting historical and spiritual places for our future generations. Furthermore, the management of the environment promotes community engagement, education and awareness by inspiring individuals to take effective action in protecting the environment, The Government of India has also launched several initiatives to promote citizen participation in environmental management. Some notable examples include:

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC): Has launched several initiatives to promote citizen participation in environmental conservation, including the National Environment Policy (NEP) 2006.
- The National Environment Policy (NEP) 2006: It emphasizes on the importance of public participation in environmental decision-making and promotes community-led initiatives for environmental conservation.

In conclusion, environmental management is essential for maintaining ecological balance, by ensuring human health and well-being, promoting economic benefits and even reducing the risks of disasters as well as the participation of citizens as they play a crucial role in the management of the environment. By engaging citizens in environmental decision-making, we can bring their insights and knowledge leading to a more informed and effective environmental policies. It is highly essential that we prioritize the participation of citizens in environmental management to ensure a sustainable future for all.

Vanlalhruaii Bawitlung
III Year BA PSSO



DID YOU KNOW ?



The first major international conference was the Stockholm Conference on the environment which held in 1972.

ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE IN THE 21ST CENTURY: POLICIES AND STRATEGIC RESPONSES

“Effective environmental governance requires polycentric systems, where multiple governing bodies interact to manage shared resources at multiple scales.”

- Elinor Ostrom

In the 21st century, as environmental degradation is speeding up due to resource exploitation, industrialisation and urbanisation, the need for an effective governance mechanism to protect ecological systems has increased. As the world struggles with pollution, resource depletion, and climate change, the role of policy responses in fostering sustainability has come into sharper focus. Various governments, international organisations, non-governmental organisations are developing policies to mitigate these challenges and promote sustainable practices. For example: - Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE) is a non-profit organisation located in Bangalore that works towards environmental issues like biodiversity and conservation, climate change mitigation and development, land and water resources, ecosystem services and human well-being.

Greenpeace India is one of the best Indian environmental NGOs with a global reach of over 55 nations. It is a branch of the environmental organization. Greenpeace in several continents, including Europe, Asia, the Pacific and America.

Some of the policy responses include:

Market based mechanisms means harnessing the power of economic incentives to drive environmentally friendly behaviour. For example: Carbon Pricing curbs greenhouse gas emissions by placing a fee on emitting and/or offering an incentive for emitting less. The price signal created shifts consumption and investment patterns, making economic development compatible with climate protection.



This approach encourages industries to reduce emissions and adopt cleaner technologies by passing a monetary value on environmentally friendly goods. Command and control approaches is with regard to specific regulations and standards that companies must adhere to regardless of economic considerations both approaches have their own set of merits and challenges, effectiveness of each depends on factors such as industry structure, political will, and enforcement structure.

Additional strategic approaches to environmental governance include: One important tactic is decentralized governance, where participation at the local level, through forest user groups and watershed committees—allow communities to manage natural resources in a more sustainable and responsive manner.

Monitoring and enforcement strategies have also changed as a result of technological advancements. Monitoring is made easier by technology, such as satellites, artificial intelligence (AI), and the use of geographic information systems (GIS), improves compliance and allows for real-time environmental change monitoring. Furthermore, a significant amount of capital has been directed towards sustainable projects as a result of the expansion of green finance and investment, particularly through ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) frameworks and green bonds. The expansion of public-private partnerships (PPPs), which encourage cooperative projects in areas like waste management, afforestation, and clean energy development, is another well-known tactic. Promoting environmental education at all levels creates a culture of environmental stewardship by integrating sustainability into school curricula and implementing community awareness initiatives.

Last but not least, maintaining accountability and ensuring environmental justice are aided by the strengthening of legal systems through the establishment of organizations like environmental courts or green tribunals as well as the application of harsher sanctions. Together, these actions provide a flexible and adaptable strategy for dealing with the ever-evolving complexities of environmental governance.

Environmental governance is a pillar to attain ecological sustainability in a world that is increasingly complex and interconnected. As the environmental problems become more pressing—spanning from climate change and loss of biodiversity to pollution and resource degradation—governance structures must transform to become more inclusive, responsive, and science-based. Good environmental governance is no longer the exclusive domain of governments; it needs to be a collective effort by international institutions, civil society, private sector, indigenous peoples, and individual citizens. Institutional capacity building, legal accountability, environmental literacy, and technological innovation are essential to making governance systems more resilient and responsive. Furthermore, mainstreaming environmental concerns into economic and social policy is crucial to break away from short-term solutions towards long-term sustainability. In the end, the success of environmental governance not only relies on the quality of institutions and policies but also on the values and decisions of individuals. A more sustainable, equitable future depends on our capacity to govern the environment wisely, fairly, and in a collective manner.

Kanish Das
III Year BA HSPS



M.C. MEHTA VS. UNION OF INDIA (1986): A LANDMARK IN ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

Environmental governance in India has changed a lot, and judicial interventions have played a key role in shaping policies and regulations. M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India (1986) is one of the leading cases that brought about this change, which followed the Oleum gas leak at Shriram Food and Fertilizer Industry in Delhi. In addition to exposing how hazardous industries are, this case redefined corporate accountability relating to environmental matters.

By setting a precedent for stricter industrial regulations, stronger environmental laws, and enhanced public participation, this case remains a cornerstone of India's environmental jurisprudence. It underscores the critical role of the judiciary in balancing economic growth with environmental sustainability, making it one of the most significant rulings in the country's legal history. The Supreme Court's decision brought the Absolute Liability Principle, making sure that industries handling hazardous substances were held strictly responsible for any damage caused without exception.



This ruling marked a turning point in the Indian legal attitude towards the protection of the environment which led to the enactment of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 and strengthened judicial activism through Public Interest Litigations (PILs). This case had significant impact on legal reforms which led to the Environment Protection Act, of 1986. It played a pivotal role in shaping environmental legislation in India. The Supreme Court's intervention emphasized the need for a comprehensive legal framework to address environmental degradation. This case, among others, led to the enactment of the Environment Protection Act, of 1986, which granted the central government broad powers to regulate industrial pollution, set environmental quality standards, and impose penalties for non-compliance. The Act also empowered authorities to shut down hazardous industries, making it one of the most significant legislative steps in India's environmental governance.

The case M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India provided one more instance of how judicial activism can be applied to enforce environmental protection. As a result of widening the scope of Public Interest Litigations (PILs), the Supreme Court facilitated access for citizens and environmentalists to take legal action against breaches of environmental law.

PILs have been instrumental in obtaining landmark decisions, for instance the Taj Trapezium Case which imposed restrictions on industries that were deemed to be polluting near the Taj Mahal as well as the Ganga Pollution Case which advocated for the cleaning of Ganges.

The M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India case decided in 1986, forms the foundation of environmental law in India, as it tries to maintain equilibrium between industrial development and the protection of public health and safety. The Supreme Court's introduction of the Absolute Liability Principle marked a judicial turning point in litigation for the environment, it ensured blanket corporate culpability for ecological harm and liability defaults. This decision further harnessed the power of courts in terms of addressing ecological issues and exemplified the extent of judicial power that can be exercised to initiate laws, control systems, and fortify governance frameworks.

Jha Ayush Ashok
III Year HSPS



EARTH'S GUARDIANS

*Our watchful, cautious gaze,
the trees sigh and the rivers whisper.
The whirling winds, weeping skies,
Relate the vows we have to keep.
Laws have been written for centuries,
yet the book of nature has not been penned.*

*Programs and policies are made, but do they hear the cries of the hurt?
Governance is a loose thread that tethers green to tomorrow.
Forceful deeds that heal and instruct, not empty speech.
Hold the land, preserve the seas, and let wisdom lead and not
momentary comfort.*

*Because our history will be left with those future generations,
who will decide if we've made it last.
The world is a trust, and not ours to possess, and it holds more than a
name.
So let us lead carefully and graciously,
To defend, restore—our holy place*

JUNIA ANNA JOHN
II YEAR PSSO



WILL ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE REWRITE OUR PLANET'S FATE?

Environmental governance has emerged as a crucial tool in humanity's efforts to address climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation. As we face a moment of ecological crisis and opportunity, we ask, can environmental governance really rewrite the future of life on our planet? This article examines the state of global environmental governance, its challenges, successes and transformative potential, drawing on rigorous data-based analysis from recent reports and studies.

The Current State of Environmental Governance: Progress Amidst Challenges

In a report on international environmental governance presented to the IISD in 2023, several different conclusions were drawn in particular areas such as chemical management and marine life which are demonstrating some improvements but continued systemic problems remain.

Chemicals Management - The Global Framework on Chemicals was adopted. The Global Framework on Chemicals will replace the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and focus on increasing safety and transparency in chemical use.

Marine Life- While general efforts to protect areas outside national jurisdiction have gained international momentum, implementation has proven difficult due to insufficient political support and funding.



Despite these improvements, we remain stagnant on many high-level issues, such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Around the halfway point of the 2030 Agenda, various stocktaking exercises indicated many targets are not achieved due to delays and insufficient resources.

According to the Intergovernmental Science- Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), invasive alien species contribute to the loss of 60% of plant and animal species globally, and their impact is estimated at \$423 billion annually, in addition to other social and economic effects.

This emphasizes the need for joint efforts to reduce biological invasions and their impacts on ecosystems.

Key Challenges in Environmental Governance

Institutional Fragmentation: The governance of the global environment is scattered among numerous treaties, organizations, and frameworks, which creates fractured and inefficient governance that often has overlapping mandates. For example, UNEP is central, but it rarely effectively coordinates with others.

Implementation Gaps: A continuous problem is the disconnect between policy development and policy enactment. Countries have difficulty in keeping their promises because of insufficient funding, technical personnel or political impetus. The first Global Stocktake (GST) of climate action wrapped up in Dubai in 2023; however, it presented to us that countries are frequently not meeting their targets under the Paris Agreement.

Geopolitical Tensions: Geopolitical conflict often hinders environmental governance. Developed nations want economic growth, while developing nations want fair access to resources. This disconnect makes it difficult to reach agreements on important issues like climate financing and emissions reductions.



Opportunities for Transformative Change

Planetary Politics: To address transboundary environmental issues, we need a shift to "planetary politics." Planetary politics implies global cooperation on mutual ecological facts rather than national interest. Examples like the Montreal Protocol show that cooperation can be effective.

Integrating Natural Capital into Economic Systems: Economic systems generally fail to recognize the value of natural capital, resulting in over-exploitation of these resources. Integrating ecosystem services as a factor in national accounts may help encourage sustainability. The case of Costa Rica demonstrates an effective relationship between an economy based on eco-tourism and conservation of natural resources.

Public Participation: Studies indicate that public participation can improve environmental governance outcomes. In China, systematic reviews have shown that community or public participation improves policy effectiveness and accountability. Further, expanding such participatory models more globally may improve governance systems.

Strategies for Effective Governance

Strengthening Multilateral Frameworks: Reinvigorating international organizations like the UNEP can help produce better coordination between countries.

The Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions demonstrate how integrated approaches can address a complex issue such as chemical pollution.

Innovative approaches: Nature-based solutions (NBS) provide low-cost ways to address the challenges of climate change, while delivering co-benefits such as biodiversity protection. For example, wetlands can absorb flood waters to control inundation, and forest or mangrove restoration projects can absorb carbon dioxide. In legal reform, some jurisdictions (such as Ecuador's constitutional protections) can formally recognize rights of nature to further mitigate biodiversity loss.

Integration of technologies: Emerging digital technologies (such as artificial intelligence) can be applied in resource decisions or as an effective compliance tool in environmental governance. In bibliometric studies, there is growing evidence that AI tools are used in research on environmental governance to identify trends and predict outcomes.

Case Studies: Successes and Lessons Learned

Montreal Protocol: A Model for Cooperation: The Montreal Protocol exemplifies successful governance of the environment. The phase-out of ozone-depleting substances not only addressed an urgent issue but also illustrates what is possible through science-based policy development and international collaboration.

Obstacles to Climate Negotiations: The slow progress of climate negotiation illustrates how complicated it can be for representatives from different (and often competing) countries to reach agreements on issues with reality situated in science. For example, discussions about carbon dioxide removal technologies often echo troubles between oil-producing states and renewable energy advocates.

A Vision for the Future

Environmental governance must adapt to meet the challenges of the future:

Resilience Frameworks: Governance policies must also be flexible to meet changing environmental realities.

Equity: Developing nations need far more financing to implement sustainable measures.

Measurement: Quality metrics are needed to demonstrate progress toward targets, including climate adaptation resilience and biodiversity protection.

To conclude, Environmental governance can change the fate of the planet—but only if it dares to meet its trials with creativity and courage. Employing planetary politics, embedding natural capital within economic systems, supporting public participation, and utilizing technology, all of these could allow us to have a future where humanity lives in harmony with nature. The stakes are high, as is the ability to make transformative change. As global citizens, we collectively can influence policies that will protect our planet for years ahead. Let's not wait to act until it's too late.

Vivek Raj

III Year BA HSPS



**DID YOU
KNOW ?**



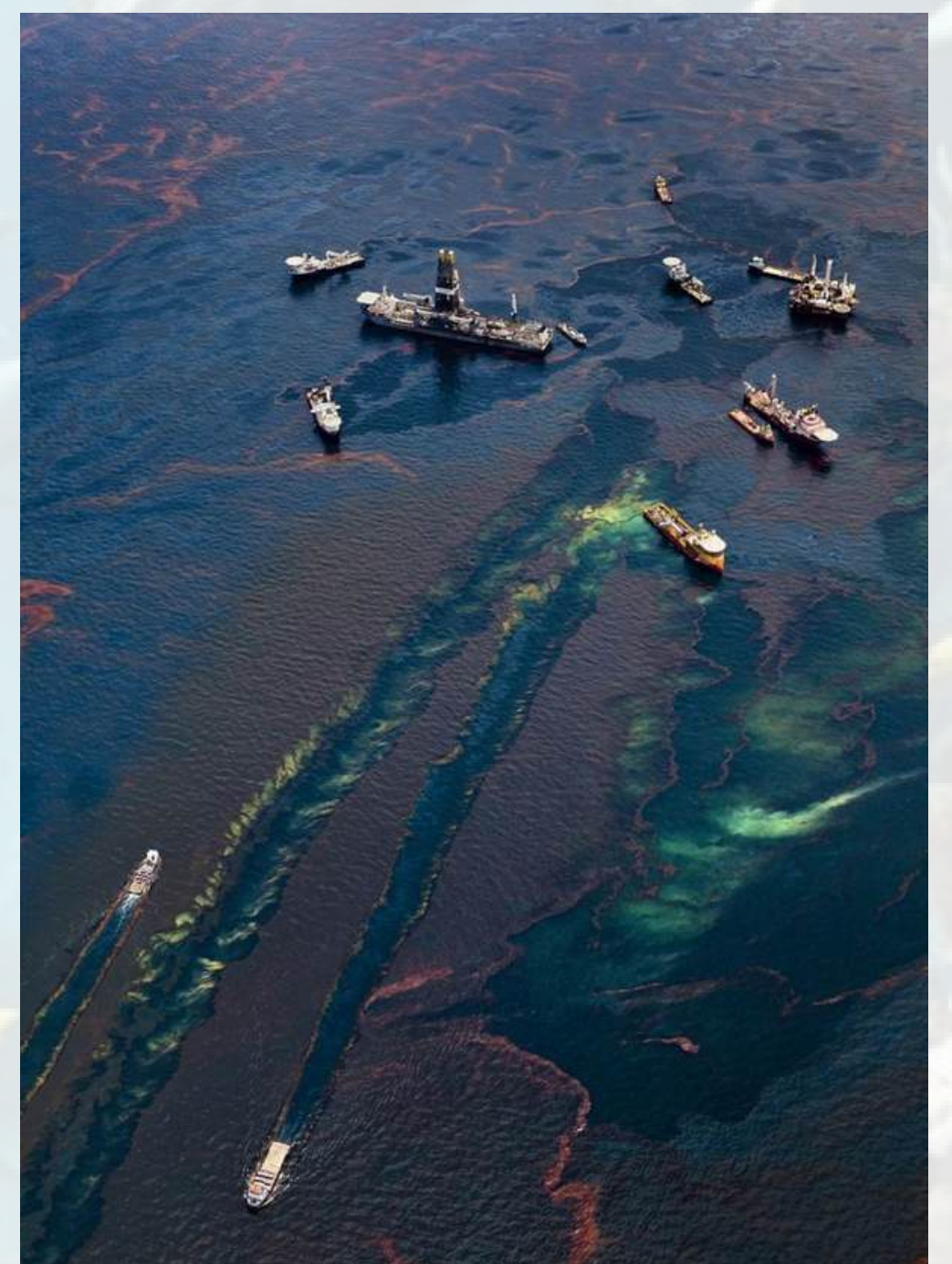
The Kyoto Protocol was signed in 1997 by many countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and combat climate change.

