



# CELNU

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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# NATIONAL NEWS



## CHEETAH REINTRODUCTION PLAN

'Action Plan for Introduction of Cheetah in India' was launched at the 19th meeting of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).

- Action Plan aims to establish viable cheetah metapopulation in India that allows the cheetah to perform its functional role as a top predator and provides space for the expansion of the cheetah within its historical range thereby contributing to its global conservation efforts. o Cheetah is the only large carnivore that got completely wiped out from India in 1952, mainly due to over-hunting and habitat loss.

- As per the action plan, a cohort of around 10-12 young African Cheetahs- a different subspecies (*Acinonyx jubatus*) that are ideal for reintroduction will be sent from Namibia or South Africa to the grassland habitats that the Asiatic cheetahs occupied in the past as a founder stock during the first year. o The locally extinct cheetah-subspecies of India is found in Iran and is categorized as critically endangered. Since it is not possible to source the critically endangered Asiatic cheetah from Iran without affecting this sub-species, India will source cheetahs from Southern Africa, which can provide India with substantial numbers of suitable cheetah for several years.

- Amongst the 10 surveyed sites of the central Indian states, Kuno Palpur National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh has been rated the highest. This is because of its suitable habitat and adequate prey base. o KNP is 748 sq. km. in area, devoid of human settlements, forms part of Sheopur-Shivpuri deciduous open forest landscape and is estimated to have a capacity to sustain 21 cheetahs. o Kuno also offers the prospect of housing four big cats of India - tiger, lion, leopard and cheetah - and allowing them to coexist as in the past.

- The other sites recommended for holding and conservation breeding of cheetah in India, in controlled wild conditions are: o Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary (1,197 sq. km, habitat 5,500 sq.km), Madhya Pradesh o Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary - Bhainsrorgarh Wildlife Sanctuary complex (~2500 sq.km), Madhya Pradesh o Shahgarh bulge in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan (4,220 sq.km) o Mukundara



## MARINE HEAT WAVES

- According to a new report, Marine heat waves (MHW), which are periods of increased temperatures overseas and oceans, in the Indian Ocean region have increased significantly in the past few decades.

- As per the study published in the journal JGR Oceans, the phenomenon is impacting the Indian monsoon. o Also, an underwater survey showed 85 per cent of corals in the Gulf of Mannar near the Tamil Nadu coast got bleached after the marine heatwave in May 2020.

- In the Indian Ocean, the worst-affected area were its western part and northern Bay of Bengal. o The number of MHWs in the West Indian Ocean increased by around 1.5 events per decade between 1982 and 2018. The occurrences went up by around 0.5 events per decade in North Bay of Bengal in the same period.

There were a total of 66 events in West Indian Ocean and 94 in North Bay of Bengal in the 36 years.

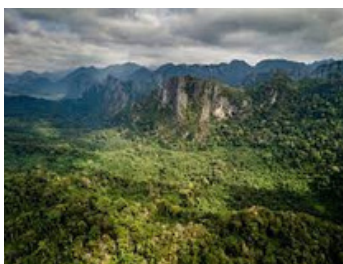
- Projections suggest that by 2100, MHWs will occur as many as 50 times as often as in pre-industrial times, and increase 20-50 times in frequency and 10 times in intensity. While these changes impact the entire ocean, the Arctic and tropical regions are expected to be most affected.



## RED SANDERS

- It was earlier classified as 'Near Threatened' in 2018 and has again been classified as Endangered.
- The IUCN has assessed that over the last three generations, the species has experienced a population decline of 50-80 per cent.
- In 2019, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade, an agency of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, revised its export policy to permit the export of red sander timber, if it is obtained from cultivated land. About Red Sanders (*Pterocarpus santalinus*)
- It is an Indian endemic tree species, with a restricted geographical range in the Eastern Ghats of India.
  - It is endemic to a distinct tract of forests in Andhra Pradesh.
- It has been assessed as 'Endangered' as per the IUCN criteria and scheduled in appendix II of CITES and Wildlife Protection Act.

Red Sanders smuggling continues despite the physical deterrents and patrols in place in Andhra Pradesh, as well as international, national and state-level laws preventing the cutting and transport of species. Conservation efforts need to be strengthened and developed to protect the species. The cultivation of the species in plantation should be promoted and needs monitoring to be able to better support the legal trade to relieve pressure on the wild Red Sanders.



## IUCN GREEN LIST OF PROTECTED AND CONSERVED AREAS

It is the first global standard of best practice for area-based conservation.

- It is a programme of certification for protected and conserved areas – national parks, natural World Heritage sites, community conserved areas, nature reserves etc. that are effectively managed and fairly governed.
- Its objective is to provide a global benchmark to assess whether protected and conserved areas are achieving successful conservation outcomes through effective and equitable governance and management.
- It aims to increase the number of natural areas delivering long-lasting conservation results for people and nature.
- The sites admitted to the IUCN Green List have distinguished themselves through exemplary management, fair governance, and a long-term commitment to successful conservation. Presently, 59 sites in 16 countries have made it to the list. No Indian site is currently part of this list.
- The IUCN Green List Standard is organized into 4 components of successful nature conservation in protected and conserved areas. The baseline components concern: Good Governance; Sound Design & Planning; and Effective Management.
  - Together, these support the component on Successful Conservation Outcomes attesting to the successful achievement of an area's goals and objectives.



## GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION GUIDELINES

- Central Ground Water Board had notified new guidelines on groundwater extraction to be effective from September 24, 2020 after the 2018 guidelines were scrapped by National Green Tribunal (NGT) for being unsustainable.
- However, recently objections have also been raised by NGT to the 2020 guidelines as -
    - Guidelines issued by the Ministry of Jal Shakti do not satisfy directions given by it repeatedly and persistently.
    - Guidelines do not address the root cause and central issue, i.e., protection and preservation of ground water, prevention of depletion, and effective attempt for recharge and restoration.
  - 2020 Guidelines for Groundwater Regulation
  - Mandatory requirement of applying for NOC for new and existing industries, group housing societies, and private water supply tankers.
  - NOC holders to pay groundwater charges based on quantum extraction unlike old provision where they had to pay a nominal lump-sum.
  - No NOC to industries in over exploited areas.
  - Installation of Sewage treatment plants; rooftop rainwater harvesting and recharge systems and wells for groundwater level monitoring in NOC areas.
  - Categories exempted from NOC requirements include Domestic consumers; rural drinking water supply schemes; Armed Forces Establishments and Central Armed Police Forces; agricultural activities; MSMEs drawing 10 cubic metre/day.
  - Penalty between Rs 50,000 and Rs 10 lakh for noncompliance.
- Groundwater Extraction in India
- India uses the most groundwater in the world, accounting for approximately 25% of the global groundwater extraction.
  - According to CGWB survey of 6,584 groundwater units across India
    - 1034 units were found to be over-exploited (more extraction than recharge)
    - 253 critical (extraction is 90-100% of what's recharged)
    - 681 as semi-critical (extraction 70-90% of what's recharged).
  - Ground water extraction in India is primarily for irrigation in agricultural activities, accounting for 90% of the annual ground water extraction.





