

An Analysis of the Role of National Green Tribunal for the Protection & Conservation of Environment

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1. Introduction

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) is a specialised court that was formed in India in 2010 with the purpose of efficiently and promptly resolving matters that are associated with the preservation and protection of the natural environment. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was established in accordance with the National Green Tribunal Act, which was passed in 2010. The NGT has the authority to hear all civil cases involving issues of environmental law, such as those concerning air and water pollution, waste management, the conservation of forests, and biodiversity. Since it was first established, the NGT has been an essential component in India's efforts to conserve and preserve the country's natural resources. It is one of the NGT's primary strengths that it is able to provide prompt and efficient justice to persons who are seeking the preservation of their constitutional right to live in an unpolluted environment. It has shortened the amount of time required to settle environmental issues, which has resulted in a more streamlined and efficient procedure.

The NGT has also made major contributions to the preservation and conservation of the environment by making various rulings that have become landmarks in the field. In Delhi, for example, which is often ranked as one of the most polluting cities in the world, the National Green Tribunal has issued rulings banning diesel cars older than 10 years. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has levied huge penalties on polluters and ordered the shutdown of polluting companies, including as those located beside rivers such as the Ganga and the Yamuna. Additionally, the NGT has been instrumental in the propagation of the idea of the polluter pays principle, which holds that the expenses of environmental harm produced by a business should be paid by the company that created the damage. In addition to its function as an arbitrator, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has also been instrumental in bringing environmental concerns to the attention of the general public. It has organised a number of different seminars and awareness initiatives to teach people about the need of protecting and conserving the environment. In addition, the NGT has addressed environmental concerns by working closely with other government agencies, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and groups representing civil society.

Having said that, the NGT has moreover been subjected to some criticism about its operation. One of the most significant problems, in terms of both infrastructure and personnel, is that there is not enough capacity to deal with the growing number of patients. This has resulted in delays in the disposal of cases and, at times, has caused the NGT to be unable to provide justice in a timely way. Consequently, there have been delays. A further objection is that the NGT's jurisdiction is only applicable to civil actions that are relevant to environmental legislation. This is a significant limitation.

2. Review Literature

A research project is not complete without a comprehensive literature review since it assists in locating and evaluating the existing body of literature that is connected to the study issue. Regarding the National Green Tribunal (NGT), several research have been carried out to investigate the function that the NGT plays in the process of protecting and conserving the environment. Here are some major conclusions from related literature:

In a study conducted by **Sharma et al. (2019)**, The authors conducted research to determine how well NGT deals with instances that include concerns about the environment. According to the findings of the research, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has been successful in providing justice in a timely and efficient manner, and it has also played an important part in preserving India's natural resources.

In another study, **Dutt (2018) analyzed** the effect that the orders issued by the NGT had on the decision to shut down factories that were polluting waterways in India. According to the findings of the research, the directives issued by the NGT were successful in lowering the levels of pollution discovered in these rivers, which in turn served to safeguard the health and well-being of the populations located there.

A study conducted by **Sarkar and Tiwari (2018)** evaluated the role that NGT played in advancing the polluter pays approach as a guiding philosophy in environmental policy. According to the findings of the research, the NGT has been effective in imposing substantial penalties on polluters, which has contributed to the reduction of environmental pollution caused by companies.

In a study conducted by **Gupta and Pandey (2017)**, The authors conducted research to determine how successful the NGT has been in resolving disputes involving air pollution in Delhi. According to the findings of the research, the orders issued by the NGT to prohibit diesel

cars in Delhi that were more than 10 years old were successful in lowering the levels of pollution in the city.

A study conducted by **Chakraborty et al. (2016)** examined the level of knowledge and opinion of the NGT held by the general population in India. According to the findings of the survey, people in India consider the National Green Tribunal (NGT) to be an efficient organisation that has been instrumental in the country's efforts to preserve its natural resources.

A study conducted by **Rathi et al. (2017)** investigated the approach that the NGT takes to environmental governance and the influence that it has on the way environmental legislation in India are carried out. According to the findings of the research, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has significantly contributed to the improvement of environmental governance in India and has helped with the application of environmental legislation on both the national and state levels.