RISING TIDES OF DESTRUCTION: THE ESCALATING CRISIS OF MARINE POLLUTION

The surface of the earth is covered by 70% water, making the marine ecosystem the most important factor in ensuring a good environment. It is a fact that the ocean produces almost 80% of the oxygen we breathe. Marine pollution is a significant issue that needs to be addressed, several factors contribute to marine pollution such as oil spills, dumping of waste by cruise ships, chemical and industrial waste, agricultural waste and harmful fertilizers also escape into nearby river and water bodies, ultimately resulting in the pollution of the ocean. In order to ensure the wellbeing of humans, it is necessary to combat marine pollution.

India is a peninsular surrounded by beautiful oceans on all three sides, the Bay of Bengal in the east, the Arabian sea in the west and the Indian ocean in the south. The ocean provides several benefits to our country, economic benefits: trade routes and shipping, energy security and abundance natural resources etc. Geopolitical benefits: stability and security- India's strategic location provides a great opportunity to build and maintain international relations for example: the Indian ocean rim association (IORA).

Some of the causes of marine pollution include ocean mining which takes place in the deep-sea, the drilling and mining for extraction of oil and precious metals like gold, silver and copper etc., significantly impacts the oceans health. While conducting trade, accidental oil spills harm the aquatic creatures in the sea and further deteriorates the marine life. The use of nitrogen rich fertilizers by farmers and its seeping into the sea leads to the formation of algae, robbing water of its oxygen leaving areas with no marine life. The careless use of plastic and its dumping into the sea has caused several concerns for



currently experiencing is largely affecting the oceans, coral bleaching takes place due to the rise of ocean temperatures, this is further triggered by sewage water dumping. The heat stress leads to the expulsion of algae causing coral to appear white or bleached.

The climate change that the world is currently experiencing is largely affecting the oceans, coral bleaching takes place due to the rise of ocean temperatures, this is further triggered by sewage water dumping. The heat stress leads to the expulsion of algae causing coral to appear white or bleached. India unfortunately has not taken effective measures to address marine pollution however, they have made efforts to ban one time use plastics of a certain thickness, this approach does not serve the complete purpose of addressing marine pollution issues. There is a need for all levels of government at the center, state as well as local authorities to come together and work to prevent plastic from polluting the oceans. India lacks a consolidated national institutional framework to address pollution. Marine pollution as a subject of governance comes under the purview of several ministries such as the ministry of earth sciences which has taken pains to monitor the temporal and spatial distribution of marine litter.

The ministry of environment, forest and climate change has notified plastic waste management rules in 2016, they also produced guidelines on extended producer responsibility for plastic packaging (EPRPP), the ministry of external affairs, the ministry of agriculture, the ministry of defense etc.



India, in spite of the absence of a marine pollution policy has launched several national programs that indirectly address marine pollution to name a few: Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, National Mission for Clean Ganga, Narmada Bachao Andolan etc. India has launched a blue economy program which aims at sustainable use of ocean resources to create economic growth while maintaining the ocean's health. It covers sectors like fisheries, shipping, tourism, off shore oil etc. It aims at balanced economic growth and environmental preservation.

Projects like Sagarmala focuses on port development and emphasis on the importance of the ocean and its contribution to economic growth of the country. While these two initiatives mainly aim at economic benefits, the marine ecosystems preservation and protection have been overlooked.

As far as marine law and policy is concerned India has not achieved great heights and there is significant room for improvement. The need of the hour is to formulate an effective marine litter policy that addresses several aspects pertaining to conservation of marine ecosystems. There is a strong need for cooperation and consultation with different stakeholders to develop a holistic solution to marine pollution. The coordination of various ministries is essential for a national marine policy's formulation and its subsequent implementation.

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THE ROLE OF INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE IN ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

Environmental Governance refers to the various kinds of frameworks and other strategies that are used in managing natural resources and addressing ecological challenges. The modern environmental policies that we see these days often rely on scientific data and technology but on the other hand Indigenous Knowledge (IK) focuses on traditional practices and beliefs. There is a growing recognition and importance given to Indigenous Knowledge for their invaluable contribution to Environmental Governance.

In this article, I intend to focus on exploring the importance of Indigenous Knowledge and its roles in Environmental Governance, like how IK is incorporated in policies addressing various ecological challenges and how some traditional and Indigenous practices and beliefs help in managing natural resources and conservation of biodiversity.

Understanding Indigenous Knowledge (IK)

Indigenous Knowledge (IK) also known as local or traditional knowledge refers to the traditional practices, beliefs and understanding of the Indigenous people, which are passed down from generation to generation. It encompasses many ecological, agricultural, and cosmological understandings that are deeply rooted in specific cultural and ecological contexts. It is very holistic, region-based and adaptive, making it suitable for addressing local environmental issues.

Indigenous Knowledge plays an important role in environmental governance by offering many time-tested strategies for conservation, sustainable resource management, and adaptation to environmental changes.



Key Role of Indigenous Knowledge (IK) in Environmental Governance:

Many indigenous practices give importance to the sustainable use of natural resources, ensuring the availability of these resources for future generations. For instance, in my village, traditional farming methods are still practiced without relying on synthetic fertilizers or pesticides which affects the fertility of the agricultural lands. These indigenous practices prevent the land from degrading, ensuring its usability for future generations. Indigenous people usually have a deep understanding of the biodiversity around them. They consider many plants and trees important for their medical and nutritional value. This knowledge can help in the conservation of endangered biodiversity. Indigenous Knowledge includes many practical strategies which help people to easily adapt to changing climatic conditions. Many such practices like traditional water conservation methods, seasonal migration patterns, or forest management systems are used by indigenous people to demonstrate resilience in the face of climatic variability.

Incorporating such practices can help the decision-makers in formulating policies that show effectiveness in environmental responses. Many Indigenous communities have developed various methods and measures that help them reduce or avoid the risk of various natural disasters like floods, droughts, tsunamis, etc. These are mostly based on careful observation of the behavior of animals, plant cycles and atmospheric changes. Many indigenous communities believe in superstitious methods of predicting natural disasters and many times their prediction proves to be correct, helping them to avoid the risks. The value of Indigenous Knowledge (IK) is increasingly recognized by policy-makers and other environmental agencies. Many collaborative models including indigenous voices in the decision-making process are emerging, resulting in more inclusive and effective outcomes. However genuine inclusion requires respecting intellectual property rights of indigenous people, ensuring their consent and acknowledging the legitimacy of their knowledge system.



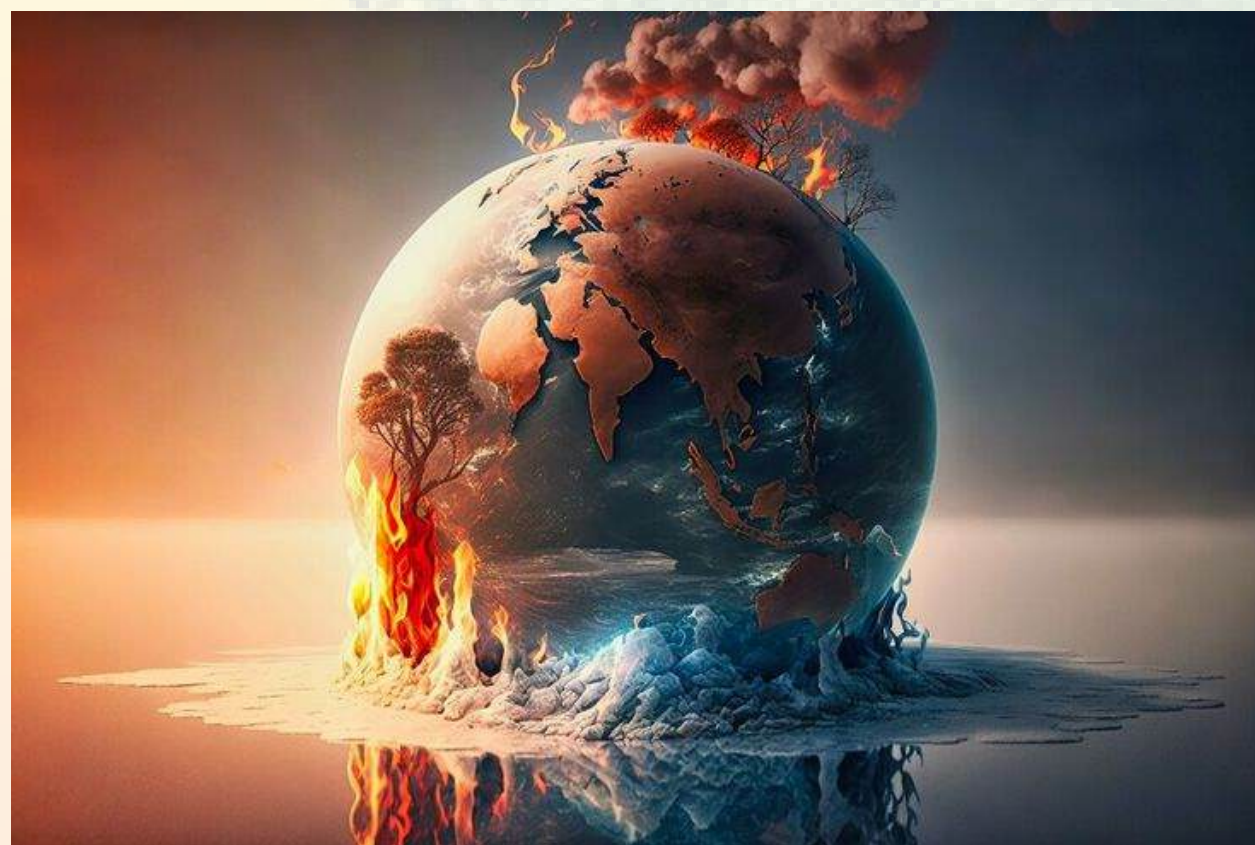
I would like to conclude by saying that Indigenous Knowledge offers lots of traditional ideas and practices, which if incorporated with modern environmental practices, will bring many positive changes. It plays an important role in natural resource management, biodiversity conservation, reduction of risk of natural disasters and much more. By blending this indigenous knowledge with modern scientific methods and technology, policy-makers can formulate policies that are more holistic and adaptive. Indigenous knowledge should be included in policy-making not just for the sake of it but for building a sustainable future.

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ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE: THE SOLUTION TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

While we continue to struggle with the issues of climate change, environmental degradation, and social inequality, it has become more evident that good environmental governance is key to attaining sustainable development. But what is environmental governance, and why is it so important to our future?



For the effective governance of the environment, setting actionable objectives is fundamental. This includes achieving specified milestones such as carbon emission mitigation, biodiversity preservation, and increased renewable energy utilization along these well-defined goals for the protection of the environment, limits should be placed on water and air pollution simultaneously ecological balance should be maintained. Sustainable management of natural resources: forests, oceans, and land, must also be emphasized to ensure responsible resource utilization. The formulation of law and regulation of policy is another vital constituent. The creation and implementation of laws that control environmental pollution and promote conservation, efficient land use and waste management play a crucial role. Participation in global initiatives like the Paris Climate Agreement helps mitigate risks related to climate change and biodiversity loss. In addition, responsive national and local legislation to specific environmental challenges makes for better environmental governance at all levels.

Environmental governance involves managing natural resources, reducing environmental deterioration and the pursuit of sustainable development. It is concerned with ensuring we utilize the world's resources equitably, sustainably, and fairly.

The functioning of institutions and governance structures is also important. This is fulfilled through international bodies such as UNEP, national governments, and local-level authorities who are tasked with policy execution. Citizens, NGOs, and other nonstate actors not only need to be involved but also actively participate in policy processes that promote decision-making as well as the transparency of governance processes. These principles are basic, but participation ensures that there is accountability alongside public willingness for regulations to function. Another basic principle is the inclusion of sustainable development or long-term planning which alongside governance facilitates actions whilst ensuring that it does not jeopardize future demands. Global cooperation is important since most environmental concerns, for instance, climate change and pollution of the oceans cross-national boundaries and require multi-national treaties to effectively solve challenges.



Why is environmental governance so critical? To begin with, it can prevent environmental degradation and encourage sustainable development by controlling human activities that negatively affect the environment, like pollution and deforestation, environmental governance can protect biodiversity, conserve natural ecosystems, and ensure a good ecosystem. It can also ensure that natural resources are utilized in a manner that is equitable and just and that development benefits reach everyone. Successful environmental governance also calls for the involvement of all stakeholders such as governments, civil society, the private sector, and local communities. It entails the development of laws, Policies, and institutions that support sustainable development and environmental protection. It also calls for the building of capacities and skills, especially in developing nations, to manage natural resources and support sustainable development.

Although it is critical, environmental governance is confronted with several challenges. The first is the absence of good institutions and legislation that support sustainable development and the protection of the environment. The second is the absence of public awareness and education on environmental issues, which may hinder the mobilization of public support for the protection of the environment. Last but not least, environmental governance may demand large resources and capacities, which may be a challenge for developing nations.

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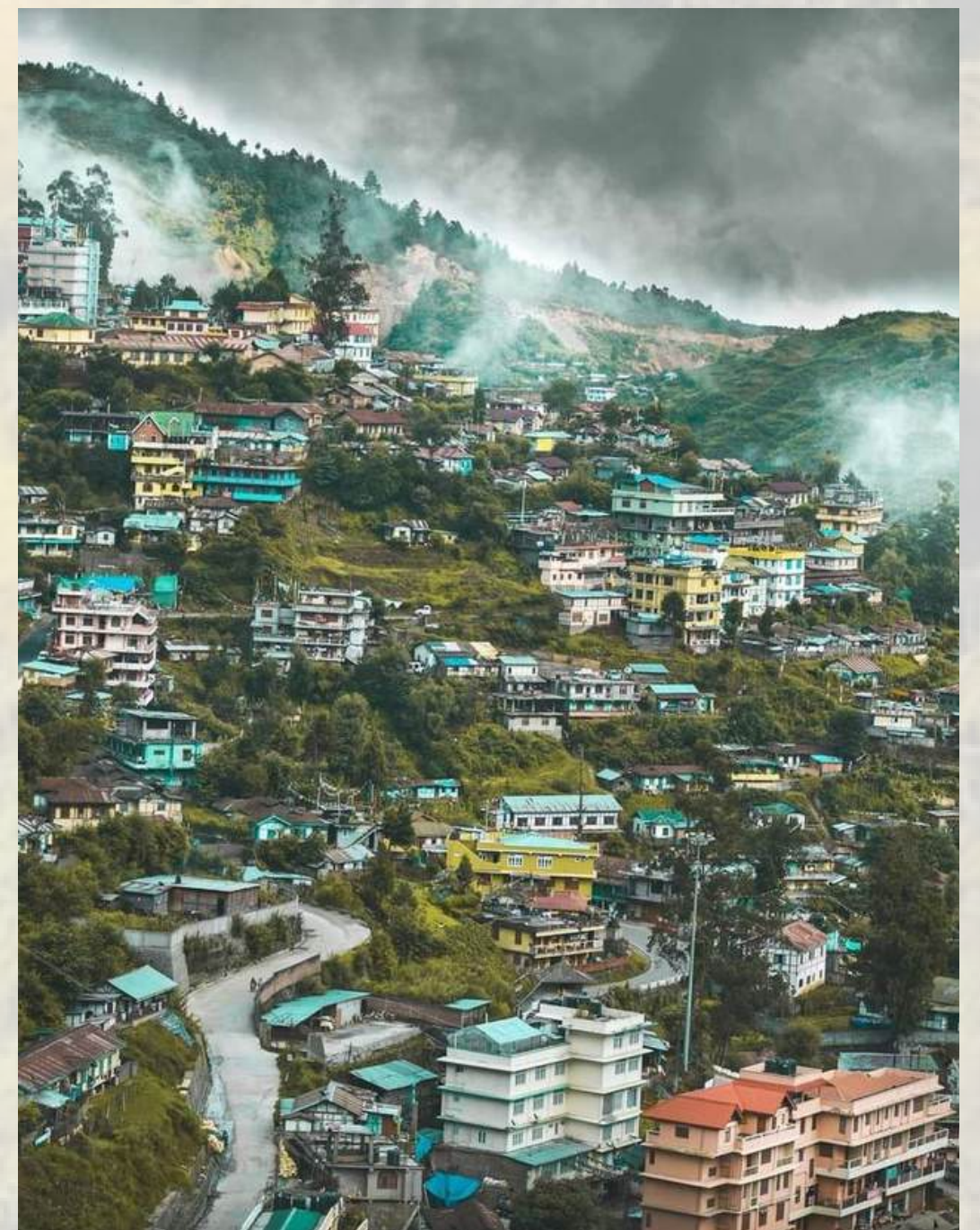


ARUNACHAL PRADESH: PROTECT NATURE AND FOSTER PROGRESS

Arunachal Pradesh, the northeastern corner state of India which is my home state, ranks as one of the most ecologically rich and stunning states of the country. It is popularly known as the paradise for a nature lover due to its snow-capped mountains, broad-canopy forests, thousands of varieties of wild animals, and self-beautification. But under the facade of being quite untouched, the state is facing serious environmental issues, slowly harvesting the challenges concerning modernization and infrastructure development, along with the responsibility of preserving its unique ecosystems. Development and environmental preservation have never easily struck a balance, and the more so when it concerns places like Arunachal due to the deep root nature connections existing between communities. Despite that, example is being set within the state to draft new policies with local community involvement and science and technology to better manage the resources.

