

B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) DEGREE SIXTH SEMESTER EXAMINATION, MAY 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Time: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 50

Answer ANY FIVE of the following questions. Each question carries TEN marks

1. Analyse how Indian courts have attempted to balance ecological preservation with developmental needs, and assess whether a harmonious reconciliation of these two interests is achievable within the framework of sustainable development and constitutional values.
2. Critically examine the legal framework governing compensation, rehabilitation, and resettlement for individuals and communities displaced by development projects in India. In your analysis, identify and evaluate the relevant statutory provisions and assess their effectiveness in safeguarding the rights and livelihoods of affected persons.
3. What is Public Trust Doctrine, Examine the different cases in which Supreme Court applied this Doctrine.
4. What are the mechanisms which have been adopted for the management and handling of hazardous waste and municipal solid waste in India? Critically examine the effectiveness of the legislations in light of relevant case studies
5. Examine the legal and constitutional challenges associated with conducting Environmental Impact Assessments with special reference to interstate rivers in India. To what extent do current EIA regulations under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, address transboundary environmental concerns within the Indian federal structure? Evaluate the effectiveness of public participation and inter-state consultation with respect to EIA.
6. Discuss the role of the Supreme Court in redefining the meaning of 'forest', creation of institutions like the Central Empowered Committee. Critically analyse the judicial interventions made through the *T.N. Godavarman Tirumulpad* case series and evaluate their influence on forest conservation in India.
7. Answer any TWO of the following;
 - a. Carbon credits
 - b. Extended Producer Liability
 - c. Coastal Zone Regulation
 - d. Agenda 21
 - e. Nagoya Protocol

8. K, a tribal resident living near a protected forest, belongs to a community that has, for generations, sustainably collected the roots of “Maikal Vach”, a rare medicinal plant known for its healing properties. Recently, the Forest Department banned all access to the area, claiming the plant is now under threat of extinction and its habitat falls within a critical wildlife zone under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. K argues that this blanket ban ignores his community’s customary rights, traditional knowledge systems, and their right to livelihood under Article 21 of the Constitution. He approaches you to understand whether he can legally challenge the order. Advise him.