**'GARGANTUAN TASK':  
WHY INDIA'S  
RENEWABLE PUSH WILL  
BE HARD**

India has put ahead itself quite ambitious plans to move towards green and renewable energy, though the challenge that India has set for itself is a goal to big, India plans to multiple solar capacity by 5 times in next 8 years

Government started constructing solar parks on land cultivated for generations by indigenous farmers in India's Himalayan foothills unfortunately which erupted in violent clashes with police after which their crops were bulldozed for the development.

The issue between development and protecting the rights of citizens and environment has been always there, it is a challenge facing the country of nearly 1.4 billion people in meeting its renewable power goals for the next decade.

Over the next two decade, India's power needs are going to increase only, India would have to increase its power capacity multiple folds, while also keeping in check the sustainability of it,

This tasks is not going to be a cake walk, but a Gargantuan task, it will prove to be, requiring high investment, of time, money and other resources, then land acquiring is not going to be easy task too, as poor people in India have been farming on their lands from ages

So as large solar parks are hard to build and also takes time, government focused on increasing Rooftop solar, but in that category too, India could achieve 4% of its set target, solar power is another option for India, but is too expensive according to government, That's why India push for renewable energy is going to be hard task.



**DELHI IS WORLD'S  
MOST POLLUTED  
CAPITAL, 35 INDIAN  
CITIES IN TOP 50:  
REPORT**

According to a recent report by Swiss based organisation IQAir, India's Capital Delhi continues to be world most polluted capital for the fourth consecutive year this time, Dhaka holds second place, while N'Djamena capital of chad holds 3rd place,

While India continuous to perform poor, china has been improving, as more than half of its cities saw lower levels of air pollution when compared to the previous year.

The worse part of report for India is not just Delhi being the most polluted capital, but the report also found that among the world top 50 cities with worse air quality, 35 cities among the top 50 are in India,

The report surveyed 117 countries, and none of the cities in India met the WHO air quality standards, India not just met the standards, the level of pollution is such that 48 per cent of Indian cities exceeded 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup> air quality level which is well over 10 times the WHO guidelines. It is wake a up call for India, to take corrective measures.



**INDIA PREPARED FOR  
'CLIMATE REFUGEES',  
GOVERNMENT TELLS  
LOK SABHA**

With Coal still being used, sea level continuously rising, danger of climate refugee is real, who are climate refugee, these are people who are affected by the worst of the weather and had to move from one place to other for safety

Recently Government answered the question of opposition which asked "Is the government having any plans to address emissions from its coal plants and whether it had a strategy in place to deal with climate refugees", taking in consideration India's commitment at the United Nations Conference of Parties (COP 26) to increase its share of renewable energy.

The minister for environment told in lok sabha, that the government is reducing dependence on fossil fuel energy to reduce coal emission, and that we have a national adaptation fund and national disaster resilience infrastructure fund to take care of potential climate refugees.



### **INDIA SEES WARMEST MARCH IN 122 YEARS, LOWEST RAINFALL SINCE 1908**

The effect of climate change is being experienced all over the world, India is experiencing problem of drought and rising temperature, this march India experienced the warmest march that it did not experience over a century, March 2022 is the warmest march in 122 years with lowest rainfall in over 114 years

The findings were of The Indian Metrological department, the department in its reason for such a change said, it is because of absence of active western disturbances, the country recorded 71% less rainfall as a whole, in march 2010 the conditions were similar

The IMD said in its report that the northwest average temperature has been comparatively higher than the average of east, while the whole of country's average was 33.10° Celsius, in 2009 the average of the country was 33.09, the temperatures continue to rise every some year, but scientist world-wide warn of it.



### **INDIA MAY MISS ITS 300 GW SOLAR ENERGY TARGET FOR 2030: REPORT**

India launched the National Solar Mission in January 2010 and in 2021 decided to achieve 300 GW of installed solar capacity

But recent reports by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA) and JMK Research shows signs that India might miss its target to achieve 300 GW by 2030 and also the target of achieving 100 GW by this year, the miss is predicted because of various regulatory approvals, restrictions on imports etc.,

In 2010 when India launched the mission, it has 0.5 GW of solar installed capacity, at present it is above 60 GW, and India aims to achieve 100 GW this year itself, though that might not be achieved

Of Total installed capacity with grid-connected utility-scale projects contributing 77%, and the rest coming from grid-connected rooftop solar (20%) and mini or micro off-grid projects (3%).

At COP 26 India has adopted new targets for 2050 and 2070 to reduce carbon emissions.



### **NGT DIRECTS STUDY TO REDUCE MENACE OF MICRO PLASTIC IN ENVIRONMENT**

National Green Tribunal, while taking cognisance of media report noted that despite all the laws available and Executives appointed to ensure no violation happens, violation of environmental norms in the handling of plastics is happening and is resulting in serious adverse health effects on human beings

The bench also said that it appears to be necessary to undertake further study to consider whether the existing policies of enforcement of environmental norms need to be revisited in any manner in the interest of human health

For this the NGT has directed to form a committee that will conduct further study to reduce the menace of plastic in environment, the committee will give recommendations/suggestions may cover standards for a safe environment, remedial steps to reduce the menace of microplastic, and addressing other incidental issues

Microplastics are fragments of any type of plastic less than five millimetres and they enter natural ecosystems from a variety of sources, including cosmetics, clothing, and industrial processes.



# INTERNATIONAL NEWS



**.D.C. FEDERAL COURT  
VACATED GULF OF MEXICO  
OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE  
DUE TO ARBITRARY AND  
CAPRICIOUS NEPA ANALYSIS**

A lease sale for oil and gas production and development on 80.8 million acres in the Gulf of Mexico was cancelled by the federal district court for the District of Columbia on January 27, 2022. The court held that the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) had unilaterally made the decision not to take into account foreign oil consumption in its assessment of greenhouse gas emissions of a no intervention substitute pertaining to the National Environmental Policy Act after shunning assertions that the case was not ready for judicial review (NEPA).