Nature Under Pressure

Anyone who visits or even just sees photos of Arunachal Pradesh immediately knows how beautiful and remote it seems. You see rolling green hills, clean rivers, and forests that look like they stretch forever. But, behind this picturesque exterior, the dirtier reality is an increasing concern for the environment. The major issue is deforestation. The expansion of villages, roads being built, and farm activity increasing involve the cutting down of more and more trees.



The logging, both legal and illegal, has also been contributing to the loss of forests. As they turn to open lands, the wildlife habitats are reducing, and the natural balance is disturbed. Climate change poses yet another daunting challenge. Arunachal Pradesh has been home to many glaciers in the Eastern Himalayas, and scientists have already observed them melting faster than before.

Because of this, river systems could also be affected, and in the long run, there could be a shortage of water. To top it off, changing rainfall patterns and increasing temperatures are already affecting the region's farming and biodiversity. Alongside all this, there are large-scale infrastructural and hydropower-related projects. They bring development and energy, but they also disrupt ecosystems and displace local communities. Roads, dams, and buildings might cost natural landscapes on construction.

Legal Framework and State-Level Policies

Environmental Conservation has top priority as far as the government of Arunachal Pradesh is concerned. The state follows not only the national environmental laws of India but also: Forest Conservation Act (1980), Biological Diversity Act (2002), Environmental Protection Act (1986). More important for Arunachal, state-specific policies have been framed in response to its peculiarities. For instance: Arunachal Pradesh Forest Policy which protects forests, prevents illegal logging, and supports sustainable utilization of forest resources. State Climate Change Action Plan (SAPCC) targets on making the state more disaster-ready regarding climate changes and promotes clean energy and sustainable development.

Water Resource Management Act is framed to control the utility of the water and conserve river ecosystems, especially looming in connection to the rise in number of hydroelectric projects in the state. These policies constitute the strong base in the environmental governance of Arunachal and attempt to make a sincere strike between the developmental aspirations and conservational ones.

The Pakke Declaration: State Level Climate Roadmap

Among the most important environmental initiatives taken by the state was the adoption of the Pakke Declaration in 2021. Named after the Pakke Tiger Reserve, the declaration promised a 25-year environmental plan towards progress. It would be said to rest on five main pillars: Forest conservation and climate resilience, Sustainable livelihoods for local communities, Eco-friendly infrastructure development, better public health linked to a healthy environment, and Evidence-based policymaking through scientific research. It is the first of all the state climate strategies in India. It goes to show that Arunachal is not just inheriting but directing.

Power to the People: Community Participation

Perhaps one of the wisest acts the government did was to harness the locals who have been there for generations into a conservation program. After all, who better understands the forests than those who have lived there all their lives? Such initiatives as the Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) have been instituted to make villagers active players in the protection of nearby forests. Through these committees, they help manage forest resources, inform about illegal logging, and even promote eco-tourism projects.

Eco-tourism is getting really popular. Instead of cutting down forests for money, some communities are now earning income by showing their natural surroundings to tourists in a sustainable way. It's a healthy win-win situation. Hence, conservation should not mean depriving or delaying income and development benefits.

The Hydropower Dilemma

The "Hydropower Hub of India" is what the state of Arunachal Pradesh has been termed: for having the ability to generate a considerable amount of electricity through its swift-flowing rivers. But, on the contrary, prospect of this kind brings with it immense contingencies of devastation caused by large dams and hydroelectric projects. Dams per se would result in several problems such as enclosing fish migratory routes, changing the flow of rivers, submerging large tracts of forests, and displacing entire tribal communities.

Within this framework, the state government has now made EIAs mandatory before developing such projects. Besides, it also launched a Sustainable Hydropower Policy trying to bring about a better balance between energy production and environmental safety. However, many schemes have been put on hold or abandoned due to protests from and apprehensions among the public attributable to their ecological worth, like the highly controversial ones on the Siang River, which is a lifeline for many in the region.

To conclude, everyone has a role to play in the protection of nature in Arunachal Pradesh is, by all accounts, a task that is not for the government to carry alone. The responsibility lies with the citizens, businesses, students, and tourists alike. Eco-friendly endeavours should be supported, awareness raised, or simply conscientious choices made. It all counts! Arunachal Pradesh is a particularly good example of a state that has gone ahead with the development but has not forgotten or disregarded nature. If it treads this path, it would take India and perhaps some other nations with it toward a greener and sustainable future.

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DID YOU KNOW ?



In 2015, the Paris Agreement was signed which aimed to limit global warming to below 2°C above pre-industrial levels.

EMPLOYING GOVERNANCE WITH A FOCUS ON SUSTAINABILITY

Environmental governance encompasses a system of control framework, including regulatory processes, mechanisms, organizations, and the political actors that shape the results of the environment, which is situated with regard to the specific outcomes and results. It developed as a policy response to the widespread deterioration of the natural environment, which included the depletion of natural resources, the loss of biodiversity, declining groundwater levels, pollution, the impact of human activities on the environment, and the expansion of desertification. This is an evolution of the policy approach within the context of environmental governance concerning policy instruments like taxes, subsidies, and price regulation. Whereas policy is focused on formulating strategies to achieve predetermined goals, governance gives more consideration to achieving those goals through interactions with a range of actors including the government, civil society, local communities, and the private sector.

This change points towards governance which is informed by the fact that there is not much effort that can be relied on state action on its own to deal with the scale and complexity of the challenges posed to the environment. The state's attempt to deal with these issues can be supplemented by an astonishing range of agents and the creativity of other policy alternatives designed to deal with these issues.



Environmental governance, therefore, becomes a cocktail of principles from social science literature and "governance beyond government" that systematizes non-state actors, informal structures, constituency-based power-sharing, and participatory decision-making within the governance framework.

Sustainability refers not only to the enhanced management of environmental resources, but also the very progress towards, and well-being and justice required as a priori core understanding is that is how systems need to work, needs to change fundamentally. Therefore, governance has to enable the kind of bold choices and the change of behaviours that are needed for lasting ecological balance and sustainable development.

Not only governance is unable to manage the crisis, reforms are broader, moving social demands to electoral, and protest need to happen to achieve transformative change on the ground. When governance is redone with responsiveness alongside inclusiveness, and with equity as the guiding framework, it becomes one of the instruments available in the efforts for sustainability.

A classic example of India's failure of environmental governance is the Bhopal Gas Tragedy of 1984 which was an industrial accident that was not envisioned and it demonstrated the utter failure of the legal and administrative setup which was meant to establish rules for people and environment safeguards. This particular tragic incident gave a voluntary push to the Indian government to evolve more stringent policies to save the environment, which brought about the Environmental Protection Act of 1986 and led to the setting up of the Ministry of Environment and Forests which later changed to the Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change. These steps initiated a paradigm shift towards prompt and constructive responsive environmental governance.

In 2006, the MoEF formulated the National Environmental Policy (NEP) to integrate environmental concerns into all aspects of development planning. However, implementation challenges still persist because of insufficient public participation, poor inter-agency cooperation, and implementation difficulties due to which the policy remains inefficient.

A further important example describing local governance and civil society resistance to local self-governance is the Plachimada Coca-Cola case from Kerala. The Coca-Cola bottling plant inflicted serious environmental damage, including the depletion and pollution of groundwater resources. Women from local tribes and other residents participated in protests because of the water crisis and agricultural decline.

In response to the mounting public outcry, the plant was ultimately shut down in 2004. A government-appointed committee proposed to compensate the affected people ₹216 crore in 2011. This case highlighted the impact of corporate environmental accountability, irresponsible industrial water use, and local resistance.

The impacts of industrial development are paradoxical. On the one hand, it relatively affects the economy positively, but on the other hand, it contributes to an ecological crisis. Industrial development is predominantly driven by non-renewable cheap energy, resource intensive technologies, and militaristic values. The rise in pollution encompasses air and liquid pollutants, solid waste, as well as greenhouse gas emissions. For instance, the rate of particulate pollution during the process of urbanization and industrial development in the eastern and southern regions of Asia is unprecedented.



Even with robust legislation for environmental governance, there will continue to be gaps in enforcement, limited sources of authority, and relation to competing development priorities such as conservation, and other major issues, which cannot be resolved without blending separate agendas into adaptive and integrated governance structures that recognize the relative connections of the environment, the economy and society. Governance also must ensure the inclusion of public participation, transparency, and accountability.

The governance framework must incorporate all of these considerations to become effective and inclusive. The state is often considered to be a "development machine," to mobilize humans and natural resources for economic purposes and ultimately to use that development for economic ends, including military-industrial development.

We need to rethink the state in these models under an assumed threshold of sustainability on the backdrop of many competing priorities. There must be a movement away from unchecked, growth, toward equitable development and eventually resilient development. Governance may serve as a powerful governance mechanism and be a mechanism through which societies transition to sustainability, only when governance structures itself is experiential, transparent, inclusionary, and adaptive. Governance must include balanced trade-offs between protecting the ecology and human development and no such thing as reducing deeply embedded structural inequality or deep-rooted unsustainable consumption of demand. Sustainability is more than just protecting nature; it goes beyond conserving, and we must think about the systems of economy, society, and politics, in terms of standards that produce uncertainty for further coexistence through a vision of interrelationship. Governance that connects distinct aligned (or maybe misaligned, as we have societal goals that achieve equity) to justice, equity, or the long term, itself is the path of governance connecting the dilemmas and problems today to the sustainable future for tomorrow.

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**DID YOU
KNOW ?**

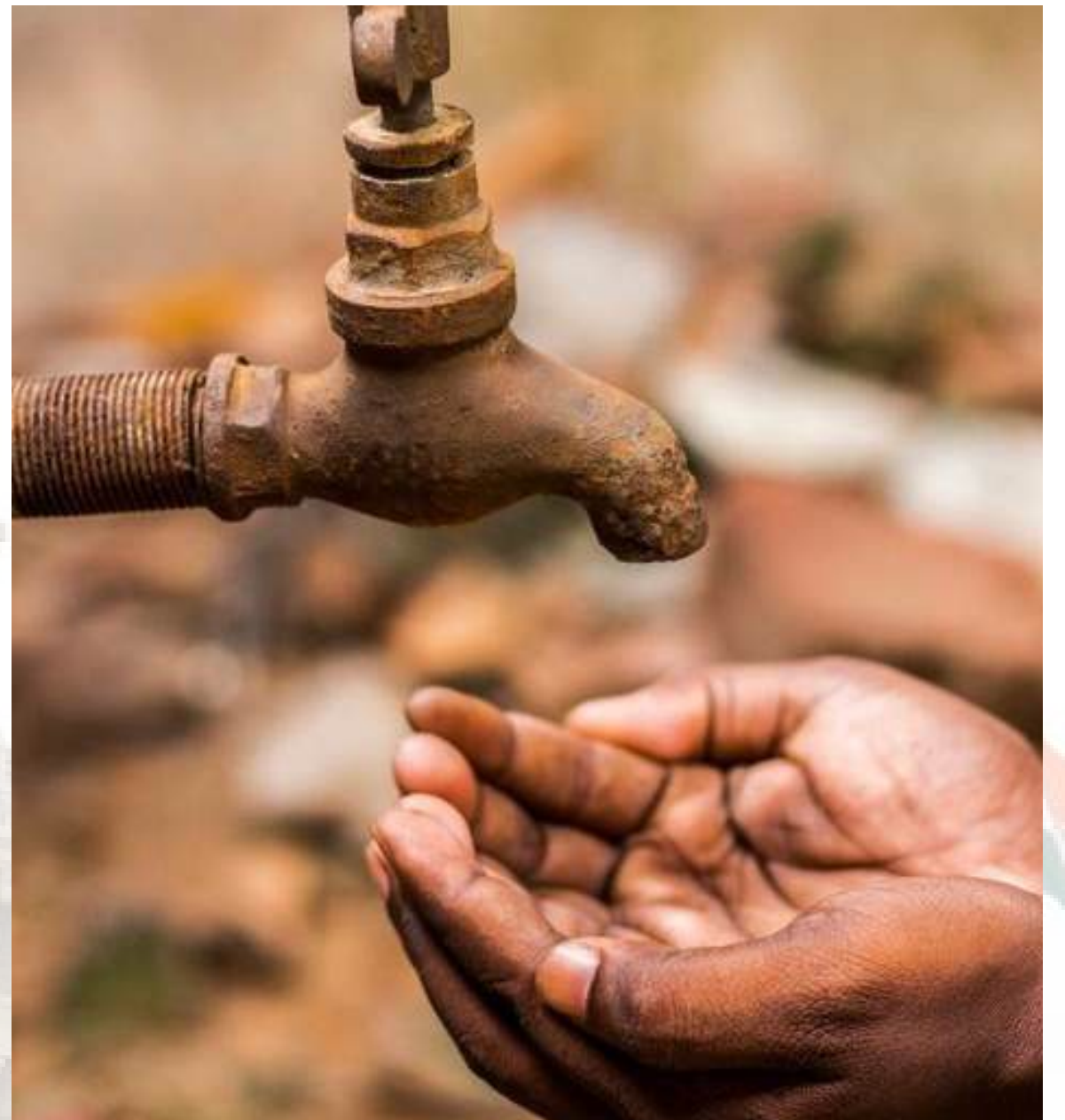


The Chipko Movement was introduced in India which involved villagers, especially women, hugging trees to prevent deforestation.

THE ROLE OF THE GOVERNMENT IN BANGALORE: WATER SCARCITY

Bangalore used to be a place of numerous water reservoirs in the past. During the time of Kempegowda, he constructed many water reservoirs around the city, like ponds, lakes, etc. Due to the changing climatic conditions around the globe, the weather in Bangalore has changed considerably; therefore, the city is faced with a shortage of water and a very dry summer. The water scarcity that affected Karnataka in 2024 led to significant differences in the government's policies. In September of 2023, the state of Karnataka declared a situation of drought in nearly 195 taluks. This number went up to 216 out of the 236 taluks of Karnataka, including districts like Mandya and Mysore, where Bangalore sources water.

“Water doesn't belong to any individual; it is for everyone. We are creating a war room. All the officials will try and come up with a solution. We will also fix a common price for water tankers. ₹556 crores have been allocated for water supply,” Shivakumar told news agency ANI. The Karnataka government has allocated ₹556 crores to deal with the crisis.



According to the plan presented by the deputy chief minister, DK Shivakumar, each MLA has been allocated ₹10 crore to deal with the water crisis in their own constituencies. As far as 2024, the dry monsoons of 2023 gave a very dry summer for Bangalore. The issue of sharing the Cauvery River water with Tamil Nadu worsened the situation. Even the outer areas, which used borewells and tankers, had scarcities. Bangalore city took many steps in water conservation and rationing measures over the water crisis, which is now institutionalized. Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board implemented flow restrictions and aerators, which can be effective in reducing the wastage of water up to 75% for all public taps.

According to V. Ram Prasath Manohar, who is the chairman of the BWSSB, each subdivision must set goals; as of now, 11.5 lakh taps are equipped with aerators. Additionally, the board implemented restrictions on water supplies for nearly 20% of large customers.

The Cauvery Stage V was inaugurated on October 16, 2024, which aims to bring 775 MLD of water to around 110 villages in Bangalore city, which was included in the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). This project involved the construction of India's largest water treatment plant (WTP), through which water supply will be filtered and transported. The total cost of the project is estimated to be Rs. 4336 crores, which is funded by a Japan infrastructure cooperation agency through a loan. The goal of the project is to supply Cauvery water to almost 50 lakh new beneficiaries in Bangalore with 4 lakh new connections. As per the reports on 2025, there have been 40,800 connections in almost 110 villages, the people paying BWSSB a total of Rs. 172.72 crores.