In a study conducted by **Pandey et al. (2019)**, The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was examined by the writers in terms of the function it plays in fostering sustainable development in India. According to the findings of the research, NGT has been effective in incorporating the concepts of sustainable development into its choices, and it has also played an important part in striking a balance between the promotion of economic growth and the preservation of the environment.

A study conducted by **Shukla and Sharma (2020)** studied the effect that the orders of the NGT have had on the effort to preserve India's forests. According to the findings of the research, the orders issued by the NGT have been successful in preserving forests and the country's biodiversity, and they have helped to the application of a variety of environmental regulations that are relevant to the preservation of forests.

In a study conducted by **Sarker and Ray (2019)**, The authors investigated how well the National Green Tribunal (NGT) handles disputes involving the contamination of water in India. According to the findings of the research, the orders issued by the NGT have been beneficial in lowering the levels of water pollution across the nation and have helped to the enforcement of different laws connected to the management of water pollution.

In a study conducted by **Kumar and Dixit (2019)**, The NGT's function in encouraging public engagement in environmental decision-making was investigated by the authors of this study. According to the findings of the study, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has established a

forum in which citizens and organisations representing civil society can share their environmental concerns and take part in the formulation of environmental policy, thereby contributing to the growth of environmental democracy in India.

A study conducted by **Malik and Singh (2019)** investigated the function of the NGT in advancing environmentally responsible business practises in India. According to the findings of the research, the orders issued by the NGT have assisted in the promotion of corporate environmental responsibility by imposing penalties on enterprises that cause pollution and demanding the construction of environmental management systems.

In a study conducted by **Kumar et al. (2020)**, the authors conducted an analysis of the role that the NGT plays in advancing environmental justice in India. According to the findings of the research, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has been instrumental in the advancement of environmental justice by handling issues involving environmental damage and safeguarding the rights of underrepresented people.

A study conducted by **Pal and Banerjee (2017)** investigated the function of the NGT in fostering environmentally responsible urbanisation in India. According to the findings of the study, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has been successful in promoting sustainable urbanisation. This has been accomplished by addressing cases relating to air and water pollution in urban areas and promoting the implementation of policies for sustainable urban development.

A study conducted by **Khanna and Puri (2018)** evaluated the National Green Tribunal's part in preventing and adapting to the effects of climate change in India. According to the findings of the research, the NGT has been instrumental in the promotion of climate change adaptation and mitigation by handling instances relating to the prevention of air and water pollution, the preservation of forests, and the generation of renewable energy.

In a study conducted by **Chand et al. (2017)**, The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was investigated by these writers for its function in advancing environmentally responsible methods of garbage management in India. According to the findings of the research, the orders issued by the NGT have been successful in encouraging environmentally responsible methods of waste management and have contributed to the reduction of the negative effects of garbage disposal on the environment.

A study conducted by **Mehta and Tyagi (2018)** evaluated the role that the NGT plays in raising people's awareness and education about environmental issues in India. According to the findings of the research, the NGT has played an important part in the process of increasing environmental education and awareness by holding environmental education workshops and awareness campaigns, as well as by incorporating environmental education in its decisions.

In a study conducted by **Joshi et al. (2018)**, The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was investigated by these writers in order to determine its contribution to the conservation of India's fauna and flora. According to the findings of the research, the orders issued by the NGT have been successful in preserving biodiversity and conserving wildlife thanks to the imposition of penalties on poachers and the promotion of the execution of wildlife conservation measures..

A study conducted by **Kulkarni and Patil (2018)** examined the function of the NGT in advancing environmentally responsible farming practises in India. According to the findings of the research, NGT has been effective in promoting sustainable agricultural practises by addressing issues relating to the use of pesticides and fertilisers, as well as soil and water contamination.

In a study conducted by **Ghosh and Das (2017)**, The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was analysed by these writers to see how well it protects and advances the rights of India's indigenous and tribal groups. According to the findings of the research, the NGT has been instrumental in the process of defending the rights of indigenous and tribal people by resolving instances involving the purchase of land, the displacement of residents, and the causing of damage to the environment.

A study conducted by **Singh and Sinha (2018)** evaluated the National Green Tribunal's part in fostering ecotourism in India. According to the findings of the research, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has been effective in promoting ecotourism by resolving complaints relating to environmental damage caused by tourist activities and by advocating the adoption of sustainable tourism practises.