**COLORADO COURT  
ORDERED AGENCIES TO ACT  
ON PERMIT RENEWALS FOR  
REFINERY**

A Colorado District Court granted WildEarth Guardians' proposal for temporary summary judgement and ordered the agencies to act on the permit renewal applications "without further delay" in a suit to compel Colorado agencies to act on Title V permit renewal applications for a refinery that is allegedly the state's largest non-coal source of greenhouse gas emissions.



**THREATENED WETLANDS IN  
PARAGUAY'S LAKE YPACARAI  
RAISED LEGAL QUESTIONS**

In Paraguay, urban development initiatives near a protected lake are jeopardising local ecological recovery and raising issues about the government's capacity to avoid conservation regulations. Despite a succession of environmental recovery measures prohibiting development in the region, wetlands around Lake Ypacarai are being filled in to enable for the building of housing and tourism developments. The 79 kinds of fish that reside in the lake, as well as the numerous animals that dwell there, such as the Maned wolf (*Chrysocyon brachyurus*), gigantic anteater (*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*), and Neotropical otter, might be endangered as a result of the new building projects (*Lontra longicaudis*).



**FOUR NEW MPAS IN MALUKU  
BOOSTED INDONESIA'S BID  
TO PROTECT ITS SEAS**

Four new marine protected areas (MPAs) have been established by the Indonesian Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries surrounding a series of islands in Maluku's eastern region. These distant seas around the islands of Tanimbar, Damer, Mdonia Hiera, Moa, Letti, and Romang make up 0.4 percent of national seas, which is nevertheless bigger than Connecticut in the United States or nearly the same area as Montenegro in the Mediterranean. In respect to conservation aims, the designation on Jan. 11 puts Indonesia 4 percent closer to its 2030 target of "effectively managing" 10% of national waterways.



**IN A BIODIVERSITY HAVEN,  
MINING DROVE HIGHEST  
EVER RECORDED LEVELS OF  
MERCURY**

**Decades of artisanal mining on the Madre de Dios River and its tributaries have caused visible and invisible scars. Miners coming to the region in a contemporary goldfields have cleared portions of this Peruvian Amazon sliver. The lingering effects of the boom have left behind moonscapes of barren land, muddy streams and rivers, and an unseen poison that pollutes the water, air, and, according to a new study, the trees themselves.**



**BRAZIL AGROCHEMICAL  
BILL NEARED PASSAGE IN  
BOLSONARO'S 'AGENDA OF  
DEATH'**

**Brazil's lower house of congress had decisively passed a measure loosening pesticide controls, prompting fears that Senate ratification might unleash even more environmental devastation in one of the world's major agricultural powerhouses. The Ministry of Agriculture promoted the Safer Food Bill as a method to "modernise the pesticide registration procedure," allowing farmers to be more competitive and decreasing food prices for consumers. It would supplant a 1989 legislation controlling the use of agrochemicals and modify the laws for their production, sale, and distribution if adopted by the Senate.**



**DRC'S CACAO BOOM LEFT A  
BITTER AFTERTASTE FOR  
CONGO BASIC FOREST**

**Tshopo, the largest province in the Democratic Republic of Congo, lost 12,000 hectares (30,000 acres) of undamaged woods to flames in 2021. Researchers in Kisangani, the provincial capital, believe the record-breaking forest loss was due to new migrants from neighbouring North Kivu province boosting cocoa production. These uninterrupted forest vistas were home to some of the planet's most diverse ecosystems. According to experts at Global Forest Watch, the burned area in 2021 was around three times the average for the previous ten years.**



**PALM OIL FIRM HIT BY MASS  
PERMIT REVOCATION STILL  
CLEARING FOREST IN  
INDONESIA**

**Since Jan. 6, a palm oil company that was among more than 100 enterprises targeted in Indonesia's environment ministry's wholesale revocation of planting licences has destroyed more than 50 hectares (125 acres) of rainforest. The discovery highlights the policy's limitations and raises doubts about how far President Joko Widodo's government is ready to go to control the country's chaotic land-use practises. PT Permata Nusa Mandiri (PNM), which had been dormant for more than two years, sprung into action in the weeks after the revocations were announced, cutting a road and numerous plantation units out of its land concession in Jayapura, Papua province.**

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### **NEW UN REPORT LOOKS UNDERFOOT, TO SOLVE GLOBAL WATER CRISES**

With the release of the UN World Water Development Report, the UNESCO chief has emphasized on the need of the Importance, Management and Conservation of Ground water, He also highlighted the rapidly depletion and pollution of aquifers

Ninth World Water Forum in Dakar was organised recently, and scholars shone a spotlight on the need to sustainably use groundwater, and the potential it hold if used sustainably, they called it the need of the hour to achieve SDG's by 2030

The report released recommend several ways to improve the situation, including corporate social responsibility for private companies, strengthening environmental regulations and reinforcing human, material and financial resources.

Lastly, the groundwater pollution must be avoided because once it is made, it is practically irreversible

"Groundwater" is the focus of World Water Day, and in cooperation with UN-Water, UNESCO is organizing a global groundwater summit.



### **GROWING RISK OF SOMALIA FAMINE, AS DROUGHT IMPACT WORSENS**

Somalia is experiencing the worst of drought, which is forcing thousands of people in Somalia to displace, in search of food, water and shelter. The rivers have dried up and the only remaining thing in it is brown puddles, the people dependent on water have no way out of it now, with their crops destroyed and almost all resources spent.

The situation was bad before this, because of decades of unending conflicts, many disease outbreak including Covid-19, the Somalian person were already on edge and with consecutive failed rainy seasons, the situation is worse now, if the situation further deteriorate, high chances of a situation of famine arising is there.

Humanitarian assistance is being provided by UN but need more funds to support more people and children who in vulnerable state and will go perish if not helped, number of malnourished children is increasing, worst case scenario many people might face starvation It is being termed as "Call for Immediate help for Somalia".



### **UNEP COMBATS POLLUTION, RESTORES OZONE AND PROTECTS SEAS, UN CHIEF TELLS 50TH ANNIVERSARY SESSION**

UNEP, United Nations flagship programme to protect improve and conserve the climate of earth, to stop the climate change, protect the world's seas, and promote a green and healthy world for a better future

On the 50th anniversary session, Antonio Guterres lauded the efforts of the programme and people implementing it, UNEP's science, policy work, has helped to guide and educate countries to stop the wrong practices of polluting environment around the world and raise awareness of the critical role that the environment plays in sustainable development.