In January 2025, water supply to eight villages— K Narayanapura, Geddalahalli, Byrathi, Bilishivale, Chokkanahalli, Thirumenahalli, Bellahalli, and Kattigenahalli—was pending due to land acquisition issues in Kadugodi and Chokkanahalli, which are delaying reservoir construction. “Of 110 villages under Stage V, 104 villages have received water already. We are not able to provide water for six villages owing to land issues, which will be resolved soon,” added Mr. Ram Prasath. Amidst all these water crises, the government institutions came up with solutions for better living conditions for the people.

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ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE: BALANCING DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Environmental governance is concerned with how we govern our natural resources, protect ecosystems, and maintain a sustainable world while balancing growth and the welfare of society. It's not just about laws and regulations—environmental governance represents the values, ethics, and behaviours that shape how we nurture our planet. Climate change talks and neighbourhood waste reduction efforts are examples of environmental governance that will shape the world we leave for our children.



Why Is Environmental Governance Important?

Imagine a planet where companies pump toxic waste into rivers without accountability, where timber is cut and sold with no regard for what else might be living there, or where it's so unhealthy to breathe due to pollution that people struggle to catch their breath. Unfortunately, this isn't just a thought experiment—it happens in many areas of the world.

Poor environmental governance often leads to depletion of resources, loss of habitats, and climate crises. These affect millions of people. In contrast, sound governance guarantees that there are mechanisms to ensure that the environment is protected while ensuring economic growth. It is responsible for calling out companies for their mistakes, giving power to the local community, and ensuring sustainable activities that assist in the preservation of nature's ecosystems.

The Key Participants in Environmental Governance

Governments and Policy Makers: The task of developing laws and regulations to determine environmental standards is the governments.

Cases include pollution laws, forest protection legislation, wildlife conservation laws, and climate change-fighting legislation. The Environment Protection Act of 1986, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act of 1981, and the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act of 1974 in India are notable legal provisions that regulate the environment. But laws alone are insufficient. Implementation and enforcement are no less important. Corruption, political reasons, and restricted finances often undermine environmental governance in most nations, allowing polluters to escape accountability.

International Organizations and Agreements: Environmental challenges transcend national borders. Pollution of the air in one nation can soil neighbouring nations' air, Amazonian deforestation affects global climate patterns, and plastic litter from one continent may end up on another's shores. Thus, global cooperation is necessary. Treaties like the *Montreal Protocol (1987)—which effectively phased out ozone-depleting substances—and the Paris Agreement (2015)—which targets limiting global warming—demonstrate how countries can cooperate to solve environmental issues. Institutions like the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) effectively conduct research, policy advice, and international coordination.



Corporations and Industries: Industries are key players in environmental regulation. While industries are held responsible for deforestation and pollution, they can adopt green techniques as well. The growth in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has caused industries to invest in environmentally friendly technology, minimize wastage, and ensure environmental stewardship. Yet, corporate contributions to environmental rules are both useful and negative.

While a few firms are deeply serious about sustainability, others practice much-criticized greenwashing—the tendency to exaggerate or dishonestly assert that their products and policies are green. This underscores the necessity for tougher regulations and openness.

Civil Society and Activists

Regular people are central to environmental administration. Grassroots groups, NGOs, and activists bring awareness, push governments to take action and ensure that industries are accountable. Actions such as Fridays for Future, initiated by Greta Thunberg, and India's Chipko Movement, wherein villagers embraced trees to save them from cutting down, demonstrate the strength of collective activism. Community participation in decision-making is important because environmental concerns often affect marginalized groups the most. Indigenous communities, for example, use forests and rivers for their livelihood, but they are often displaced by mega projects. Acknowledging their rights and involving them in decision-making is crucial for equitable governance.

Despite the achievements, there are several challenges to successful environmental governance, a few include: Political and Economic Interests - Governments tend to favour short-term economic interests over environmental sustainability. Infrastructure development, mining, and industrial growth are often sought at the expense of ecological degradation, Ineffective Law Enforcement - Laws can be in place, but weak enforcement permits industries and individuals to disregard them with impunity.



Misinformation and Denial of Climate Change - Some influential groups spread misinformation regarding climate change, hindering policy enforcement and lowering awareness, Limited Public Participation - Environmental policies are enforced in most regions without even consulting the populations that will be most affected by them. The people are an essential body that need to be engaged in order to govern properly.

In conclusion, governance of the environment takes more than policies and laws - it takes ethics, responsibility, and acting in the best interest of the planet. We are still working through problems, but we are making progress, and we all have a role to play in creating a sustainable future. The decisions we make today will dictate the condition of our world for generations to come. Will we step up, or will we continue down the road of devastation? The decision is ours.

Priyam Deka
II Year JOPS



**DID YOU
KNOW ?**



The Silent Valley Movement, introduced in 1973 aimed to preserve the Silent Valley rainforest from a hydroelectric project.

ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE: INITIATIVES FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Environmental Governance involves the methods, policies, and organizations through which entities like governments and communities oversee the environment and natural resources. It includes numerous activities such as regulation, policymaking, implementation, participation, and accountability to promote sustainable development and safeguard the environment.

Due to the rapid growth of Industrialization, Urbanization and Globalization various issues related to environment such as pollutions, deforestation, climate change and loss of biodiversity has been a huge concern worldwide. Environmental Governance comes into role in order to address such pressing issues by engaging different institutions like NGOs, diverse communities, citizens, and businesses, in a decision-making process that promotes inclusivity to address environmental concerns. By implementing effective laws, and by regulating policies that are essential to prevent environmental degradation and also to observe if the laws are effectively functioning or not. Community governance enables localities to utilize their resources more efficiently by leveraging traditional wisdom and addressing local needs. Environmental factors must be incorporated into economic and social policies to achieve balanced and sustainable development.

Despite various levels of advancement, numerous challenges continue to exist within Environmental Governance. A significant issue is the insufficient enforcement of environmental regulations, often driven by corruption, inadequate financial and human resources, and various political influences.



Rapid industrial growth, infrastructure initiatives, and urban sprawl frequently take precedence over environmental considerations which results in habitat loss and depletion of resources. Finally, the limited public awareness and involvement in environmental decision-making weakens the entire governance structure.

To enhance environmental governance and secure a sustainable future, several essential actions should be undertaken. Firstly, it is important to strengthen institutions and legal frameworks by ensuring that environmental regulations are clear, current, and rigorously enforced, while also making certain that the agencies tasked with implementation are adequately funded and free from corruption. Environmental governance involves more than merely protecting nature; it is also about safeguarding the welfare of future generations. As the complexities of environmental issues increase, governance frameworks need to adapt in order to be more inclusive, flexible, and resilient. By emphasizing sustainability and fairness, environmental governance can lead us towards a more sustainable and equitable world.

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III Year BA PSSO



ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE IN INDIA: A CASE STUDY OF HYDERABAD'S FOREST DEMOLITION

Environmental governance which is now essential for our survival, is neither a luxury nor a policy footnote. The way we preserve or degrade our environment determines not just our ecological destiny but our moral compass. In India, a country with a high biodiversity and many natural endowments. A painful but necessary reminder that we are failing to fulfil our responsibilities in understanding, is the recent destruction of forest area on the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) campus in Hyderabad in March 2025, when and where about 300 fully mature trees were removed from the ICFRE property, which shocked the entire nation.

Tragically, the purpose of this organization was to protect and research forest ecosystems. The campus's trees were more than simply wood and leaves; they were vital life forms that had existed for decades and were home to animals, insects, and birds. Reports say that, the property was cleared for a road project and for potential infrastructural growth. People were devastated by the scene. Environmentalists who formerly viewed ICFRE as a protector of nature, students who had learned under their shade, and birdwatchers who loved the chirping, all stood in shock. This was about uprooting trust and not just about bringing down trees.

Environmental governance in India functions through a comprehensive framework of legislation, including the Forest Conservation Act, and institutions such as the Ministry of Environment and the National Green Tribunal which encompasses of protocols like Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and public consultations.



However, the Hyderabad incident revealed significant deficiencies which raises questions like “Was an EIA performed?”, “Was the public adequately informed?”, “If such an institution fails to avert ecological damage within its jurisdiction, what prospects do other green spaces possess?”

The disaster extends beyond infractions of the law. There is a social and emotional component that is frequently overlooked. These trees served as cooling canopies, mental havens, and reminders of continuity in addition to being green covers. Their passing felt more like a death in the family to the locals and pupils. It demonstrates that environmental governance is about people and their relationship to the land, and that is not just about paperwork and policies. Civil society organizations and citizens have started to voice their opinions; activists are calling for accountability, awareness campaigns are growing, and petitions are being submitted. It is believed that justice would be served here as well, given the Indian judiciary has a long history of upholding environmental rights. However, long-term reforms from the legislation must also result from the verdict given by the judiciary. The independence to withstand pressure is essential for organizations such as ICFRE; communities must be included in the decision-making of that which affect their natural surroundings, and environmental approvals must become transparent procedures. Education is also very important - children who are taught about the importance of nature will be more inclined to preserve it as adults.

We must consider what we are leaving behind, true progress is not a development that comes at the expense of trees, water, and air - it's a pointless accomplishment. We must keep in mind that woods are vibrant ecosystems, carbon sinks, and quiet teachers—not just vacant land ready which is ready for development. The Hyderabad tragedy ought to serve as a wake-up message and reminder for all citizens and not just the legislators because we undermine our future when we harm nature. Additionally, we give our future generations a chance to breathe, live, and hope when we take action to safeguard it.

Nandhakumar M
II Year BA PSSO



DID YOU KNOW ?



Narmada Bachao Andolan movement started in 1985, aimed to stop the construction of large dams on the Narmada River.

EARTH'S GUARDIAN

Beneath the wide, open sky,
The rivers murmur, and the woodlands moan.
And avaricious men, with icy hands,
Transform green into grey and exchange life for riches.

The once-pure air is now covered in dust,
The oceans are suffocating, and the land is encrusted.
But there is still hope — a glimmer of optimism —
In laws that protect the birthright of the Earth.

Laws alone cannot stop the bleeding;
Therefore, while policies are strict, hearts should take the lead.
To heal the wounds and reconstruct the world,
One must have the will, the courage, and the concern.

Is it possible for any race or region
To endure this terrible embrace alone?

We rise and stand tall together,
To love, care for, and safeguard the land.
Let knowledge lead and justice reign.
Let nature thrive, united as a single entity.

Only then will the planet bear testimony —
A bright, unrestricted future.

Jenix Christie Barwa
I Year HPS



HOW BUSINESSES ARE MAKING MONEY BEING GREEN

The planet is facing problems like global warming, pollution, and deforestation, companies are starting to realize that they can't just focus on profit—there is also a need to emphasize its impact on Earth. Companies fuel economies and provide jobs but they can also ruin the environment. Today, customers want companies to be accountable, Industries are the major contributors of economic growth but also of pollution, natural resource depletion, and industrial greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change. It is estimated by a report that just 100 companies account for 71% of industrial greenhouse gas emissions, since 1988. Disasters like the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010, caused catastrophic destruction of marine life and is a reminder of how devastating corporate negligence can be. As environmentalist Dr. Jane Goodall once said, "What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make." today we observe that Companies are finally reconsidering their role in the environment.

Going green is no longer optional—it's necessary. Some businesses, like Patagonia, Tesla, and Unilever, have integrated sustainability into their practices. Patagonia donates some of its profits to environmental causes and is working to use only renewable power. Governments are also working on this.



The European Union's Green Deal aspires to net-zero carbon by 2050, and this is enticing firms to be greener in their policies, for example, decreasing plastic pollution, using sustainable materials, and making investments in clean energy. former CEO of Unilever Paul Polman has declared, "Businesses cannot succeed in a failed society. During his leadership, Unilever placed sustainability first by reducing waste and using renewable power. The majority of companies are afraid that being green will harm their business. However, studies show that sustainable businesses are more successful.

They maintain loyal customers and stay competitive. Tesla, for example, has made electric cars proving that green innovation can be lucrative. Meanwhile, fast fashion firms have been accused of generating too much waste and perpetrating dubious labour practices. The majority of them are now changing their practices due to consumer demand.

The Future of Corporate Responsibility cannot just be rule-compliant but must actively contribute to saving the planet. Governments, firms, and people need to join forces to ensure that development is not realized at the cost of the world. There are a number of ways to force companies to become responsible: Governments can sanction companies that exceed pollution thresholds and require them to conduct environmental impact studies before taking up big projects. Companies must be transparent about their carbon footprint and waste disposal. Companies may adopt a "circular economy" approach, where material is re-circulated and recycled instead of being discarded. Green technology, like solar power, biodegradable materials, and AI-enabled energy management, can reduce environmental damage. Companies can collaborate across industries to reduce their collective environmental impact, and investors should invest in environmental sustainable startups. Ultimately, corporate responsibility is all about thinking long-term. Companies must shift their priorities from short term profits to long-term success. Governments must enact stricter regulations and companies need to take the lead in building a greener future.

Neha S Nair
I Year BA HPS



THE GREY BLANKET IN THE CAPITAL

Delhi, the capital of India, has got its rich culture, majestic historical sites, and a vibrant street life in its full delight. But every year when winter makes its entrance, the city wears an extremely thick and polluted layer of air called smog. With its arrival, smog-the "Grey Blanket"-chokes the atmosphere of terribly poisonous air: unbreathable, unseeable, unsafe enough even to step outside. This isn't just an environment problem; it's a health crisis capable of terminating millions of lives. Let us see what causes the smog, what effects it has on our lives, and how we can put a stop to it.

The causes of Smog in Delhi includes stubble burning, where the farmers (in the states of Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh) burn crop debris. Smoke from there drifts into Delhi air and aggravates the pollution problem. The roads of Delhi are congested with cars, buses, and trucks-road clouds, gases that ventilate into the air. Smoke and gasses from industrial factories around Delhi fill the air, thus contributing to additional pollution. Construction work is a highly dust-generating process, which adds abrasive dust into the atmosphere. In winter, the cold air near the ground tends to hold onto any pollution that approaches it. This process is called temperature inversion, whereby this type of air can remain over Delhi for many days or weeks.

Smog has health issues to serve from the lungs and heart, followed by problems connected to breathing, including asthma, heart disease, and perhaps cancer. Children, older people, and persons with other health issues suffer the most effects of smog. Smog is likely to affect the lungs and hearts negatively. Inhalation of particulate matter (PM2.5) leads to issues in the lungs and blood and results in sometimes breathing troubles, including asthma, heart diseases, and perhaps even cancer.



Most affected by it are children, the elderly, and persons with other health issues. It completely seals visibility for the dots, causing various accidents on the roads. This leads to further delay of flights and trains. Due to smog, not only human beings but also plants, crops, and animals suffer immense distress. It reduces the agricultural production and is very dangerous to the environment. After some considerable time, other school closures, sluggish businesses, and increased medical expenditure balance against this.

Living in Delhi during smog season is a tough experience. The air smells of smoke with a faint sun obscured behind the thick veil of pollution. Staying indoors, wearing masks, and using air purifiers in homes is what people are advised to do. Oftentimes, schools are shut down, and outdoor activities are limited. Poor daily wage workers cannot afford to stay indoors. They have to work outdoors in a deadly air-hugging environment risking their lives and health for the sake of money to sustain their families. The other ways that smog does affect the mental health of the residents are that people start to feel stressed, anxious, and sad that they cannot take leisurely walks or let their kids play outdoors.



The problem of smog in Delhi needs concerted efforts on the part of the government, citizens, and neighbouring states. In order to stop burning of crop waste, farmers should be encouraged to make use of modern farming equipment which would help them manage crop waste without incineration. The general motive here is to have fewer vehicles plying on the roads, thus causing less pollution.

There is a government initiative to upgrade the buses, metros, and any other means of public transport for increased patronage. The industry and construction sites should follow pollution control laws. Those who fail to follow are required to face the wrath of the law. Trees purify the air from fine dust particles and, thereby, pollution. Plant more trees inside the city.

It is a dire situation, yet the more hopeful part is that people have become conscious of the pollution issue. The government has initiated programs like the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) for controlling pollution. The citizens are also helping by lowering their carbon footprints. But the war is long-term. Continuous efforts, better technology, and shared responsibility will make the air in the capital resplendently clean again. It sends a forewarning about the damage we have done to Nature. Working together-it may be the individual, the community, or the whole government-we can hope to secure our environment and health. One day, Delhi will breathe free and blue again if we try our utmost sincerely. And until that day arrives, the fight against the Grey Blanket is on.

Arya Yash Raj
I Year BA HPS



**DID YOU
KNOW ?**



In 1986 the Ganga Action Plan was launched by India which focused on cleaning the Ganges River.

