



# **FACULTY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES**

**COURSE: LL.B.**

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# Lecture-40



## LECTURE 40: National Forest Policy of 1988 and 2016

### **The National Forest Policy, 1988**

The National Forest Policy of 1988 gives the protective duties of the forests in supporting environmental stability and ecological balance.

The general objectives that were ruled the National Forest Policy, 1988 were as follows:

- To maintain the environment stability through care and also recovering of the ecological balance that has been disturbed by a heavy reduction of forests in India.
- Reserving the natural heritage of India by protecting the remaining natural forests with varieties like Flora and Fauna, which represent the biological diversity of India.
- Testing the soil erosion and the process of erosion in the banks of rivers, lakes and reservoirs for reducing the floods and drought.
- Preventing the increase of sand-dunes in the desert areas of Rajasthan and coastal tracts.
- Through massive afforestation and social foresting programs, especially on degraded and unproductive land helps in increasing the forest across the country.
- Rural and tribal populations meet the requirement for fuelwood, fodder, small timber and minor forest products.
- By increasing the production of the forest for the essential needs.

### **National Forest Policy, 2016**

#### **Green Tax on Citizens**

The National Forest Policy (NFP) established the levy of green tax for promoting ecologically responsible behaviour and providing financial resources which are essential to address forestry.

#### **Draft Policy Undermines the Forest Rights Act**

NFP ignores the Forests Rights Act, 2006 which has control only in the area of local Gram panchayat, mainly in tribal places which are close to India's forests and makes joint forest management for the enrichment of agroforestry.

## **Forest Management Mission to promote Supply to Wood Industry**

The policy plans to launch a new community forest management mission, gathering the Government, private land and community under the new planned management system. It wants to make one-third of the Government-owned forests under the community forest management regime by the end of the coming decade. The policy also suggests the contracts within the forest-dependent industries and farmers to make a fixed price and quantity to make a sure supply for the wood industry.

## **Technology to Minimise Damage to Forests**

The policy talks about the forest land diversion projects which are related to mining, construction of dams, roads and other small infrastructure which are needed to be chosen for some special cautions. To reduce the pollution and damage, state of the art technology should be used.

## **Board to Monitor Management of Forests**

The policy says that the National Board of Forestry and State Board of Forestry should be made to ensure the control of the spread in forest areas and management of forest cover.

## **Provision for responsible tourism**

The policy says that for supplementing the livelihood needs of local communities they must be developed on sound ecotourism models with a focus on conservation. As per the policy, tourism is responsible for any negative impact on wildlife and its inhabitants. Tourism would also be responsible for any reduction in income or loss of revenue of the local communities.

## **Climate change to emerge as an important factor in policy**

This policy states that climate change should be an important factor if some plans are in all the forest management plans and community management plans.

## **Purchase of Wildlife Corridors**

The policy specifies that for purchasing wildlife corridors from people CMPA (Compensatory afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority) funds are to be used.

## **Maintaining Urban Forests**

This policy asks for the management plans for the forest, parks, gardens which are present in cities to nourish and sustain the health and clean air.