He emphasized on the needs to stop war against nature, scaled up efforts for conversation of environment, including increased funding to save environment, reducing using of coal and coal emission, drastically reducing chemical, plastic and solid waste pollution which means tackling the drivers of environmental degradation, especially poverty and unsustainable consumption and production

Lastly the chief emphasized that all countries need to work together to protect the planet

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**INCREASE IN  
DISASTERS LEAD TO  
INCREASE IN  
VIOLENCE AGAINST  
WOMEN: UN REPORT.**

According to a latest report by the UN violence against women and girls increase in the aftermath of disasters and in extreme cases even takes the form of intentional homicide. The Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2022 (GAR 2022) builds on the analysis of United Nations-mandated SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) data on increased gender based violence in disasters. This correlation between disasters and violence was found to be highest in Central and South Asia followed by East and Southeast Asia. It suggested that the additional socioeconomic and psychological stresses of disasters on affected people increase vulnerability through indirect social impacts. Disasters also fuel human trafficking which also has a gender dimension attached to it, women are more at risk of being trafficked. The report also emphasized on the role women play in scaling up disaster preparedness.



**SOUTHEASTERN  
AFRICA STARES AT A  
FUTURE WITH  
EXTREME RAINFALL  
AND FLOODS.**

Madagascar, Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe in southeast Africa were hit by devastating cyclones, affecting several hundred thousand people, in the first two months of 2022. Climate change has been driving this extreme rainfall and floods in these countries, said a rapid attribution analysis by climate scientists at World Weather Attribution. It contributes to the already existing evidence which indicates a link between climate change and strong cyclones and hurricanes. Climate change induced by greenhouse gas emissions influences heavy rainfall. The findings of the scientific study are consistent with what the latest report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) said. The first part of the IPCC report had also warned about an increase of average tropical cyclone wind speeds and associated heavy precipitation in Madagascar, as well as higher probabilities of category 4-5 tropical cyclones in the country. According to the analysis, there is a need to invest in the weather stations in Africa for a more precise estimate of the impact of rising greenhouse gas concentrations on the continent.



**FULFILLING COP26  
PROMISES CAN LIMIT  
GLOBAL WARMING TO  
2°C: STUDY**

Global warming can be limited to 2 degrees Celsius over pre-industrial levels if all the conditional and unconditional pledges to the Paris Agreement are implemented in full and on time, according to a study published in Nature in the month of April. Science has been clear for a few decades about what is causing climate change, and what can be done to stop it. And scientific understanding is improving by the year. Policy intent and implementation, on the other hand, show less conviction despite the signals from the scientific community. Various countries made pledges to reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, in the run-up to and at the 26th Conference of Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Glasgow. But are those pledges enough? The report presents a pleasant picture and also includes India's announcement of Net Zero by 2070. It analyses 154 nationally determined contributions (NDC) and 76 long-term low-emission development strategies submitted by mid-November 2021. In conclusion, the new paper recommended that countries with Net Zero targets should implement concrete policies within this decade to achieve them and should consider bringing their target dates forward.

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### INDEX MEASURES THE HUMAN IMPACTS ON AMAZON WATERS

Based on the best scientific data available, the unprecedented Amazon Water Impact Index draws together monitoring and research data to identify the most vulnerable areas of the Brazilian Amazon. According to the index, 20% of the 11,216 Brazilian Amazon micro basins have an impact considered high, very high or extreme; half of these watersheds are affected by hydroelectric plants. The same index points out that 323 of the 385 Indigenous Lands in the Brazilian Amazon face a medium to low impact, which demonstrates the fundamental role of these areas in protecting the aquatic ecosystems of the Amazon. The Amazon River Basin covers 7 million square kilometers (2.7 million square miles) and contains 20% of all freshwater on the Earth's surface; still, little is known about the impacts of increased human activity on aquatic ecosystems. Within the basin, areas protected by national legislation remain one tool of conservation. Another is environmental licensing regulations. Leandro Castello says these are important, but they're not designed to protect aquatic ecosystems. "It's a big puzzle," he says.



### CALIFORNIA SUBPOENAS EXXONMOBIL OVER PLASTIC POLLUTION

California Attorney General Rob Bonta has subpoenaed ExxonMobil, a corporation that's previously been pegged as being the greatest polluter of single-use plastics in the world, as part of an investigation into the role fossil fuel and petrochemical industries have played in the widening plastics crisis. The California Department of Justice is looking into whether ExxonMobil deliberately misled the public about the harmful effects of plastic and the difficulties of recycling it. In response, ExxonMobil has said the company shares society's concerns about the plastics crisis, and that it is working to address the issue with advanced recycling technology. Environmental experts have welcomed the investigation, saying it's time for the fossil fuel and petrochemical industries to be held accountable for the role they have played in this environmental issue.

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# CASE ANALYSIS



**Om Puri & Ors. v.  
Hindustan Zinc Ltd.  
& Ors.; 02 February,  
2022**

## **Introduction**

The National Green Tribunal ("NGT") has ordered Hindustan Zinc Ltd. to pay INR 25 crores to cover the cost of remedial efforts related to its mining operations in Rajasthan's district Bhilwara. In addition, the NGT established a joint committee to draught a restoration plan for the area's soil and ground water quality, as well as a health improvement programme for the residents and cattle.

## **Facts**

This application has been filed with a grievance of violation of environmental norms by Hindustan Zinc Ltd., Udaipur, Rajasthan in executing a mining lease of Lead, Zinc and associated minerals at villages Agucha, Rampura, etc., Tehsil Hurd, District Bhilwada, Rajasthan covering nearly an area about 1200 hectares of mining land. In course of such mining residents of the said villages are adversely affecting on account of degradation of environment. There is heavy blasting and underground mining operations resulting in contamination of source of drinking of water, resulting in various diseases like Asthma and skin borne diseases. Live stocks are also affected. Dust and stone get accumulated close to the agricultural land and houses of the inhabitants. Toxic and contaminated waste water is discharged from the 2 mines. The area is 'over exploited' in terms of the ground water, notified as such by the CGWB. There are mammoth holes at many places because of unplanned underground mining. The applicant has relied upon photographs filed with the application.

## **Arguments Advanced**

The arguments based on the fact as to whether the unit of the company has obtained No Objection Certificate (NOC) for ground water extraction from radial well in Banas River in that area. Further, questions were raised on the authenticity of the certificate and whether blasting operations followed the statutory compliances.