THE ETERNAL SYMPHONY

Wind hums deep, the ocean sings,
A song where thunder peals.
Whispering leaves, the chirping strain,
The heartbeats glowing under the moon.

Mountains stand with immortal beauty,
Rivers cut streams in nature's fold.
Wild winds dance in forests so dark,
A creation under the shining sun.

But careless hands with greed unsealed,
Green becomes grey, turns earth to flamed steel.
The rivers lose their waters cold,
The sky grows pale and turns to white to hold.

But in our hands, power is placed
To mend the earth, to purify the skies.
One seed, one voice so powerful,
Can restore nature's ancient song.

Listen closely, the earth still sings,
A silent cry on delicate wings.
If we defend, if we preserve,
Her music will never cease.

Now I recall...
You never once said my name,
Yet why does your absence feel so familiar?
I never caused you pain,
Yet why do your rivers cry and your skies grow grey?

Now I remember...
I had once slept the entire night away just to savor your wind,
But that soft breeze never came back...
I wanted to view your rich green hug,
But now, you are gone, and are not to be found...

You reside in remembrances, and maybe that's where you need to be,
For if I were to see you once more in this dying world,
This silly lover could possibly break—
Witnessing you as mere remnants of the past.
A love lost to time, lost in forgetfulness...

The Eternal Guardian

When the sky cries, rivers swell,
A whisper of life in each tide.
The world, a mother, warm and wide,
Mending wounds of long ago's pride.

She rocks us with soft hands,
Nourishes the earth, brings lands to life.
But wild hands slash deep and far,
Forgetting she's the one who guards.

But nature yields, she does not bend,
A great power in quiet command.
Tend her roots, her rivers bright,
Or be submerged under her boundless power.
Nourishes the earth, restores the nations.
But careless hands dig deep and broad.

Suhas N Rao
I Year BA HPS



MARADU FLAT DEMOLITION: A WAKE UP CALL FOR ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE?

The demolition in Kerala, of the Maradu flats marked an event that underscored the ramifications of inadequate ecological governance as well as regulatory shortcomings. The obliteration of several high-rise apartment buildings, back in January 2020, subsequent to a verdict from the Supreme Court, illuminated vital quandaries regarding urban planning, ecological sustainability, legal responsibility, and also homeowners' rights. This particular event acts as a serious wake-up call for certain policymakers, many urban planners, as well as quite a few ecological agencies to reconsider several governance strategies along with fully implementing stricter compliance measures.

Maradu, located in the Ernakulam district of Kerala, had experienced an extensive legal dispute over environmental infringement in real estate holdings. The problems arose when it came to limelight that several residential buildings erected failed to observe the norms of the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ), which considered to safeguard the sensitive coastal regions ecologically from extreme urbanization from an ecological perspective.



The Kerala Coastal Zone Management Authority, also known as the KCZMA reasoned the unauthorized manufacture of four residential complexes namely, H2O Holy Faith, Alfa Serene, Golden Kayaloram and Jain Coral Cove. These buildings were structured near the Vembanad lake, a Ramsar wetland site, which necessitates severe and rigorous protection owing to its ecological importance. Upon examining and analyzing the case, the Supreme Court of India, finally ordered the destruction of these buildings, announcing a clear violations of the Coastal Regulation Zone regulations.

Despite the prevailing legal frameworks, authorities had issued building permits without appropriate environmental authorization, succeeding in a significant violation of both legal and environmental protocols. This however, has raised genuine questions about the competence of India's environmental governance system and underestimated the need for more meticulous administration mechanisms.



Key Issues Exposed

Violation of Environmental Laws

The Maradu demolition case explicitly shows how regulations pertaining to environment can be underscored due to the inefficiencies, corruption and inadequate enforcement mechanisms by the bureaucracy. The 1981 CRZ notification and its following revisions were operated to deter ecological harm in

coastal regions. However, in this case for an instance, there are few things that should not go unnoticed. As a matter of fact, the municipality granted construction permits without assessing the environmental effects.

The KCZMA did not address the violations until legal actions begun. What's even more surprising is that the developers continued with the constructions in spite of clear legal risks that lie ahead. The slow trail in identifying and expressing these infringements not only caused environmental harm but also led to financial and emotional disadvantage for homeowners.

Governance and Accountability Gaps

Another significant weakness was the lack of cooperation among different regulatory authorities. The Maradu situation disclosed the disconnect between the local government entities, state authorities and environmental regulators. The municipality's failure and the protracted response from environmental bodies highlighted high rates of inefficiencies in monitoring and enforcement. The final intervention of the government pointed the failure of the municipality and the protracted response from the environmental bodies.

What were the lessons?

To avoid more incidents, it is extremely important to strengthen the frameworks governing real estate developments. Regular monitoring and strict adherence to CRZ norms should be given careful consideration. Transparency in urban planning procedures must be encouraged. The case also highlights the claim for holding authorities accountable and more importantly, protecting homebuyer's rights.

A Turning Point?

The Demolition established the need for a stricter environmental enforcement in the country. It conveys a clear message that environmental laws has to be looked into with much importance. In a nutshell, the demolition of the Maradu flats acts as a clear reminder of the repercussions of poor environmental governance. Although it upheld the rule of law, it simultaneously revealed the inherent failures in urban planning, regulatory enforcement, and governance transparency. This incident underscored the critical necessity for more robust environmental regulations, improved collaboration among regulatory agencies, and increased consumer protections. For India to realize sustainable urban development, the insights gained from Maradu need to be integrated into forthcoming policy-making and governance frameworks. By taking lessons from such events, authorities can strive for a more accountable, transparent, and sustainable method of environmental governance.

Liya Susan

II Year BA PSSO



ECHOES OF THE LAND

This campus I sing of rests on soft, rolling hills
Just below the sky where idle clouds bask.
The echo of voices, ancient and modern, paints
A quintessential picture for the aspiring thinker;
but a shadow stifles creativity and sleep is elusive.

The wooden peers bestowed their treasures so rich,
Poets and philosophers soared above the air,
Yet the chainsaws lift the spirits of dead trees
Singing tunes sorrowful and lost beneath the moonlight.

They outline boundaries and own every inch of land,
Services scrubbed of any sense of justice define neat borders,
Claim courtrooms so brilliantly illuminated where justice languidly gasps.
Yet wisdom preserved in the whiff of blossoming flowers,
in each rock and thick leaves beam and enfold

Our home, realms of mastery that none could seize.
Should we bury the past hoping it silently roams
And allow silent, yet merciless footsteps of machines
To march unshackled, or will the spirits
Which guard these scared lands find their way out,
allowing laughter to fill the valleys beyond?

Riapha
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ECO AT THE EDGE: CAN INDIA BALANCE GROWTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT?

India is a witness to a transformative era in environmental awareness, inspired by a mixture of ground-level activism, scientific research, and developed policy structure. As climate change increases and biodiversity loss becomes more pronounced, there is more pressure than ever before for comprehensive and effective environmental regulation. Worldwide, movements such as Fridays for Future have captured public imagination, while in India, Madhav Gadgil and Dr. K. Kasturirangan. Important reports such as the Report of the Kasturirangan Committee have led to the national debate to balance development and ecological protection.



Together, these forces are shaping the environmental consciousness and governance of the country. Friday has ignited a global youth movement advocating strong climate action for the future, launched by Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg. In India, this movement has found a strong rung among students and youth who demand accountability from policymakers.

These young sounds have outlined the importance of inter-economy by staging protests, organizing climate strikes, and using social media. She argues that the decisions made today should not compromise the ability of future generations to enjoy a healthy planet. In doing so, she has played an important role in pushing climate interaction into the mainstream discourse, aligning local demands with global goals like the people mentioned in the Paris Agreement. While international pressure is important, national policy also plays a fundamental role in shaping environmental results. In India, two landmark reports—to address the delicate ecosystem of the Western Ghats—have offered separate scenes for sustainable development. Madhav Gadgil Committee Report released.

However, the Gadgil report faced criticism from various stakeholders, especially industries and local governments, which are concerned about its possible impact on livelihood and development projects. In response to these concerns, in 2013, the Dr. K. Kasturirangan committee nominated 37% of the Western Ghats as ecologically sensitive and suggested a zonal system that balances protection with economic activity. Although it aims to bridge the gap between environmental protection and development, critics argued that it diluted some strong security measures recommended in earlier reports. Nevertheless, both reports paid attention to the delicate balance between economic progress and environmental stability.

Globally, climate change has forced nations to reconsider how environmental regulation has been designed and implemented. While skilled governance does not require extreme pressure to function, real-world obstacles such as political interests, economic preferences, and institutional inertia often slow down progress. How environmental laws develop in the future in international cooperation, technological development, economic principles, and social values. Despite the global agreements, many countries, including India, struggle to meet the goals of emissions reduction. The commitment to limit global warming to 1.5 ° C above the pre-industrial levels mentioned by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) remains elusive due to competition due to national interests.

A major challenge is to translate environmental policies into practical action. Symbolic gestures are no longer enough; the actual change demands strong enforcement mechanisms, transparent governance, and a long-term plan. The increasing importance of biodiversity conservation adds another layer of urgency. The ecosystems around the world, including India, face unprecedented threats due to extinction of forest harvesting, housing loss, pollution, and extinction of species. Effective environmental rules should be maintained, and ecological diversity, indigenous rights, and sustainable industry practices should be integrated. Indigenous communities often have traditional knowledge systems that are invaluable for protection, and their meaningful inclusion in policymaking is necessary.

Progress in technology provides promising tools to strengthen environmental monitoring and accountability. Technological advancements have made new innovations such as blockchain, artificial intelligence, and satellite imaging that are being used to track pollution levels, monitor usage of resources, and apply rules more effectively. These devices can bring transparency to environmental regimes, but their success depends on how they are integrated with existing policy frameworks and whether they are accessible to those on the ground.

Another powerful driver of change is the role of non-state actors—sub-regional society groups, businesses, educational institutions, and communities. From global protests to corporate stability vows, these actors are rapidly affecting the environmental agenda. However, their efforts should be handled by hand with strong policy reforms. Without binding off commitments and rigorous implementation, such efforts risk being superficial. A deep Issue at the core of the environmental crisis is continuous stress between economic growth and environmental stability. Historically, the profit-operated model has preferred development over ecological balance, causing irreversible damage.

The convergence of youth-led movements like Fridays offers a roadmap for action for the future with specialized reports by Gadgil and Kasturirangan. By integrating science, activism, and inclusive rule, India can set an example for the world. The need for a permanent, just, and flexible future has never been more important—and the time to work for a better change is now.

Zakka Abraham
II Year BA JOPS



ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE IN METROPOLITAN CITIES: A CASE STUDY OF BANGALORE

Facing challenges such as rapid urban expansion alongside destruction to the environment, there is a need to focus on developing frameworks that integrates the social, economic, and ecosystem. Governance policies centered around environmental issues has emerged as a critical framework looking into the policies, processes, and institutions to advance sustainable approaches while protecting life and natural resources as well as enhancing the quality of life. Bangalore, the capital of Karnataka and often referred to as the "Silicon Valley of India," paradigm faced by the modern urban centres. The city is well known for its IT infrastructure and its rich cultural heritage. It is a home for multiple unicorn start-ups. On the other hand the city encounters environmental issues , air pollution , diminishing green spaces ,water scarcity and traffic congestion. Bangalore's approach to environmental governance seeks to integrate stakeholder participation, transparency, and accountability into its decision-making processes.

Bangalore is one of the fastest growing cities in India and its phenomenal expansion in the recent decades have severely strained the environment. Green spaces and water bodies have drastically reduced. This unchecked development has disturbed the city's ecological balance and weakened its resilience to climate changes. The water crisis in Bangalore is complicated due to overexploitation, inadequate infrastructure, and pollution.



Furthermore, combined with the city's increasing dependence on private vehicles, newly built homes and businesses and their chronic traffic congestion mark the dire state and further deteriorating air quality has made it difficult for inhabitants to breathe. In response, the government of Karnataka has come up with proposed policies to ban bike taxi services provided by MNCs like Ola, Rapido and Uber within the city.

The outcomes of the waste management procedure in Bangalore have been neither completely successful nor completely unsuccessful . Efforts like waste segregation and waste to energy projects exist, but their execution is inadequate. The tendency of using renewable energy sources, especially solar, is on the rise. Solar panels are more common on rooftops throughout the city. Still, the cities solar potential top line remains untapped. At the same time, measures to reduce traffic such as extending the Namma Metro and adding electric buses are positive strides toward urban mobility sustainability. Bangalore is confronted with the tasks of preserving the natural environment. This is due to the infrastructure and rapid population growth makes it hard to maintain the city's green legacy. BBMP estimates indicate that around 10,000 trees are felled annually for development projects. In response, the Karnataka Preservation of Trees Act was passed in 1976. Nonetheless, the enforcement continues to be ineffective because of the sequential step diplomacy of town planning and municipal law. It is necessary to reinforce the powers of the Tree Officer and add eco-friendly policies at all levels of construction planning.



In Bangalore, the city's rapid urban development and ambitious infrastructure projects have had significant consequences for marginalized communities, particularly slum dwellers and low-income groups. Unfortunately, in many instances, environmental governance tends to overlook issues of social equity, leading to forced evictions that often lack adequate support or rehabilitation for those affected.

Major initiatives such as road widening, metro expansion, and new commercial developments can displace residents from their homes, uprooting not just their physical living spaces but also disrupting their livelihoods and cherished social networks.

Exploitation is often pursued, and a lack of coherence within the various regulatory frameworks is a frequent occurrence. In turn, this fails to pay adequate attention to the environmental aspects. The haphazard changes in land use tend to create a lot of strain to the natural resources.

In Bangalore, land use changes are controlled by multiple acts such as:

- Karnataka Land Revenue Act (KLR Act)
- Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act (KTCP Act)
- Karnataka Municipal Corporation Act (KMC Act)

Bangalore Climate Action and Resilience Plan (BCAP). On November 28, 2023, BBMP launched, along with WRI India and other associates, the Bangalore Climate Action and Resilience Plan (BCAP), which aims to integrate local climate action with wider state, national, and international efforts. The plan seeks to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 while increasing the city's resilience to climate impacts and strengthening socio-economic development. BCAP implementation requires engagement from multiple stakeholders, including government, civil society, the private sector, and the public. Actions across agencies are to be coordinated by a specialized cell created at BBMP. Nevertheless, serious challenges remain such as no enabling legislation. Bangalore's approaches to environmental governance showcase the challenges of balancing the urban sprawl alongside ecological conservation. The city, like many others, struggles with a lack of integration, enforcement, stakeholder coordination and silos policies even in the face of BCAP and other waste management reforms. Absence of coordinated funding still prevents effective implementation. Boosting enforcement and integrating protective measures into all growth initiatives is vital. As such, the city could approach managing its growth without compromising ecological sustainability.

Manikandaraja M
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DEFORESTATION: GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND INDIGENOUS RIGHTS IN INDIA

The United Nations' (UN) Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) defines deforestation as the conversion of forest to another land use or the long-term reduction of tree canopy below the 10% threshold. The factors of deforestation can be human-driven or nature-driven or both. The value and functions of forests are immense and diverse. Similarly, the impacts of deforestation are global and commune the whole forest community. The emphasis on short-term economic benefits has led to the clearing of forested lands for agriculture, logging, urbanization, and the need for infrastructural development projects such as mining, dams, roads, railways, and power lines. Natural disasters such as forest fires, floods, droughts, cyclones, etc., significantly contributed to the rise of deforestation.

According to the Global Forest Watch (GFW), in 2020, India had 51.2 Mha (512,000 km²) of natural forest, extending over 16% of its land area. However, in 2023, it lost 179 kha (1,790 km²) which is equivalent to 89.6 Mt (megatonnes) of CO₂ emissions. According to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2023, released by the Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change (MoEF & CC), India has lost approximately 1,733 km² of forested land on account of infrastructural development.



However, agricultural expansion, as one of the human-driven factors, has become the major driver of deforestation in the country. Similarly, urbanization and natural disasters have their own share of contribution to the growing act of destruction. The repercussions of deforestation have been detected in the aspects of global climate change, hydrology, soil quality, economic and social welfare, and biodiversity.

The loss of biodiversity has a ripple effect on the ecosystem, which contributes to the extinction of various species and increases the number of endangered species in the country. Certainly, the most important thing to note is that the displacement and marginalization of forest-dependent Indigenous People due to mining-induced and other infrastructure-induced deforestation has been a major repercussion of the same. This has been a threat and a survival crisis for the indigenous communities, the Adivasis, since the 19th century, when the Britishers gave emphasis to commercial forestry and expansion of railways, which continues in today's independent India. Although the northeastern states like Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Manipur have the highest rates of deforestation in the country, the mining-induced deforestation in the states of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, etc., is practically the larger area of forests and tree canopies being destroyed.