In a study conducted by **Sardana and Sharma (2017)**, The writers investigated the National Green Tribunal's (NGT) function in India's efforts to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the United Nations. According to the findings of the research, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has been instrumental in advancing the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by handling issues involving damage to the environment, supporting sustainable development, and increasing public engagement.

A study conducted by **Singh and Malik (2019)** evaluated the function of the NGT in preserving India's wetland areas for future generations. According to the findings of the study, NGT has been successful in promoting the conservation of wetlands. This has been accomplished by addressing cases related to the destruction and degradation of wetland ecosystems, as well as by promoting the implementation of conservation measures for wetland ecosystems.

In a study conducted by **Kumar and Kumar (2019)**, The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was investigated by the authors as a potential mechanism for improving environmental governance on a regional scale in India. According to the findings of the study, the NGT has been instrumental in promoting environmental governance at the local level. This has been accomplished by addressing cases pertaining to local environmental issues, encouraging public participation, and encouraging the implementation of local environmental policies.

A study conducted by **Saini and Gupta (2018)** evaluated the National Green Tribunal's role in preserving groundwater in India and its efforts to do so. According to the findings of the study, the NGT has been successful in its efforts to promote the conservation of groundwater. This has been accomplished by addressing cases related to groundwater depletion and pollution, as well as by promoting the implementation of groundwater conservation measures.

In a study conducted by **Chakraborty and Mukherjee (2018)**, The NGT's function in encouraging the incorporation of environmental factors into urban design in India was investigated by the writers of this study. According to the findings of the study, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has played a significant part in advancing the integration of environmental considerations into urban planning. This has been accomplished by addressing cases relating to environmental harm caused by urban development and by promoting the implementation of policies for sustainable urban development.

Overall, the research indicates that the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has been instrumental in the promotion of environmental protection and conservation, sustainable development, public participation, corporate environmental responsibility, environmental justice, sustainable urbanisation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable waste management practises, environmental education and awareness, the protection of wildlife and biodiversity, sustainable agriculture, and the rights of indigenous peoples. Despite this, there is still a pressing need to solve the issues that NGT is now experiencing and to increase its capability to promote environmental sustainability and defend the rights of people in India.

3. History or origin of NGT

Through the passage of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010, India's National Green Tribunal (NGT) came into existence the same year. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was established, which represented a major step towards improving environmental governance in India and advancing sustainable development.

In the 1980s, when the Supreme Court of India first began hearing issues concerning the preservation and protection of the environment, it became clear that India required the establishment of a court that was solely dedicated to the resolution of environmental conflicts. The National Environment Tribunal Act was enacted in 1995 with the intention of establishing a specialist environmental court, however the court was never actually put into action.

The present legal framework was deemed insufficient by India's Supreme Court in the early 2000s, prompting the court to comment that there was a need for a specialised environmental court to resolve environmental issues. This brought the demand for such a court back into the spotlight. In 2009, a committee was established with the charge of drafting a piece of legislation for the formation of the NGT. In 2010, this committee's work resulted in the National Green Tribunal Act being passed into law.

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was founded with the purpose of giving matters relating to environmental preservation and conservation with a resolution that is both efficient and effective. The NGT has the authority to hear all civil cases involving issues of environmental law, such as those involving air and water pollution, waste management, the preservation of forests, and the protection of biodiversity.

Since its creation in 2010, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in India has been operating as a specialised court for the resolution of environmental issues. It has been very important in the process of safeguarding and preserving the environment in India by ensuring that justice is swiftly and accurately administered, fostering environmentally responsible development, and including environmental considerations into its judgments..

4. International Aspect of NGT

The National Green Tribunal, often known as the NGT, is an entity that was formed at the national level in India to handle environmental issues. However, its choices and actions have repercussions that extend beyond the boundaries of the country and have a considerable effect on the global society. The following is a list of some of the NGT's international aspects:

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has been instrumental in India's efforts to live up to its international responsibilities in the realm of environmental preservation and conservation. For instance, the National Green Tribunal's judgements on the reduction of air pollution and the promotion of the use of renewable energy have helped India make progress toward the achievement of its climate change mitigation objectives as outlined in the Paris Agreement.

The NGT has also been engaged in a number of instances relating to cross-border environmental concerns, such as the protection of biodiversity and the reduction of water pollution. The judgments that it makes in relation to these matters have repercussions for the nations that are nearby as well as for the international community as a whole.