# CASE ANALYSIS

## Judgment

The National Green Tribunal (“NGT”) has directed Hindustan Zinc Ltd. to pay INR 25 crores to meet the cost of remediation measures for violating environmental norms in its mining operations in district Bhilwara, Rajasthan. The NGT also constituted a joint committee to prepare a restoration plan for remediating the soil and quality of ground water in the area, apart from undertaking health improvement programme for the inhabitants and the cattle.

## Conclusion

NGT observed that even if the committee in its report has not been able to conclude with certainty that the company is responsible for the damage, it is possible to infer damage to the groundwater due to its activities. Thus, remedial actions are required, and company has to bear the cost and pay compensation on principles laid down by the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India. The NGT noted that environmental law violations cannot be taken lightly when the violators are entities like Hindustan Zinc Ltd. and victims are unspecified number of persons spread over more than six Panchayat.



# CASE ANALYSIS



**Kantha Vibhag Yuva Koli Samaj Parivartan Trust and Others v. State of Gujarat and Others, Civil Appeal No 1046 of 2019, judgment dated 21 January, 2022.**

## **Introduction**

The Supreme Court of India has held that the National Green Tribunal (“NGT”) cannot delegate its adjudicatory powers under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 (“NGT Act”) to an expert committee constituted by it. In its judgment, the Supreme Court also emphasised that the NGT Act empowers the NGT to adjudicate on substantial questions relating to environment, and that the NGT has sufficient expertise to adjudicate on these issues

## **Facts of case**

The Supreme Court was considering an appeal against a judgment passed by the NGT. In its judgment, NGT had dismissed an application concerning the issue of dumping of unsegregated and untreated municipal solid waste at an open landfill site in Surat, Gujarat. The applicant alleged, inter alia, that the dumping of waste in the open area without prior treatment was in violation of various environmental legislations. Such disposal is also resulting in irreversible contamination of local water bodies and ground water and causing severe air pollution due to the burning of waste, which is damaging the local ecology and adversely affecting the health of local communities.

NGT’s Western Bench at Pune considered this issue and issued various directions to statutory authorities for effective management of solid waste in Surat and formulation of an action plan to address issues raised in the application. However, in subsequent hearings, NGT’s Principal Bench disposed of this application directing the applicant to approach apex, regional and state-level committees, which were constituted by the NGT in its previous judgment to monitor the implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. These committees have been given the liberty to issue directions to any authority for execution of the orders of NGT. The applicant was provided liberty to represent the case and raise all grievances before the appropriate committee.

## **Arguments Advanced**

The basis of argument from both the side was whether the NGT’s judgment directing the appellants to approach the appropriate committee for relief, rather than itself considering the substantive issues raised in the application, was sustainable in law or not.





# CASE ANALYSIS

## Judgment

Supreme Court observed that NGT is an expert adjudicatory body on environment constituted under the NGT Act. The issues raised and reliefs sought by the applicant before NGT are covered within NGT's jurisdiction in terms of Sections 14, 15 and 20 of the NGT Act. NGT Act entrusts adjudicatory functions to NGT because of its specialised constitution and expertise to deal with multi-disciplinary issues concerning environment in general.

Supreme Court further deliberated on the powers of Courts and Tribunals to set up expert committees for assistance, and observed as:

“Courts/tribunals can set up expert committees because the fact-finding exercise in many matters can be complex, technical and time-consuming, and may often require the committees to conduct field visits. These committees are set up with specific terms of reference outlining their mandate, and their reports have to conform to the mandate. Once these committees submit their final reports to the court/tribunal, it is open to the parties to object to them, which is then adjudicated upon. The role of these expert committees does not substitute the adjudicatory role of the court or tribunal. The role of an expert committee appointed by an adjudicatory forum is only to assist it in the exercise of adjudicatory functions by providing them better data and factual clarity, which is also open to challenge by all concerned parties. Allowing for objections to be raised and considered makes the process fair and participatory for all stakeholders.”

## Conclusion

Furthermore, In this context, Supreme Court also referred to the judgment in the case of Sanghar Zuber Ismail v. Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change and Another. In this case, Supreme Court held that NGT cannot refuse to hear a challenge to an environmental clearance under its appellate jurisdiction and delegate the process of adjudicating on issues related to its compliance to an expert committee. It cannot be allowed to constitute committees to undertake a function which it is entrusted to do under the NGT Act.

In this context, Supreme Court held that, while NGT can constitute an expert committee to assist the NGT, for instance, by carrying out a fact-finding exercise, but the adjudication must be carried out by the NGT. In the impugned judgment, NGT abdicated its jurisdiction and entrusted judicial functions to an administrative expert committee. As adjudication is not a delegable function, NGT's impugned judgment delegating its core adjudicatory functions to technical committees was considered as unsustainable in law and set aside by the Supreme Court.



# CASE ANALYSIS



## PAHWA PLASTICS PVT. LTD. Vs DASTAK NGO

### Introduction

The case relates to the Environmental Impact Assessments Draft which has been issued to the industries to assure that they should comply to norms and procedure concerned to Environmental concerns. The present case has elaborated on the context that Ex-post facto EC (Consent to establish) granted to industries will be considered valid in exceptional circumstances when the same has been complying with the environmental standards and rules as prescribed by the ministry of environment, forest and climate change (MoEF). Further doctrine of proportionality was laid down in the judgement. The principal issue here is the court's excessive reliance of late on the doctrine of proportionality. In Pahwa Plastics, the Supreme Court invoked the doctrine of proportionality to hold that closing an industrial unit would be disproportionate to the offence committed. That is, administrative action shouldn't be more drastic than it ought to be to obtain the desired result. In other words, the court says, "don't use a cannon to shoot down a sparrow"..

### Facts

Pahwa Plastics Pvt. Ltd. and Apcolite Polymers Pvt. Ltd. (Appellant No. 2), carried on the business inter alia of manufacture and sale of basic organic chemicals, namely formaldehyde, in Haryana. The Appellants had applied, and had been granted, Consent to Establish and Consent to Operate for their Units by the Haryana State Pollution Control Board (CTE, CTO, and HSPCB, respectively), but had not obtained an EC from the Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change (MoEF) under Environmental Impact Assessment Notifications dated January 27, 1994 and of 2006.