Since the colonial era, the government of India has been implementing forest management laws that continue to be a trend in post-colonial India. In pre-independence India, the laws were made to prohibit the Indians from accessing the forest products that hindered their needs and development, but in independent India, the laws are made to protect the forest and conserve the natural environment. However, it is extremely obscure if the laws and regulations are effective enough to retain the existing natural environment. Despite the fact that the union government and its alliances ensure the effective implementation of laws and regulations on environmental governance across the country, the existing demand for infrastructural development and the need for agricultural expansion to sustain the growing population have become an alternative issue that could hinder the innovation of forest governance and environmental conservation in the country.

The Government of India has developed a strong legal and policy framework for sustainable forest governance through the National Forest Policy (1988), the Indian Forest Act (1927), the Forest (Conservation) Act (1980), the Wildlife (Protection) Act (1972), and the Environment Protection Act (EPA) (1986). Alongside government regulations, there are also non-governmental organizations, quasi-governmental bodies, academic and research institutions, and international organizations operating in India.

The Union Government keeps amending the laws and regulations according to the prevailing situation of the environment and to make them effective. The Indian Forest Act, 1927, was amended during the subsequent years, and the Indian Forest (Amendment) Ordinance, 2017, was its latest amendment. The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, has been amended twice, in the years 1988 and 2023, such as the Forest Conservation (Amendment) Act, 1988, and the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2023.

Notwithstanding the implementation of laws and regulations for the governance of forests and natural environments, the infrastructural development that is a necessity for the country's economic growth, trade and transportation, water and power supply, alleviation of poverty, urban development and connectivity, etc., has induced deforestation, which has been an alarming menace for the indigenous communities who depend on forest products for survival. Thus, a development project for urban dwellers has become a threat to the indigenous people when it disrupts their traditional way of life, displacing them from their ancestral lands, failing to adequately consider their cultural heritage and needs and rights, destroying their environment, and further leading them to marginalization and exploitation

Therefore, the need to sustain the livelihood of the forest-dwelling communities and the inevitable developmental projects have become a critical hurdle for the government and its alliances. To combat the addressed riddle, the governing authority enforces laws and schemes that govern the natural environment of the country, specifically the forests.



The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, henceforth the Forest Rights Act (FRA), was enacted on December 29, 2006, to recognize the rights of the forest-dwelling communities. This gave them the right to access the forest lands and their resources for their needs and to protect them from any possible harm.

This legislation grants the Gram Panchayat, together with the Gram Sabha, the decision-making power to consent to any project to be carried out in the forest. According to Article 32 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), states must consult with and obtain the Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) of Indigenous Peoples before approving any natural resource development project that could affect them and their lands. An act of the union Parliament, the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Act, 2013, also works in conjunction with the FRA, 2006, to protect indigenous peoples from forced eviction without fair compensation, rehabilitation, and resettlement.

With the forest governance policies implemented, the union government also launched initiatives like the National Afforestation Program (NAP) and Green India Mission (GIM—one of the missions of NAPCC) for the restoration of degraded forests, enlargement of forest cover, and enhancement of ecosystem services. Consequently, the question of how we sustain both the modern advancements and the natural environment is now a critical and pressing issue that deserves the immediate attention of the governments, business corporations, and individuals.



First and foremost, it must be ensured that the laws and regulations are effectively implemented, followed, and recognized by the national, state, and municipal governments, along with proactive civil and private society. The strategies that are inevitable to implement in order to mitigate deforestation and sustain the economic pursuits of the country include the adoption of sustainable agroforestry, sustainable legal logging, and agro-pastoral production systems, including the alternatives to slash-and-burn agriculture such as crop rotation, alley cropping or intercropping, livestock integration, etc., and necessarily the human population growth rate must be reduced.

Afforestation and reforestation of areas affected by natural disasters like wildfires, earthquakes, and cyclones must be a top priority. Certainly, the governing authority must ensure that the permanent forest estates are protected at any cost. In conclusion, while the government introduced and implemented various policies, laws, and schemes, deforestation in India remains a critical environmental and socio-political mystery on account of large-scale industrial projects and inadequate enforcement, as well as the growing population to some extent. Notwithstanding the legal protections like the FRA, 2006, and RFCTLARR Act, 2013, the indigenous communities continue to struggle for their land rights and survival. The community-based forest management must be encouraged along with voluntary participation of groups and individuals. Ultimately, strengthening collaboration between the government, environmental organizations, and the indigenous peoples is essential to creating policies that are both effective, equitable, and sustainable. “We must protect the forests for our children, grandchildren, and children yet to be born. We must protect the forests for those who can’t speak for themselves, such as the birds, animals, fish, and trees.” — Qwatsinas (Hereditary Chief Edward Moody), Nuxalk Nation

Lhunminlun Khongsai

II Year BA HSPS



THE TREE LAW

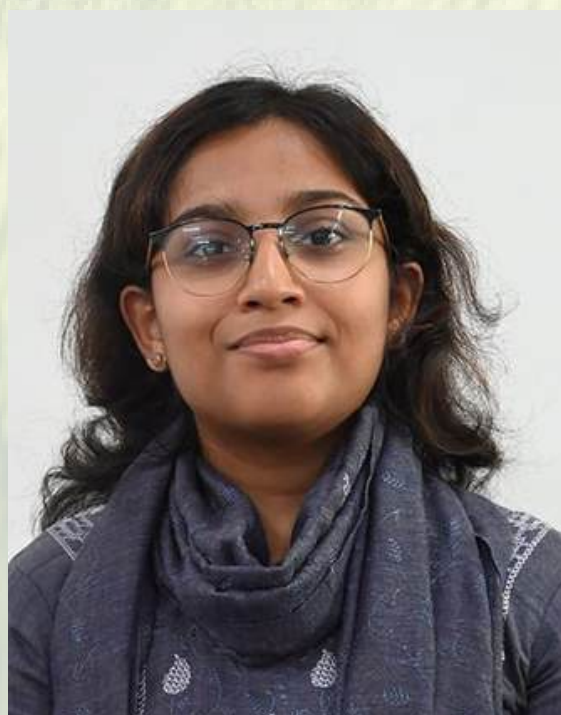
*The old and wise trees stand tall,
their roots reveal hidden mysteries.
They work the land and give to us,
but they perish at the ruthless hands of
greed.*

*Although vows are written down and
promises are made,
forests are felled and their cries are silenced.
Strong action—not winging it—
will prevail over promises.*

*Let policies shield every sacred grove,
Not quiver before loggers and vagrants.
Let justice spread like leaves of green.
A promise kept, for a world to see.*

*Because trees mark time with such wide
rings,
we vowed to hold onto the earth.
Respect them, allow trees to grow larger,
or let the earth's breath run out.*

*Christy Jaison
II YEAR PSSO*



THE FLOWERING OF MELOCANNA BACCIFERA: A RECURRING FAMINE

From being a well-loved delicacy to an important contributor to the state's economy - bamboos are one of Mizoram's most important plants, which promotes the state's unique art and culture. As a part of the people's lives since time immemorial, it has become a symbol of the state's cultural identity however, it is this beloved Bamboo that brings ill luck to the state's livelihood every 48 years.

The flowering of the bamboos is not something that people look forward to as it leads to famine, Mizo people who are referred to as the Mautam where 'Mau' translates to Bamboo and 'Tam' translates to famine. About 30 percent of the total area of Mizoram is covered with thick bamboo forests, housing over 20 species of bamboo. The flowering of *Melocanna Baccifera*, a species of bamboo, provides an excessive amount of food for rats that feed on bamboo seeds this leads to their extensive breeding, resulting in the rodent population spiraling out of control and wiping out crops, leading to shortages of food grains. Thus, the famine has been a problematic issue ever since the first recorded Mautam famine back in 1815 since then, this famine has been witnessed in Mizoram every 48 years; 1863, 1911, 1959, and most recently, in 2007. The Mizo people, who have endured this painful recurring event for generations, have a saying that, 'When the bamboo flowers, death and destruction will follow.'



The drastic effects of the Mautam Famine in 1959 led to the formation of an organization called the Mizo National Famine Front (MNFF) in 1960, which later evolved into a political party by renaming it the Mizo National Front (MNF). During this particular famine, Mizoram was still a district in the state of Assam, and its food and rodent problems were ignored by the Assam government, blaming it as an exaggerated situation to divert the central government's attention within the region.

Thus, the Mizo National Front party fought for their rights since the central government ignored the famine, causing a two-decade-long insurgency until the signing of the peace accord in 1986. Till today, this party plays an active role in politics and is among the most prominent parties in the state.

The government later took initiatives to tackle the famine by implementing various policies and schemes, including the Bamboo Flowering and Famine Combat Schemes (BAFFACOS) formed in 2005 under the then Chief Minister Zoramthanga. The plan was multi-layered and involved cutting down as many bamboos as possible before the flowering season could reduce the production of bamboo seeds. The second part of the scheme aimed at stocking large piles of food grains to ensure constant food supply and tackle hunger among the common masses. Another scheme introduced by the government was the payment of Rs. 2 for each rodent killed. Officials were also trained to coordinate relief quickly and efficiently when such disasters occur. However, this scheme was unsuccessful as the rodent population exceeded expectations.

The most immediate and significant impact of the Mautam can be seen in terms of agricultural production, where infestation of rats resulted in the widespread destruction of rice crops that created a food crisis. Local farmers faced economic hardships, and with the increasing population density and changing agricultural practices, the effects of Mautam have become harder to manage. Despite such challenges, the famine also showcases the resilience of the Mizo people, where communities come together to tackle the rodent problem. The Mizos often rely on community cooperation to manage the effects of Mautam showcasing the solidarity of the people in times of hardship.



Mautam is a natural challenging phenomenon for Mizoram. While it brings unique ecological processes, such as the mass flowering and death of Bamboos, it also poses significant challenges to agriculture as well.

The next Mautam is expected to occur around 2054, based on the natural 48-year cycle of bamboo flowering. Therefore, effective environmental governance, disaster management and community engagement are essential to mitigate the impacts of Mautam. With the expectancy of its return in 2054, long-term strategies such as sustainable farming practices, rodent control and scientific research and development are necessary to reduce the harmful impacts of this cyclical event. By creating an adaptive and well-coordinated response, the state may be able to scale down the negative effects of this fascinating yet disruptive natural phenomenon.

Vanlalsangkimi Pachuau
III Year BA HSPS



DID YOU
KNOW ?



The Montreal Protocol was signed in 1987 which aimed at reducing substances that depletes the ozone layer.



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Independence Day- Reminiscing the Legacy of Indian Freedom Fighters.

Date: 20/08/2024

The Department of Political Science conducted an event on 'Reminiscing the legacy of Indian Freedom Fighters' in which the students presented about the event and struggle of those freedom fighters who are in shady area. Ten students participated in this and

each of them showcased unsung heroes of freedom struggle who are unknown to world but played a significant role in the independence.

It was just not confined to political narrative but also at social reform level. It was beneficial for the students as they came across those forgotten leaders who has eloped from the pages of freedom struggle. It ignited the minds of students. The event brought together faculty and students, promoting unity and appreciation for India's Independence

Vidwat Sanghosthi I - Expert Talk on Role of Youth in Nation Building.

Date: 20/09/2024

The Department of Political Science organized a guest talk on the Role of Youth in Nation Building. The expert talk was based on the importance of youth's participation in shaping the nation's progress. The speaker address the pivotal role of active civic participation, innovation and social responsibility.

The session encouraged students to participate in discussions and to contribute in national development through educational awareness programs, entrepreneurship and community service. The chief guest V Balasubramanian (Retired IAS Advisor - Supreme Court of India) shared his vision of the potential of an empowered youth and the steps necessary to achieve it.



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Le Foulard Magique- College Turf Date: 20/09/2024

On 20th September, 2024, the Department of Political Science organized a captivating event for III year HSPS & PSSO students. “Le Foulard Magique” which enthralled the students to come forward and speak on spot, encouraging quick thinking.

The event was held to engage students in a fun game which aimed at revising concepts of international relations, it was interactive and creative. It commended the students for their active participation and mentioned about the significance of International Relations.



Mock Parliament Date: 24/09/2024

The Department of Political Science organized a flagship event, the Mock Parliament 2024, on 24th September. The main aim was to create awareness about the significance of the Indian Parliamentary System and involve the students in the process of the parliament.

The mock parliament is a demonstration of political processes in the Lok Sabha. It aims to provide holistic training and public speaking as well as acting with extensive knowledge about parliamentary procedures.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Workshop on educating youth for climate action.

Date: 9/10/2024

The workshop on climate change was conducted by the Department of political science at Kristu Jayanti College, autonomous. The resource person, Dr A Srinivasacharlu was the guest speaker of the day and hosted the workshop. The role of education in protecting and empowering the youth was emphasized. A survey was held on climate change awareness among the youth. The various ministries such as IPCC, WMO, UNEP and CEE etc who play a significant part in mitigating climate change were discussed. the urgent need to recognize the devastating impact of climate change and the urgency of climate action was conveyed. Good and authentic statistical data was provided, which is very useful.



Workshop on WHY SPIN

Date: 10/10/2024

On the 10th of October, 2024, in Kristu Jayanti College, the department of Political Science organized a workshop on “WHY SPIN’. The workshop revisited and aimed to teach students the art of spinning the charkha and making fabric. Spinning yarn is also a therapy.

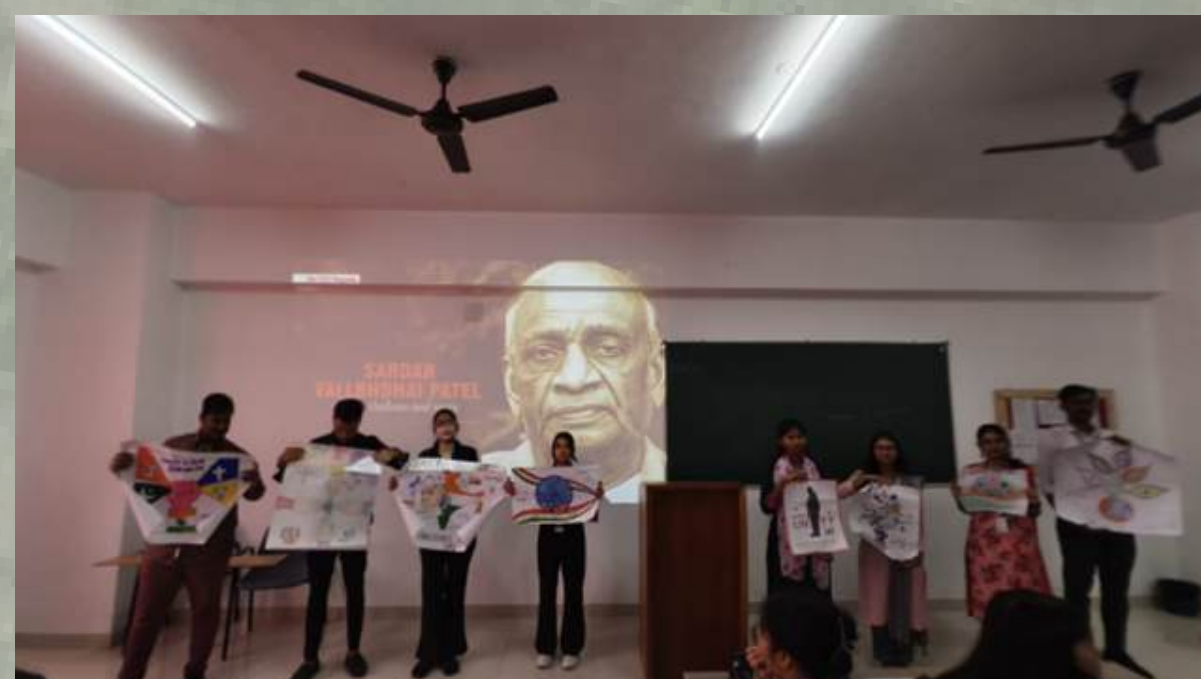
We disconnect from the devices around us and connect to something that is physical and tangible. It is also meditative in nature and people of all ages above 8 years can engage in this activity.

Documentary Screening on Unity Day

Date: 30/10/2024

The documentary screening of Sardar Patel was conducted by the department of political science at Kristu Jayanti College autonomous, it was an educational initiative undertaken in order to highlight the role of Sardar Patel on the significant occasion of Unity Day.