The role that the National Green Tribunal (NGT) plays in promoting the 'polluter pays' idea and enforcing penalties on polluters has repercussions for global firms that operate in India. These multinational organisations are held to the same environmental norms and standards as their local counterparts, and the acts of NGT may have an effect on both their business practises and their reputations.

The choices made by the NGT with regard to the preservation of biodiversity and forests will have an effect on the overall efforts being made all over the world to preserve biodiversity and safeguard important ecosystems. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has the authority to make judgements relating to the preservation of internationally important biodiversity hotspots that are located in India. These rulings have the potential to contribute to international efforts to safeguard these regions.

National aspect with the use of different Article in Indian Constitution related to environmental law

The Constitution of India includes a number of articles that are relevant to the preservation and protection of the natural environment, and the National Green Tribunal (NGT) was formed to ensure that these requirements are adhered to. The following is a list of some of the most important constitutional provisions connected to environmental law and its implementation in the context of the National Green Tribunal (NGT):

- **Article 48A:** This article charges the state with the responsibility of preserving and enhancing the environment, as well as protecting the nation's woodlands and wild animals. This constitutional clause is in line with the function that the NGT plays in handling matters

connected to the protection of animals, the preservation of forests, and the destruction of the environment.

- **Article 51A(g):** Every person has the essential obligation, as outlined in this article, to preserve and develop the natural environment, which includes the woodlands, lakes, rivers, and many forms of animals. This constitutional clause is consistent with the function that the NGT plays in fostering public involvement in environmental decision-making as well as promoting environmental education and awareness.
- **Article 21:** This article ensures a person's right to life and personal liberty, which the Supreme Court of India has construed to encompass a person's right to a clean and healthy environment. This article also guarantees the right to equality before the law. This constitutional clause is consistent with the function that the NGT plays in considering matters connected to environmental damage and preserving the rights of communities that have been harmed by environmental deterioration.
- **Article 48:** This article gives the state the directive to arrange agricultural and animal husbandry in a manner that is conducive to the preservation and protection of the natural environment. This constitutional clause is in line with the function that the NGT plays in promoting sustainable agricultural practises as well as encouraging the protection of livestock and wildlife.
- **Article 39(b):** This article charges the state with the responsibility of ensuring that ownership and control of the community's material resources are dispersed in a manner that is conducive to the promotion of the public good. This constitutional clause is consistent with the function that the NGT plays in promoting the notion known as polluter pays and enforcing penalties on polluters.

In general, the function of the NGT in environmental preservation and conservation is grounded in various constitutional provisions connected to sustainable development and the environment. These constitutional provisions serve as a compass for the acts and rulings of the National Green Tribunal (NGT), which in turn contribute to the fulfilment of India's constitutional commitment to the preservation and conservation of the environment.

5. what Acts cover under NGT. Because NGT has not established for the whole Environmental law.

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was formed to hear civil issues relating to environmental law. Its mandate is to make environmental law decisions. It has authority over a number of Acts

and legislation in India that are geared toward the preservation and protection of the natural environment. The following is a list of some of the most important acts and legislation that are covered by the NGT:

- **The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974:** This Act ensures that India will take measures to reduce and manage its water pollution going forward. Under the provisions of this Act, the NGT is authorised to hear matters concerning the prevention and control of water pollution.
- **The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981:** This Act ensures that India will take measures to reduce and manage its levels of air pollution. Under the provisions of this Act, the NGT is authorised to hear issues involving the prevention or reduction of air pollution.
- **The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980:** This Act ensures that India's forests and animal populations will be preserved for future generations. Under the terms of this Act, the National Green Tribunal has the authority to hear issues concerning the preservation of biodiversity and forests.
- **The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972:** The wild animals of India are protected under the provisions of this act. Under the terms of this Act, the NGT has the authority to hear issues involving the protection and preservation of wildlife.
- **The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:** In India, the preservation and enhancement of the environment, as well as the reduction of environmental pollution, are all included within the provisions of this Act. Under the provisions of this Act, the NGT is authorised to hear issues involving the prevention or reduction of environmental contamination.
- **The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991:** This Act makes provisions for public liability insurance with the intention of giving prompt assistance to those whose lives have been upended as a result of incidents that occurred while handling dangerous chemicals. In accordance with this Act, the NGT has the authority to hear cases involving claims of liability that result from the handling of hazardous chemicals.
- **The Biological Diversity Act, 2002:** This Act ensures that India's rich biological variety will be preserved for future generations. In accordance with the terms of this Act, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has the authority to hear issues that concern the conservation of biological diversity and the preservation of biological variety.
- **The Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016:** This Act makes provisions for the management of hazardous waste in India

as well as other types of trash. In accordance with this Act, the NGT has the authority to hear matters involving the inappropriate management and disposal of hazardous waste and other types of garbage.