Now on March 14, 2017, the MoEF issued a notification in the same vein as the 1994 EIA and 2006 EIA which provided for grant of an ex - post facto EC for entities that had commenced, continued, or completed a project without obtaining an EC. Thereafter, the MoEF also issued a draft notification (2020 Draft Notification), which proposed that cases of violation would be appraised by an Appraisal Committee with a view to assess whether the project had been constructed or operated at a site which was permissible under prevailing laws and could be run sustainably on compliance of environmental norms with adequate environmental safeguards. Closure of the industry will be ordered if the norms have not been followed.

On being notified, HSPCB permitted the functioning of the industries like that of appellant who has only to function upto 6 months unless they acquire the EC from the MoEF. Following this, the Pahwa Limited applied for the EC. An NGO-Dastak prayed for the closure of Pahwa on the grounds that the order has been violated by the Pahwa Pvt. Ltd.



# CASE ANALYSIS

## Arguments Advanced

**Appellant-** Appellants argued on the fact that the MoEF has granted in their 2020 Notification under Sec 22 of the Act to apply for the EC even after the construction or the project has been started or is perpetuating. They also argued that they have complied with the norms of the environmental concerns so the issuance of the (Terms of Reference) TOR should be granted to them.

**Respondent-** The NGT, vide order and judgment dated July 3, 2021 held that the manufacturing units of the Appellants, which did not have prior EC could not be allowed to operate and that the Haryana Govt. had no power to exempt the requirement of prior EC or to allow the units to function without EC on payment of compensation.

## Judgement-

The Supreme Court has delivered the judgement in lines with the case of *Alembic Pharmaceuticals Ltd. v. Rohit Prajapati & Ors.*<sup>4</sup> (Alembic Judgment), and contended that The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (EP Act) does not prohibit the grant of an ex - post facto EC and further the notification of 2017 and 2022 has permitted the same.

Also, relying the judgement of “Electro steels Limited vs UOI” SC said that an industry can not be shut down on non-acquirement of EC which has contributed to the economy of the country and generated employment and other benefits.

Asserting on the same lines , SC also formulated that though the EC could be granted ex-post facto but there needs to restrictions which has to be observed while granting the same. In a situation wherein, the adverse impact in refusing to grant ex - post facto approval overshadows the consequences of regularization of operations by the grant thereof, and the industry otherwise operates in a manner commensurate with its environmental obligations, such ex - post facto approval ought to be granted strictly and in terms of the applicable Rules, Regulations and / or Notifications. Further, the Court held that any industry applying for such post - facto EC could have a penalty imposed on the principle that the polluter pays and is liable for the costs of remedial measures.

## Conclusion

The judgment in *Pahwa Plastics* has been rendered by the same bench which rendered the judgment in *Electro steel Steels* and is on the same lines. Although in *Pahwa Plastics*, the Court distinguished *Alembic Pharmaceuticals* on facts, it has essentially followed the same principle: that ex-post facto EC should not be given for the asking but only in exceptional circumstances. Also if any remedial measures or compensation has been granted any of the victim or respondent who has suffered because of the prolongation of the working or establishment of any industry.





# CASE ANALYSIS



**TN Godavarman  
Thirumulpad vs.  
Union of India and  
Ors.**

## **Introduction**

The livelihood of forest dwellers in the Nigiri region of Tamil Nadu was affected by the destruction of forests. T.N. Godavarman has played a vital role with regards to the conservation and protection of the environment. He is popularly known as 'the Green Man'. He has numerous public interest litigations to his merits which deal with conservation ideas and creating harmony with nature.

## **Facts**

T.N. Godavarman lodged a writ petition in the year 1995 in the apex court of India. The main objective of the writ petition was to safeguard and protect the forest land of the Nilgiris as it was exploited through deforestation by unlawful timber activities. The main highlight of this case was that it was to conserve the forest. It was followed by a hearing at full length regarding the National Forest Policy. This was regarded as interim directions that were required in relevant matters. This was to check the enforcement and implementation of forest laws and regulation within the subcontinent of India.

## **Arguments Advanced**

The arguments was on the basis that whether the new interpretation of Section 2 of the Forest Conservation Act and forest land is violative as per the contemporary trend and whether the usage of timber for commercial purposes is justified?

## **Judgement-**

The court evaluated and examined the National Forest Policy and the Forest Conservation Act 1980. This was to cover the aspects of deforestation. It also examined the word Forest according to the new definition and is subject to Section 2 of the Forest Conservation Act 1980. This section states that no state government or any other authority can make use of land of the forest for any non-forestry activities through the prior permission of the Central Government. Concerning the new interpretation of Section 2 of the Forest Conservation Act and forest land, it cannot de-reserve safeguarded forest for commercial activities without consent. This means all forest ventures require the permission of the Central Government.



# CASE ANALYSIS

For example activities such as a sawmill, mining and plywood factory can function with the approval of the Central Government.

A complete restriction is there on the transportation of cut trees and timber from any part of the seven north-eastern states of India. There should be no movement of wood through rail, road or waterways from these parts. The important highlight of the case is the presence of the Indian Constitution, which deals with the powers of the Central and State governments concerning safeguarding and protection of the natural resources from illegal activities. Article 48A mentions that the state will venture to secure and enhance the environment and also features a duty to guard the forest and wildlife of our nation. Article 51A bestows on all the citizens of India the requirement to conserve and uplift the natural environment comprising rivers, lakes, forests, wildlife and to possess benevolence towards all living beings.

## Conclusion

This case highlighted the need for maintaining and promoting forest productivity. It facilitates the conservation of biological diversity. As well as safeguarding and protecting environmental conditions were discussed in this case. The outcome of the T.N. Godavarman v. Thirumulpas witnesses the decline and the closure of numerous timber industries. It also created environment awareness among the citizens of India. It prohibited deforestation strictly. This case has acted as a stimulus in environmental conservation and protection on a large scale. The main contribution of this case was the efficient and smooth operation of various laws in carrying out environmental activities.



# CASE ANALYSIS



## **F .Mr. K T Rama Rao vs Mr. Anumula Revanth Reddy on 27 April, 2022**

### **Introduction:**

Drinking water contamination causes a variety of ailments, including asthma and asthma. A illness spread through contact with the skin. Animals are also affected. Nearby agricultural land and inhabitants' homes are covered in dust and rocks. Two mines released toxic and contaminated wastewater. Groundwater in this area has been "overexploited." CGWB conveys this message. There are huge holes everywhere. Unintentional subterranean mining

### **Facts:**

This allegation was filed with the allegation of violation of environmental standards. In the process the mentioned village miners are being adversely affected by deterioration neighborhood. The result is a violent blast and underground construction. Contamination of drinking water sources leading to various illnesses such as asthma and asthma. A disease that is transmitted through the skin. Livestock are also affected. Dust and rocks collect nearby agricultural land and residents' homes. Toxic and polluted wastewater freed from two mines. This area is "overexploited" with respect to groundwater. It is so communicated by CGWB. There are mammoth holes in many places. Unplanned underground mining. Applicant relied on submitted photos application.