The documentary portrayed the freedom struggle and the mass movements that took place right from the Kheda and the Bardoli movement until India gained independence. The documentary was organized for the sole purpose of educating students about the contribution of Sardar Patel in the freedom struggle.



ANNUAL REPORTS



Gamification- Rock Raiders

Date: 08/01/2025

The Department of Political Science organised a gamification - Rock Raiders for the final year HSPS & PSSO students as a part of their fun curriculum which refreshed their knowledge. The session was an interactive one which brought together students to experience gamified.

learning in action. The event demonstrated how game-based approaches can enhance leadership, decision making and adaptability. The session helped the students push their ability to the maximum, enhancing learning and personal growth.

Mock Election - Nothing like voting, I vote for sure.

Date: 24/01/2025

On the occasion of National Voters Day, the Department of Political Science of Kristu Jayanti College held mock election. The election process adhered to the current procedures practiced, which included the nomination of candidates, party-based campaigning and voting. It had a general interaction with the students while addressing the party agendas and manifestos. Students of all three years casted their votes through a ballot box. Student's responses to the voting process was filled with excitement and curiosity.



ANNUAL REPORTS

Shadow Art Exhibition to pay tribute to Martyrs' Day

Date: 30/01/2025



The shadow art exhibition served as a heartfelt homage to the nation's fallen heroes, the warriors of our nation. With the fabulous use of light and shadow to portray moments of bravery, gallantry and sacrifice, the exhibition visualized stunning illustrations of historical events and anecdotes of those who offered their lives for the sake of our country. The artistic expressions portrayed

evoked deep emotions, leaving the gathering with an enlightening sense of patriotism, respect and reverence. The session was conducted to praise the artists for their creativity and emphasized the significance of reminiscing the sacrifices that built the nation and the hands behind it.

Green Talk: Self-Reliance Theory

Date: 5/01/ 2025

A green talk initiative was undertaken by the department to provide the students with a fresh and different atmosphere to learn. Students were divided into different groups and were given an opportunity to present different perspectives of Emerson's self-reliance theory. The relevance and significance of self-reliance theory under the purview of international relations was examined, broadening the student's scope of understanding.



Field visit to Channapatna and Janapada Loka

Date: 17/02/2025



The Department initiated a Field visit to Channapatna which is also known as toy town of Karnataka. Students witnessed traditional toy making process, they got an opportunity to interact with the local artisans and also they realize the importance of preserving indigenous skills.

At janapada Loka students came across various collocation of folk-art music, customs and rural life artefacts.

The visit emphasized the importance of preserving the cultural knowledge, creativity and skill.

ANNUAL REPORTS



Expert talk on AI and governance

Date: 20/02/ 2025

As a part of the academic series, the political science department hosted an insightful Talk on AI and governance. The keynote speaker was Mr. K.C Shankar who Addressed the students on role of AI in governance and how Technologies enhance transparency in governance.

He also discussed the challenges and limitations of AI adoption in governance including data quality and bias. He also shared the vision for the future of AI in governance.

Base University

Date: 21/02/ 2025

The students of Political Science department visited Base University to attend a series of expert lectures with bureaucrats. The session provided insights into how digital tools and platforms play an important role for bringing transparency in governance and the benefits of digital tools and platforms were also explained by the depicting proper statistical analysis.

They shared real-world examples of successful E-governance. This interaction provided deeper knowledge to students on the evolving role of governance in the digital age.



Expert talk on justice and equality at the intersection of global climate Talks

Date: 27/02/2025

An expert talk on “Justice and Equity at the Intersect of Global Climate Talks” was organized, featuring a distinguished chief guest, Dr. Rubina Pradhan from Jain University. The session emphasized on the

importance of incorporating justice and equity in global climate negotiations, highlighting how communities are being affected by climate change. The expert discussed various initiatives and policies undertaken by the government and its impact on the society as well as the climate. The talk emphasized the need for inclusive policies and fair representation in climate action.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Workshop on mindfulness for stress Management

Date: 28/02/2025

The department of political science has organized a workshop on mindfulness for stress management. The chief guest, Reetu Singh & Pranab Kumar emphasized on how mental peace is important and touched upon the adverse effects of stress on our overall health. The workshop aimed at learning to manage anxiety, depression and pressure in both personal professional life and the role of yoga to de-stress ourselves



Workshop on Embodied Emotions: Exploring cultural politics and Collective memory through Theory and Practice.

Date: 4/03/2025

The workshop's engaging discussion and hands-on activities encouraged participants to consider how emotions influence public life and cultural awareness. The workshop was made more meaningful and intellectually stimulating by the presence of the

distinguished Chief Guest Miss Srilakshmi MP, who added different perceptive and academic depth to the session.

Street play

Date: 10/03/2025

A vibrant Street Play and Dance Performance was held at Chavara Square under the theme "The Echoes of Silence" capturing the attention of a diverse audience with its powerful expression and creativity. The performance blended dramatic storytelling with rhythmic movement to reflect on social issues, collective struggles, and the unheard voices within society.

The street play through compelling visuals, expressive dance, and impactful moves, the performers brought to life the echoes of resistance, hope, and resilience. The event not only entertained the audience but also left a lasting impression, encouraging reflection on themes that resonate deeply within the fabric of our communities.



ANNUAL REPORTS

National Seminar on Public Policy and Governance.

Date: 12/ 03/2025

The department of Political Science held a National Seminar on Public Policy and Governance. The session was conducted to discuss the important views pertaining to the government and its policy making in India. The seminar discussed ways to make government policies and systems more efficient, it focused on policies that help citizens particularly the marginalized people. The chief guest Dr.S. S Meenakshisundaram shared an insightful idea on improving public governance in India. The key note speakers for the program were Dr. Srinivasan V Ramani, Dr. Rose Veera D'Souza and Dr. Rinku Lamba.



International Conference on State and Administration through the Lens of Bhartiya knowledge System

Date: 26/03/2025 - 27/03/2025

The inaugural session began with the Presidential address by Rev. Fr. Dr. Augustine George, Principal, Kristu Jayanti College followed by the chief guest Dr Ramesh Rao & Dr. S Ahalya. On Day one two sessions were held, the keynote speakers- Mr. Arjun Bharadwaj and Dr. K.E Sriventatanathan, the discussion was on Arthashastra and its application in modern administration.

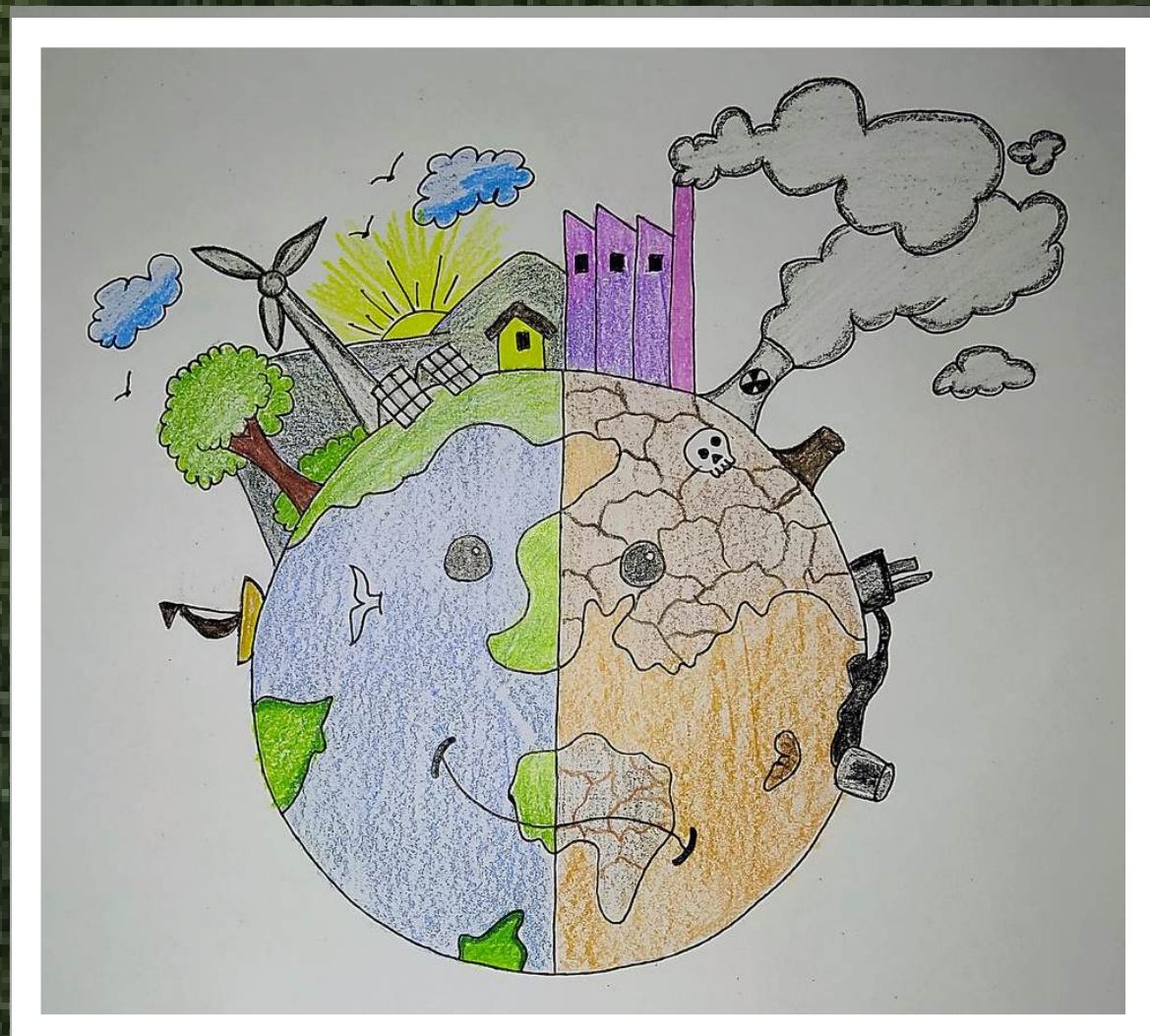


Day 2 also consisted of two sessions, Mr. Krishna Maheshwari and Dr. Vithal Potdar were the experts who compared ancient wisdom and knowledge with the present one. The International Conference provided an opportunity for the students to present their research papers and a platform for students to collaborate and discuss the intersections of Bhartiya knowledge systems with the modern contemporary world.



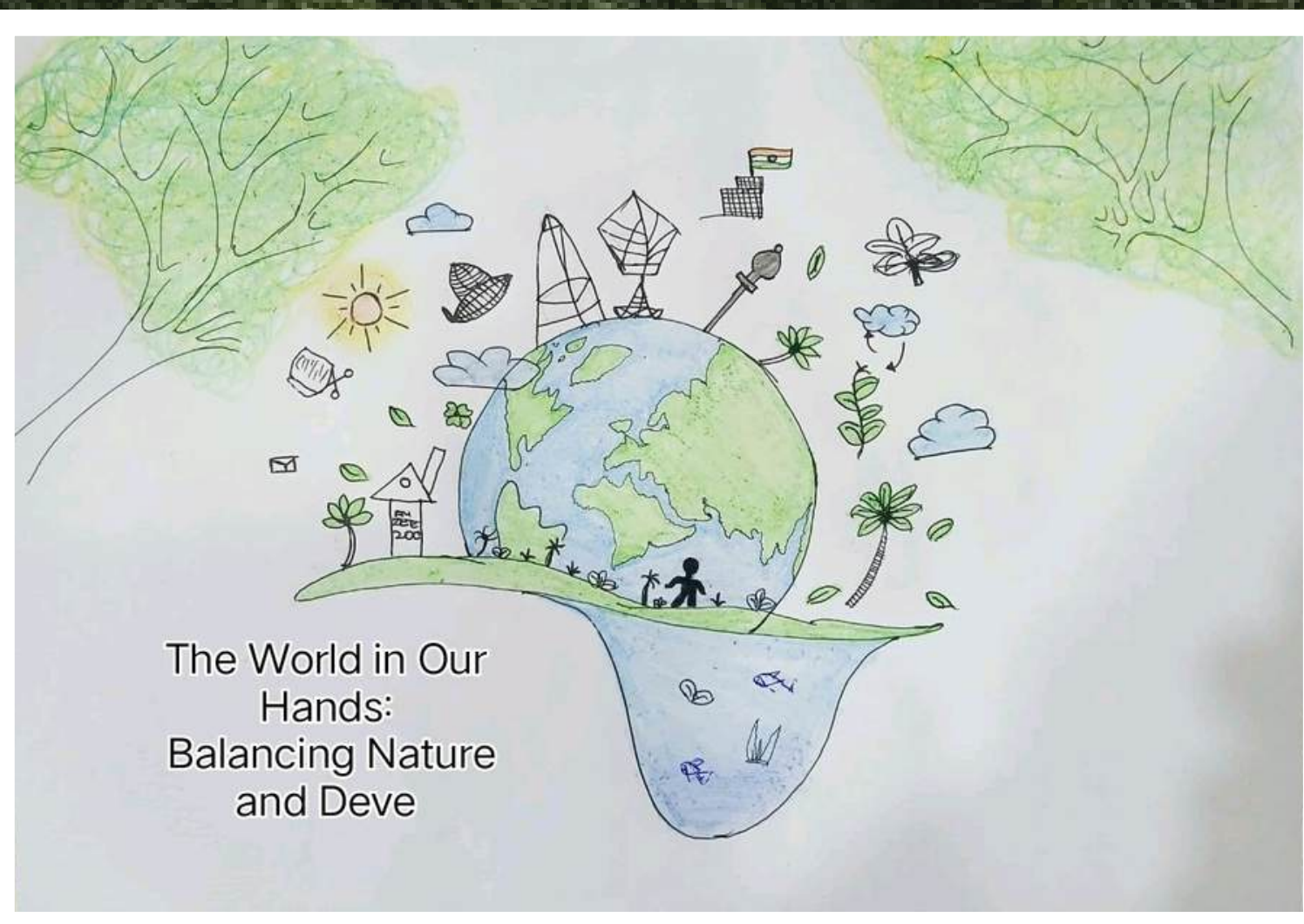
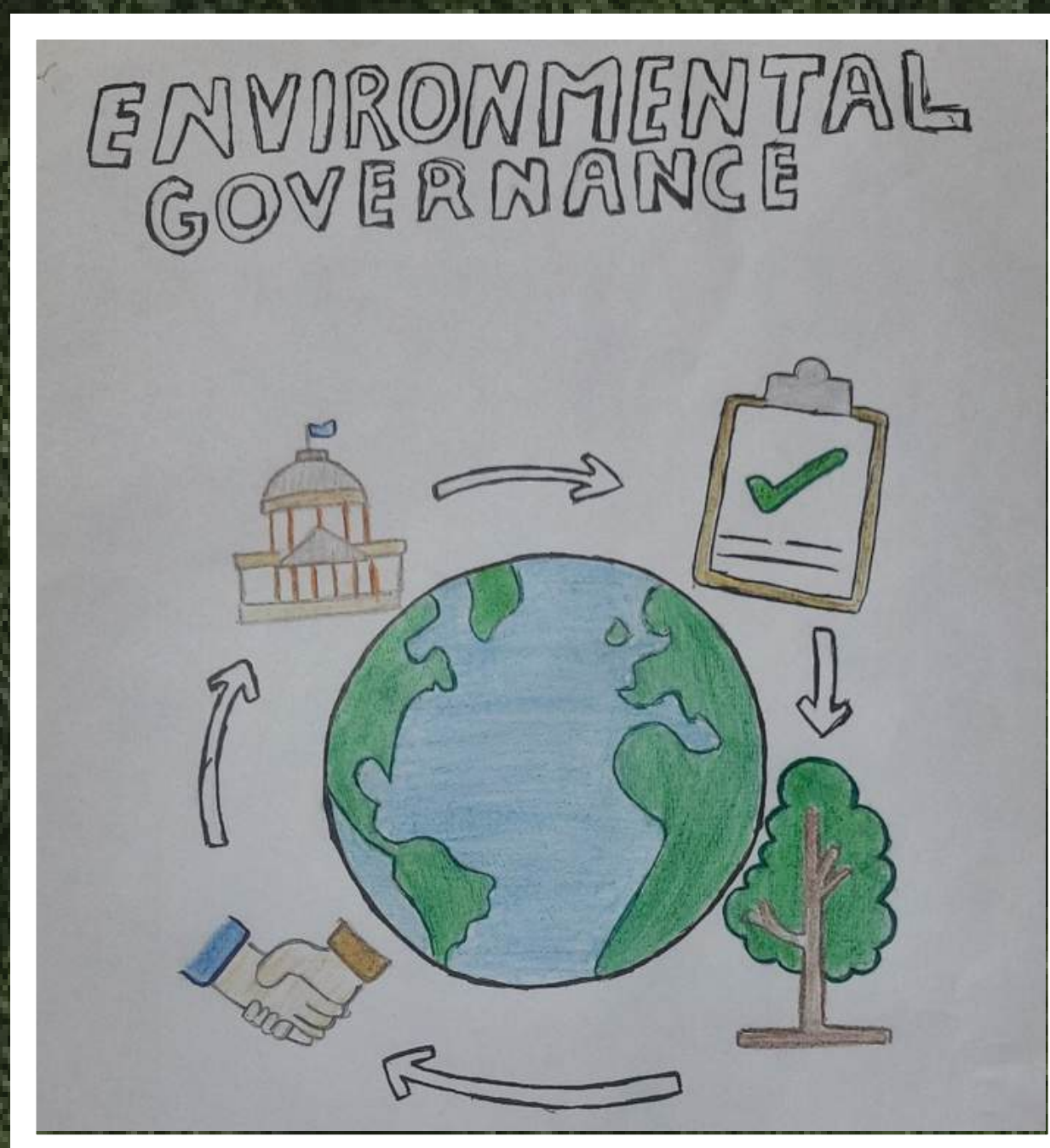
CREATIVE CORNER

