



Environmental policy in india

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The Underlying Causes of Environmental Degradation in India

- **Social Factors**
- **Economic Factors**
- **Institutional Factors**



Social Factors

- **Population**
- **Poverty**
- **Urbanization**



Economic Factors

- **Non-existent or poorly functioning markets for environmental goods and services**
- **Market distortions created by price controls and subsidies**
- **The manufacturing technology adopted by most of the industries which generally is based on intensive resource and energy use.**
- **Expansion of chemical based industry**
- **Growing transport activities**
- **Expansion of port and harbour activities.**



Institutional Factors

Lack of awareness and infrastructure makes implementation of most of the laws relating to environment, extremely difficult and ineffective.



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Ancient India

- **The *Arthashastra* by Kautilya, written as early as between 321 and 300 BC, contained provisions meant to regulate a number of aspects related to the environment.**
- **The fifth pillar edict of Emperor Ashoka also contains such regulations**

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During the British Reign in India:

- **Shore Nuisance (Bombay and Kolaba) Act, 1853**
- **The Indian Penal Code, 1860**
- **The Indian Easements Act, 1882**
- **The Fisheries Act, 1897**
- **The Factories Act, 1897**
- **The Bengal Smoke Nuisance Act, 1905**
- **The Bombay Smoke Nuisance Act, 1912**
- **The Elephant's Preservation Act, 1879**
- **Wild Birds and Animals Protection Act, 1912**



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Modern India

- **National Council for Environmental Policy and Planning was set up in 1972 which was later evolved into Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) in 1985.**
- **MoEF and the pollution control boards (CPCB i.e. Central Pollution Control Board and SPCBs i.e. State Pollution Control Boards) together form the regulatory and administrative core of the sector.**



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- **The Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution and the National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development were brought out by the MoEF in 1992.**
- **The EAP (Environmental Action Programme) was formulated in 1993 with the objective of improving environmental services and integrating environmental considerations into development programmes.**



Environmental Policy In India

National Environment Policy, 2006

- It is the first initiative in strategy-formulation for environmental protection in a comprehensive manner.
- It undertakes a diagnosis of the causative factors of land degradation with a view to flagging the remedial measures required in this direction.
- It recognizes that the relevant fiscal, tariffs and sectoral policies need to take explicit account of their unintentional impacts on land degradation.



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Constitutional Framework

- **Article 21 - Fundamental Rights**
- **Article 48A - Directive Principles of State Policy**
- **Article 51A(g) - Fundamental Duties**



Legislative Framework

- *Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974*
- *Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977*
- *Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981*
- *Atomic Energy Act of 1982*
- *Motor Vehicles Act, 1988*
- *The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972*
- *The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980*
- *Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (EPA)*
- *The National Environment Appellate Authority Act, 1997*
- *Public Liability Insurance Act (PLIA), 1991*
- *National Environment Tribunal Act, 1995*