### **Arguments:**

The basis of argument from both the side was whether the NGT's judgment directing the appellants to approach the appropriate committee for relief, rather than itself considering the substantive issues raised in the application, was sustainable in law or not.





# CASE ANALYSIS

## Judgment:

High Court saw that NGT is a specialist adjudicatory body on climate comprised under the NGT Act. The issues raised and reliefs looked for by the candidate before NGT are canvassed inside NGT's purview as far as Sections 14, 15 and 20 of the NGT Act. NGT Act shares adjudicatory capacities with NGT in light of its specific constitution and ability to manage multi-disciplinary issues concerning climate overall.

High Court additionally pondered on the powers of Courts and Tribunals to set up master boards of trustees for help, and saw as: "Courts/councils can set up master panels on the grounds that the reality tracking down practice in quite a large number matters can be perplexing, specialized and tedious, and may frequently require the councils to lead field visits. These panels are set up with explicit terms of reference framing their command, and their reports need to adjust to the order. Once these advisory groups present their last reports to the court/council, it is available to the gatherings to object to them, which is then arbitrated upon. The job of these master advisory groups doesn't substitute the adjudicatory job of the court or council. The job of a specialist board of trustees designated by an adjudicatory gathering is just to help it in the activity of adjudicatory capacities by giving them better information and real lucidity, which is likewise open to challenge by every interested individual. Taking into consideration issues with be raised and thought about makes the interaction fair and participatory for all partners."

In this unique situation, Supreme Court likewise alluded to the judgment on account of *Sanghar Zuber Ismail v. Service of Environment, Forests and Climate Change and Another*. For this situation, High Court held that NGT can't decline to hear a test to an ecological freedom under its re-appraising ward and agent the most common way of mediating on issues connected with its consistence to a specialist panel. It can't be permitted to comprise councils to embrace a capacity which it is shared with do under the NGT Act. In this unique situation, that's what supreme Court held, while NGT can comprise a specialist panel to help the NGT, for example, via doing a reality tracking down work out, yet the settlement must be done by the NGT. In the denounced judgment, NGT renounced its ward and shared legal capacities with a regulatory master board of trustees. As settlement isn't a delegable capacity, NGT's reprovved judgment assigning its center adjudicatory capacities to specialized panels was considered as impractical in regulation and put away by the Supreme Court.



# CASE ANALYSIS

## Conclusion:

**Sanghar Zuber Ismail v. Service of Environment, Forests and Climate Change and Others** was also mentioned by the Supreme Court in this particular situation. In this case, the High Court ruled that the NGT cannot refuse to consider a challenge to an ecological freedom under its re-appraising ward and agent, which is the most usual manner of resolving concerns related to its consistency to a specialist panel. It cannot be allowed to include councils in a function that is shared with them under the NGT Act.



# CASE ANALYSIS



## Uttarakhand State Pollution Control vs M/S Vatika Ltd and Ors on 14 March, 2022

### Introduction:

The noise level is given in the Schedule where the maximum noise level in a residential area is 55 dB(A) during day and 45 dB(A) during night and in the main body of the Rules it is permissible to increase this noise level by 5 dB(A), we realize that the directions given in the operative portion of the judgment is not in agreement with what has been discussed by the Division Bench in the body of the judgment.

### Arguments:

Coming to the root of the matter, in this case, sound as we know is measured in decibel i.e., dB. Now just to put things in their right perspective, let us also understand that 5 dB(A) sound level is as good as silence. There is almost no sound. The drop of a needle makes a sound of 5 dB(A)! Normally human breathing makes a sound which is louder, which is 10 dB(A). the court said "the noise level shall not exceed more than 5 dB(A), peripheral noise level", are the directions. Can there be so much of a paradox in an order? No there cannot be, and there was none. It is simply an inadvertent error, and we quickly realize this when we study the entire judgment. The Court never intended to say that the noise level shall not exceed more than 5 dB(A); what was intended was that the noise level shall not exceed by more than 5 dB(A) peripheral noise level above the ambient noise standards specified for the area. This is so because the limits of peripheral sound level have been prescribed under the Rules of Central Government known as "the "Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000". The noise level is given in the Schedule where the maximum noise level in a residential area is 55 dB(A) during day and 45 dB(A) during night and in the main body of the Rules it is permissible to increase this noise level by 5 dB(A), we realize that the directions given in the operative portion of the judgment is not in agreement with what has been discussed by the Division Bench in the body of the judgment. What was intended was that noise level should not be more than 5 dB(A) of the prescribed sound level and the prescribed level is 55 dB(A) during day and 45 dB(A) during night. It is 5 dB(A) increase in the sound level, and not 5 dB(A) limited sound level. This is also evident from the next direction given by the Division Bench. Direction (j) reads as under: The State Government is directed to ensure that the loudspeaker, public address system, musical instrument and sound amplifier are not played during night time except in auditoria, conference rooms, community halls, banquet halls as per norms laid down under the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000."





# CASE ANALYSIS

## **Judgements:**

**The state government is directed to ensure that loudspeakers or public address systems are not used except between 10pm to 12 midnight during any cultural or religious festive occasion of a limited duration not exceeding 15 days in all during a calendar year, that too, the noise level shall not exceed 10dB(A) above the ambient noise standards for the area. The court direct all the Senior Superintendents of Police/Superintendents of Police to ensure that no horn shall be used in silence zone or during the night between 10 pm to 6 am in residential areas except during public emergency.**

**All the Senior Superintendents of Police/Superintendents of Police and Circle Officers are directed to ensure that motorcycles throughout the state are duly fitted with silencers to avoid noise pollution and menace.**

## **Conclusion:**

**The state government is directed to ensure that loudspeakers or public address systems are not used except between 10pm to 12 midnight during any cultural or religious festive occasion of a limited duration not exceeding 15 days in all during a calendar year, that too, the noise level shall not exceed 10dB(A) above the ambient noise standards for the area. The court direct all the Senior Superintendents of Police/Superintendents of Police to ensure that no horn shall be used in silence zone or during the night between 10 pm to 6 am in residential areas except during public emergency**

# FUN FACTS



**78% Of marine mammals are at risk of choking on plastic**

Seventy-eight percent of marine mammals are at risk of accidental deaths, such as getting caught in fishing nets. Plastic bags and other plastic garbage that ends up in the ocean kill over 1,000,000 sea animals every year.