— CREATIVE CORNER —

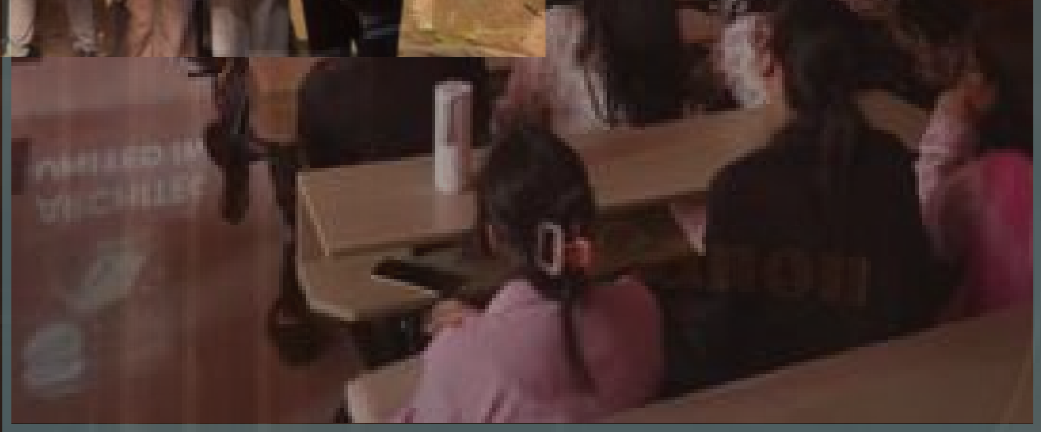


Babitha
III Year HSPS

A.M Sachin
III Year HSPS



Alisha Rao
III Year PSSO



SNAPSHOTS

— SNAPSHOTS —



Mock Parliament
Date: 24th September, 2024



Why Spin?
Date: 10th October, 2024



Documentary Screening on Unity Day
Date: 30th October, 2024

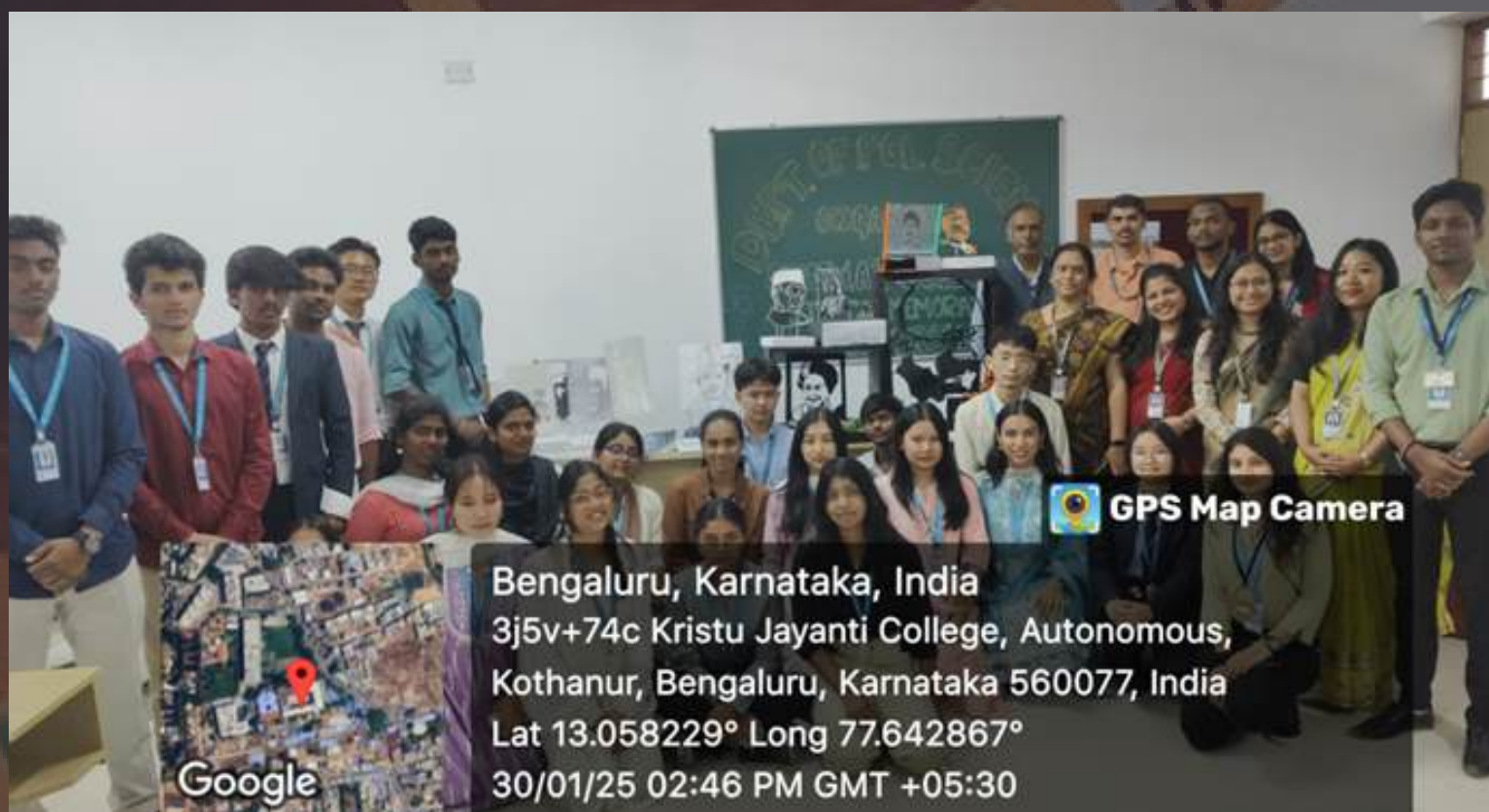
— SNAPSHOTS —



Gamification Rock Raiders
Date: 8th January, 2025



Mock election- Nothing like voting ,
i vote for sure
Date: 24th january, 2025



Shadow Art Exhibition
A tribute to Martyrs' Day
Date: 30th January 2025

— SNAPSHOTS —



Green Talk: Self-reliance Theory
Date: 5th January, 2025



Channapatna and Janapada Loka field visit
Date: 17th February, 2025



Expert talk on AI and Governance
Date: 20th February, 2025

SNAPSHOTS



Base University
Date: 21st February, 2025



Expert Talk on Justice and Equality
at the Intersection of Global Climate Talks
Date: 27th February, 2025



Workshop on Mindfulness for Stress Management.
Date: 28th February, 2025

— SNAPSHOTS —



Workshop on Embodied Emotions
Date: 4th March, 2025

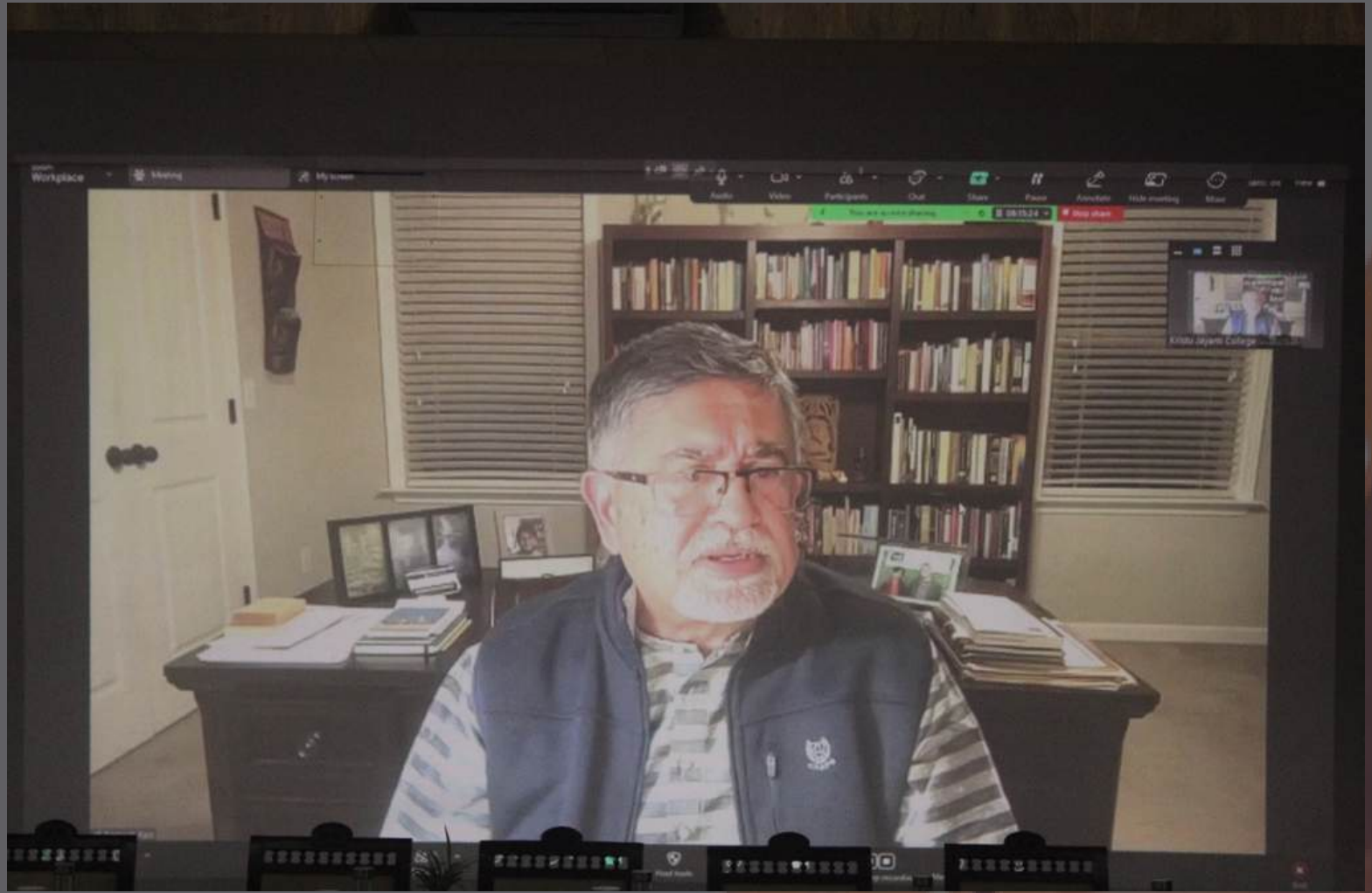


Echos of Silence: Street play
Date: 10th March, 2025



National Seminar on Public Policy and Governance
Date: 12th March, 2025

SNAPSHOTS



International Conference on State and Administration through the Lens of
Bhartiya knowledge System.
Date: 26th & 27th March, 2025



ACHIEVEMENTS

TH F E TE dition

Madras Christian College: *“Imperium 2025”*

“Loose Ends (Crime Investigation)”

*Jha Ayush Ashok, AM Sachin, Deepika Seervi P, Javeriya Khan- III Year,
HSPS(Team): 2nd Prize*

“Turntables (Extempore)”

Samyukta Shylie E.S :1st Prize

Varna Verghese & Amritha Varthini(Participants)- III Year, PSSO

“Deal the Heat (Crisis Management)”

K Jayanth Kumar- III Year, HSPS (Participant)

“Power of Strokes (Poster Making)”:

Basum Bondung & Gopi.N- III Year, HSPS (Participant)

“The Tempest (Shipwreck)”

Rithik Shetty- II Year, HSPS

1st Prize

Mount Carmel College: *“CUL-AH 2025”*

“Siyaasat: Risk It All (By Political Science Department)

*Jha Ayush Ashok, Rudradev Jorwal, Vivek Raj- II Year, HSPS
3rd Prize*

IDEAS ILLUMINATED

Paper Presentations

Kristu Jayanti College: “International Conference”

Aqsa Mariam Sharieff - III Year, PSSO:

“The Mauryan and the Present System of Administration: A Comparative Analysis”

Vivek Raj- III Year, HSPS:

“Ancient and Modern Governance: Bending Ideas

Deepika Seervi- III Year, HSPS:

“Learning from the Past: Bringing Gurukul Values to Modern Education”

Khushi Singh-III Year, HSPS:

“Ancient India Diplomacy: Strengthening Ties through Realpolitik”

Joanna Hebisha S- III Year, HSPS:

“The Unfinished Journey: Gender Equity and the Empowerment of Women in India”

Vivek Raj- III Year, HSPS:

“From Macaulay to Manuscript: Reviving India’s Lost Wisdom in Education”

IDEAS ILLUMINATED

Paper Presentations

Stella Maris- "Kriya 2025"

Vivek Raj- III Year, HSPS:

"Environmental Upheaval: A Catalyst for Mass Human Migration in India"

Khusi Singh- III Year, HSPS:

"From Crisis to Cure: Crafting a Pandemic Resilience in India"

Reva University

Gopi.N - III Year, HSPS:

"Natyaparamparyah Punaranirman: The Histogramic Evolution of Bharatnatyam"



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Bengaluru

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Kristu Jayanti School of Management

MBA | MBA Business Analytics | MBA International Business
MBA Fintech | MBA International Finance | MBA Strategic Finance

Kristu Jayanti College of Law

B.A., LL.B. | B.B.A., LL.B. | B.Com., LL.B.
(5 year Integrated Programme)

Kristu Jayanti College, Autonomous (Arts, Commerce & Science)

DEANERY OF COMMERCE & MANAGEMENT

M.Com Master of Commerce
M.Com Financial Analysis
M.Sc. Economics
BBA Bachelor of Business Administration
BBA Aviation Management
BBA Branding and Advertising
BBA Business Analytics
BBA International Business
BBA Fintech & Banking*
BBA Artificial Intelligence and Data Science*
B.Com Bachelor of Commerce
B.Com ACCA
B.Com Business Analytics
B.Com Business Process Management
B.Com International Business and Finance
B.Com Investment Banking
B.Com Logistics and Supply Chain Management
B.Com Professional
B.Com with CMA
B.Sc. Applied Economics
PGD Business Administration

DEANERY OF SCIENCES

MCA Master of Computer Application
M.Sc. Biotechnology
M.Sc. Biochemistry
M.Sc. Microbiology
M.Sc. Forensic Science
M.Sc. Computer Science
M.Sc. Data Science
BCA Bachelor of Computer Applications
BCA Analytics
BCA Cloud Computing
BCA Cyber Security
BCA Internet of Things
B.Sc. Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning
B.Sc. Data Science
B.Sc. Computer Science, Physics, Electronics
B.Sc. Computer Science, Statistics, Economics
B.Sc. Computer Science, Statistics, Mathematics
B.Sc. Biotechnology, Genetics, Biochemistry
B.Sc. Microbiology, Genetics, Biochemistry
B.Sc. Botany, Biotechnology, Biochemistry
B.Sc. Forensic Science, Criminology, Biochemistry
B.Sc. Biotechnology, Forensic Science, Biochemistry
B.Sc. Forensic Science

DEANERY OF HUMANITIES

MA English Literature
MA Journalism and Mass Communication
MA Public Administration
MSW Master of Social Work
M.Sc. Psychology
M.Sc. Clinical Psychology
M.Sc. Counselling Psychology
BA English Literature
BA History, Political Science, Sociology
BA Journalism, Psychology, English
BA Journalism and Mass Communication
B.Sc. Psychology
B.Sc. Visual Communication



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Fax : 080-68737799

Application forms are available on our College Website
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*Awaiting for approval