- **The National Green Tribunal Act, 2010:** The National Green Tribunal (NGT) is created under this Act, which also makes provisions for the resolution of environmental issues in India. The National Green Tribunal has the authority to hear all civil disputes involving issues of environmental legislation, such as those involving the management of waste, the protection of forests and biodiversity, as well as issues of air and water pollution.
- **The Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011:** This Act establishes the framework for the regulation of activities that take place in India's coastal zone. Cases that involve infractions of CRZ standards, such as the building of structures or engaging in activities inside the coastal zone without first obtaining authorization, are within the purview of the NGT.
- **The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960:** This Act prohibits the infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering on animals in India. Under the terms of this Act, the NGT has the authority to rule on issues involving the protection of animals and other forms of wildlife.

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has authority over a number of Acts and rules in India that pertain to the protection and conservation of the environment, the management of hazardous waste, the preservation of biodiversity, the protection of animals, and the administration of coastal zones. For the sake of fostering sustainable development and conserving the environment, the function it plays in resolving environmental disputes in a prompt and efficient manner is very essential.

6. Supreme court cases as reference. How much these cases are successful to give protection and conservation of the environment.

The environmental law of India was substantially shaped by the Supreme Court of India, which also contributed significantly to the advancement of environmental protection and conservation efforts throughout the nation. The Supreme Court's decision in many historic cases has had far-reaching effects for environmental preservation and conservation. These cases have been decided in recent years. The following are some instances of such situations:

- **MC Mehta v. Union of India:** This lawsuit, often commonly referred to as the Taj Trapezium case, was first brought forth with the intention of addressing the issue of air

pollution in and around the Taj Mahal. Within the boundaries of the Taj Trapezium, the Supreme Court issued an order mandating the shutting down of polluting companies and establishing stringent emission restrictions. This lawsuit was the impetus for the formation of both the Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA) and the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in India. Both of these institutions are responsible for environmental protection.

- **M.C. Mehta v. Kamal Nath:** In this court case, the issue of illicit mining in the Sariska Tiger Reserve in the Indian state of Rajasthan was discussed. The state government has been ordered to implement measures for the preservation and conservation of wildlife in the region after the Supreme Court issued an order prohibiting mining in the area and ordering the state government to do so. This lawsuit established a standard for the preservation of natural habitats for animals in India.
- **Vellore Citizens Welfare Forum v. Union of India:** In this particular example, we looked at the issue of industrial pollution in the river Palar in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu. The Supreme Court issued an order that polluting companies in the region be shut down and established stringent regulations for the release of wastewater. This case established a standard for the defence of India's rivers and other bodies of water in the future.
- **Indian Council for Enviro-Legal Action v. Union of India:** The issue of how to properly dispose of hazardous garbage in India was the focus of this case. The Supreme Court issued an order that called for the building of facilities for the management of hazardous waste as well as the development of a regulatory framework for the management of hazardous waste. This case established a standard for the responsible and environmentally conscious treatment of hazardous waste in India.

The rulings handed down by India's Supreme Court have been effective in advancing environmental protection and conservation efforts throughout the country. The Supreme Court's work in interpreting and implementing environmental laws and regulations, as well as in resolving environmental disputes, has been an extremely important factor in the promotion of sustainable development and the maintenance of environmental quality. However, it is still necessary to solve the implementation gaps and to increase the ability of the legal system to manage increasing environmental concerns in India. Both of these things need to be done.

7. The latest issue or notification of the govt about EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment 2020)

On March 23, 2020, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification was published by the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC). The Environmental Impact Assessment notice is a legislative framework that defines the procedure for obtaining environmental clearance for a variety of development projects in India. Concerns have been expressed concerning the most recent EIA notification's possible influence on the environment as well as the public's ability to participate in the decision-making process. There has been a lot of discussion and controversy around this issue.