**The world's oldest tree is of 4,600 years**

The Great Basin Bristlecone Pine (*Pinus Longaeva*) in the USA has been deemed the oldest tree in existence, reaching an age of over 5,000 years old. The Bristlecone pines' success in living a long life can be attributed to the harsh conditions it lives in. Very cold temperatures associated with high winds, in addition to a slow growth rate, create dense wood, meaning some years they grow so slowly, they don't add a ring of growth.



**A glass bottle can take up to 1 million years to decompose.**

Glass takes a very, very long time to break down. It can take a glass bottle more than a million years to decompose in the environment, possibly even more if it's in a landfill. This means that glass manufactured and used 5000 years ago may still be present in the environment. Because its life cycle is so long, and because glass doesn't leach any chemicals, it's better to repurpose and reuse.



**There exists a Garbage Island**

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is a twisting and turning vortex made up of trash and waste. It's twice the size of continental America and contains about 100 million tons of garbage; it stretches from the West Coast of North America to Japan along the Pacific Ocean.

### **Ants weigh more than humans**

The combined weight of ants on the planet is higher than all human beings. The world has over 7 billion people, and 100 trillion ants.



### **Aluminium can be recycled forever**

Unlike paper which has a limit as to the times, it can be recycled, aluminum can be recycled forever. Recycling a can made of aluminum produces energy enough to run a television for three hours.

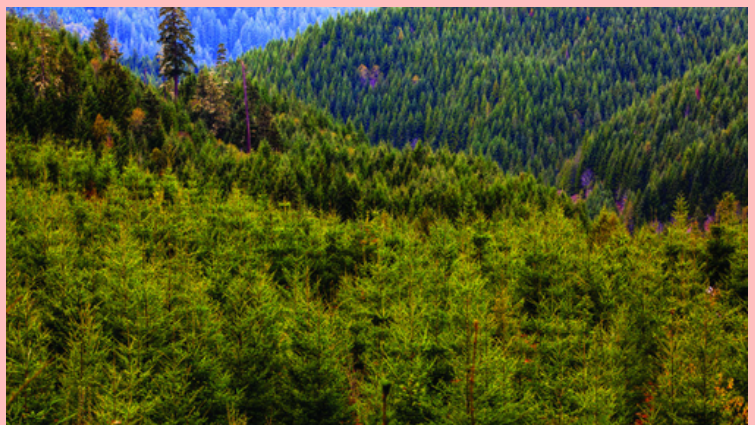
### **There are about 27 oil spills daily, somewhere in the world.**

While glass does not decompose easily, recycling it might be more beneficial to the environment. The recycling of one glass bottle not only saves energy but the energy saved can also power a normal light bulb for about four hours.



### **The US burns 10,000 gallons of gasoline per second**

The US burns 10,000 gallons of gasoline per second which is the equivalent of 220,000 pounds of carbon dioxide.



### **Only less than 4% of American forests remain today**

The majority have been cut down for fuel and building. Despite this, the world's oldest tree, 4600 years old exists and grows in USA.





# SUCCESS STORY

## RIDHIMA PANDEY

RIDHIMA PANDEY IS AN INDIAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVIST WHO CAMPAIGNS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION. HER INTEREST IN CLIMATE CHANGE BEGAN AFTER PANDEY'S NATIVE STATE OF UTTARAKHAND WAS HIT BY EXTREME WEATHER OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS, WITH OVER 1000 PEOPLE DYING AS A RESULT OF FLOODS AND LANDSLIDES IN 2013. PANDEY LAUNCHED A CIVIL COMPLAINT AGAINST THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT WHEN HE WAS NINE YEARS OLD, CLAIMING THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT TAKEN THE IMPORTANT EFFORTS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE THAT THEY HAD PLEDGED TO IN THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

THIS CASE WAS HEARD AT THE NGT. PANDEY ALSO REQUESTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT DEVELOP A STRATEGY TO CUT CARBON EMISSIONS AS WELL AS A COUNTRYWIDE PLAN TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE, INCLUDING A REDUCTION IN INDIA'S USAGE OF FOSSIL FUELS. SHE LEARNED ABOUT A FLEDGLING CLIMATE ACTIVIST ORGANISATION, APPROACHED THE GROUP AND WAS CHOSEN TO ATTEND THE 2019 UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT IN NEW YORK. AT THE CONFERENCE, PANDEY, ALONG WITH 15 OTHER CHILDREN, INCLUDING GRETA THUNBERG, AYAKHA MELITHAFA, AND ALEXANDRIA VILLASEOR, FILED A COMPLAINT WITH THE UN COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD, ACCUSING ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, GERMANY, FRANCE, AND TURKEY OF VIOLATING THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD BY FAILING TO ADEQUATELY ADDRESS THE CLIMATE CRISIS. SHE ALSO JOINED THUNBERG AND 13 OTHER YOUNGSTERS FROM ACROSS THE WORLD IN A FORMAL APPEAL TO UN SECRETARY-GENERAL ANTÓNIO GUTERRES TO DECLARE THE CLIMATE SITUATION A WORLDWIDE LEVEL 3 EMERGENCY BY 2021.

IN SEPTEMBER 2019, PANDEY ORGANISED A CLIMATE STRIKE IN DEHRADUN AS PART OF THE FRIDAYSFORFUTURE MOVEMENT, AND SHE ALSO SPOKE AT THE XYNTEO EXCHANGE IN NORWAY ALONGSIDE ELLA MARIE HAETTA ISAKSEN. PANDEY RETURNED TO DEALING WITH THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT WHEN SHE ASKED NARENDRA MODI TO OPPOSE A PROPOSAL TO CUT DOWN AAREY FOREST TO CREATE A METRO CAR SHED.

PANDEY HAS ADVOCATED FOR A TOTAL BAN ON PLASTIC. SHE HAS ALSO URGED THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO DO MORE TO CLEAN UP THE GANGA RIVER. SHE BELIEVES THAT, DESPITE THE GOVERNMENT'S ASSERTIONS, THERE HASN'T BEEN ANY IMPROVEMENT IN THE RIVER'S HEALTH. PANDEY WAS NAMED TO THE BBC'S 100 WOMEN LIST IN 2020. SHE WILL ALSO RECEIVE THE MOTHER TERESA MEMORIAL AWARD FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE.





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