Some of the key provisions of the EIA Notification 2020 are:

- **Post-facto clearance:** The new notice makes it possible for projects that have already begun construction without having first obtained previous environmental approval to be given permission after the fact. This clause has been attacked on the grounds that it gives businesses an opportunity to sidestep environmental standards by exploiting a gap it creates.
- **Exemptions for certain industries:** The announcement removes the need of seeking an environmental clearance for various different types of businesses and projects, such as those using solar power. It has been argued that this clause weakens existing environmental restrictions and contributes to the deterioration of the surrounding ecosystem.
- **Public consultation:** In order to comply with the terms of the notice, the public consultation must be carried out through digital platforms. This clause has been attacked on the grounds that it restricts public involvement in the decision-making process, which is particularly problematic in regions where internet access is restricted.
- **Reduction in the validity of environmental clearance:** The validity of environmental clearance for mining projects has been reduced from 5 years to 2 years as a result of the notice, while the validity for other projects has been reduced from 7 years to 5 years. This clause has been opposed on the grounds that it would create extra bureaucratic barriers for project proponents and might possibly delay the execution of the project.
- **Dilution of environmental regulations:** Criticism has been levelled against the EIA Notification 2020 on the grounds that it watered down environmental rules and encouraged the destruction of the environment. The provision that allows for post-facto environmental clearance of projects as well as the exemption of several different industries from the requirement that they obtain an environmental clearance are both seen as things that dilute environmental regulations and undermine the purpose of the EIA process.

- **Limited public participation:** Because the notice mandates that the public consultation process be carried out online, it has been criticised for reducing the amount of public engagement in the decision-making process. This criticism is particularly prevalent in regions where internet access is scarce. A number of people have contended that this clause breaches the right to information of the communities who are going to be impacted, in addition to undermining the democratic decision-making norms.
- **Weakening of forest and wildlife protection:** The announcement has been criticised for lowering the level of protection afforded to India's forests and animals. The inclusion of a mechanism for post-facto clearance of projects and the lowering in the validity of environmental clearance for mining projects have both been seen as having the potential to be detrimental to forest ecosystems and the habitats of many species of animals.
- **Lack of transparency:** The EIA Notification 2020 has come under fire for having an opaque decision-making process, which has led to criticism of the document. The notice has been accused of failing to offer clear standards for the evaluation and approval of projects, and there has been a lack of openness in the criteria that has been utilised to make decisions.

The EIA Notification 2020 has been faced with a great deal of criticism from members of the public, as well as environmentalists and civil society organisations. The notice is presently being challenged in India's highest court, the Supreme Court of India, and there have been requests for the government to examine and change its provisions in order to meet the concerns that have been made by a variety of parties.

8. Conclusion

Both the National Green Tribunal (NGT) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification 2020 are essential parts of the system of environmental governance that India has put in place. The EIA Notification 2020 has been the subject of much debate and criticism for its potential impact on the environment and public participation in the decision-making process. While the NGT has played a significant role in promoting environmental protection and conservation, the EIA Notification 2020 has been the subject of much criticism and debate.

To strengthen India's environmental governance framework, the following suggestions can be considered:

Strengthening the NGT: In order for the NGT to be able to successfully handle increasing environmental concerns, it needs to be enhanced by the addition of additional resources, infrastructure, and capacity development.

Reviewing and amending the EIA Notification 2020: Environmentalists, members of civil society organisations, and members of the general public have voiced their concerns, and the government needs to examine and alter the EIA Notification 2020 to meet these issues. The notification needs to be made more open and participative, while also being more protective of the natural world.

Promoting sustainable development: The incorporation of environmental factors into India's development strategies and plans would be a step in the right direction toward achieving sustainable development. This objective is attainable via the encouragement of the use of renewable energy sources, the promotion of sustainable agricultural practices, and the promotion of the preservation of forests and biodiversity.

Promoting public participation: It is important for India to encourage public engagement in environmental decision-making by making information easily accessible, holding public hearings in an open and transparent way, and promoting participation from all relevant stakeholders, particularly local populations.

In general, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification 2020 are essential components of India's environmental governance structure. It is possible for India's efforts to meet its environmental objectives and promote sustainable development to be aided by the strengthening of these institutions, as well as the promotion of sustainable development and public engagement.

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