

NEW LAW COLLEGE ENVIRONMENT CELL REPORT

1. Documentary on Bhopal Gas Disaster Case: 29th July 2019:

This documentary was shown to create awareness and to instigate a discussion on the subject of environment protection. It is considered to be the world's worst industrial disaster and we as lawyers must be aware of all the legal aspects which come into play when any such incident occurs.

The documentary initiated discussion amongst the students regarding the effects of Bhopal Gas Leak on polluting ground water. Various government reports have contemplated that water in the Bhopal Gas Leak Tragedy affected area contains 40 percent more pesticides than any other area.



Consumption of this water on continuous basis can adversely affect human and animal life. The student had a better understanding of the whole scenario after the discussion. These awareness programmes were conducted by the students and teachers of New Law College. Various sessions were organized with the aimed at spreading knowledge regarding environment protection, environment degradation, water pollution, water conservation, mitigating water and environment pollution. These sessions also aimed at taking positive steps by each member of public towards controlling water pollution.

Object: The Main purpose behind this event was to sensitizing the students about the scale of catastrophe due to gas leak and the need to prevent such mishaps in the future with proactive policies and stringent laws

2. Visit to National Green Tribunal on 14th Aug 2019:

In view of educating students regarding the judicial process through water pollution cases are adjudged and contended students of New Law College went to visit the National Green Tribunal. The visit was organized on 14th of august, 2019 and its purpose was to educate students regarding environment adjudication.

An interactive session was conducted between Adv. Anirudhra Kulkarni who is a practicing advocate and also deals with the matter relating to environment before the NGT and the students of New Law College, Pune. Also, Mr. Gupta who is the Deputy Registrar of the NGT Regional Bench, Pune was present there. Sir explained in detail the types of water pollution, the functions of the NGT in curbing water pollution, the punishment that the NGT can award and the powers of the NGT.



Object: Understanding the functioning of the NGT and career opportunities as an environmental lawyer.

3. Awareness Program on “Impact of Pollution on the Society” at Shree Chhatrapati Shivaji Vidyalay and Junior College, Paud, Pune, on 16th Aug 2019:

New Law College organized various awareness programmes at schools and other social platforms. Faculties and students of New Law College organized an awareness program in Shree Chhatrapati Shivaji Vidyalay and Junior College, Paud, Pune. The agenda was to prevent water pollution through environment conservation. The discussion was enthusiastically participated by the students and teachers of the school along with the faculty and students of New Law College. The discussion initiated with locating the problem area. Students were proactive in suggesting how in day to day life they experience, environment degradation which in turn results into fouling of water resources. Discussion proceeded with suggestion on how to improve the condition of water resources by conserving and protecting the environment.



Object: Spreading awareness amongst school going students about the importance of preserving Environment and most specifically preventing water pollution during religious festivities and other celebrations.

4. Awareness Program on “Environment Protection and Water Conservation) at Primary School of Pirangut on 20th Aug 2019:

An awareness symposium was also organized by the college at Primary School of Pirangut. The symposium was organized by a team comprising of Dr. Bhagyashree Deshpande, I/C Principal, New Law College, Pune, two faculties Dr. Jyoti Dharma & Mrs. Jayashree Khandare and ten students. The session was focused on water conservation.



The Principal of New Law College started the session by talking about water preservation in detail by saying students that not to wash clothes in the river because even after the purification of water, the water still has the substance of soap. She also said that not to use shower while bathing but use mug & bucket because by using shower it leads to wastage of water in large amount. Further she said that during the 10 days of festival of Lord Ganesha, instead of making the idol of Lord Ganesha from plaster of Paris, it shall be made from soil i.e. *shaalu mitti* because at the time of visarjan the idol made from plaster of Paris do not get dissolve in water which ultimately harms and pollutes the water. She further explained all the aspects of

environment and asked students to prevent our environment by adapting small changes in our day to day life and by ending the session she asked students to stop others also from polluting the environment. The session had a great impact on the students of the school and as a gesture to show their willingness for water conservation they took an oath to protect, preserves water by water conservation.

Object:

Sensitizing school going children about the importance of cleaner air for a better tomorrow and a means to achieve the same. This was followed by an interactive session with the girl students informing them about the importance of practicing cleanliness and hygiene. Pirangut

5. Rain Water Storage Project At Atkarwadi on 29th Aug 2019:

New Law College in order to contribute as a water rehabilitator conducted tree plantation drive in Atkarwadi Village on 29th august. This activity was undertaken by the college to mitigate depletion of ground water resources. One of the various modes of water conservation is tree plantation as it not only aids in proportionate rainfall but also helps in absorption of water thus resulting into increased underground water level.



Object:

Drawing attention towards responsibilities of the citizenry regarding tree plantation, conservation and management.

6. Guest lecture on “The Rain Water Harvesting System”: 8th Sep 2019

Col. S. G. Dalvi, Col (Rtd):

Students got the golden opportunity to meet Mr Col (retd) Sashikant Dalvi Founder of PRAJANYA established in year 2002. Since 2003, More than 150 RWH projects have been successfully implemented by the organisation. In gainful session he told the students about what is rain water harvesting and why it is important for everyone to implement RWH system. He suggested the various ways in which we can implement rain water harvesting system



Object:

Carrying out a feasibility study of various Rain Water Harvesting systems and their varied applications in the urban landscape.

7. Visit to Coca Colo Hindusthan Bvr. Ltd.: 18th Sep 2019

Pirangut, **Dr. Jyoti Dharm**, Asst. Prof. BVDU New Law College, Pune **Ms. Jayashree Khandare** Asst. Prof. BVDU New Law College, Pune B.A. LL.B and BB.A. LL.B Final Year Students

Object:

Understanding in real time the waste discharge and management strategies adopted by the food and beverage industries.

8. Inauguration of U.R.J.A. Chapter I on “The Water Nexus-Bringing the World Together” on 24th Sep 2019:

The New Law College also organised a Pan - India seminar on water conservation titled, “**The Water Nexus-Bringing the World Together**”, on the 24th of September 2019. The participation in the said event by eminent personalities like Dr. Rajendra Singh, popularly known as the “Waterman of India”, domain experts like Shri. V.G. Kulkarni, Chief Engineer of the Pune Municipal Corporation who has a long and illustrious career in water management, Shri. Adhir Gadpale, D.G & HOO(Doordarshan), Shri. Nana Patekar, actor speaks volumes of the illustrious panel which deliberated on the said issue. In terms of outreach, it was equally heartening to see young minds coming from the different corners of the country and presenting their views on the said topic through a ‘paper presentation competition’. Equally encouraging were the questions and responses by those present in the audience which included students, members of the faculty, civil society organisations who in their capacity were enthralled by the speakers for the day. The minutes of the passed resolution which emphasised upon ‘community participation’ in water conservation, ‘no one size fits all approach’ rather a geography specific approach and the need for water conservation efforts in the urban landscape like Rain Water Harvesting are worth taking note of.

The main object behind the program is to sensitizing the community about the importance of water conservation and the ways to enhance the ground water

recharge.



9. Academic visit to TADOBA , Chandrapur From 13 Oct to 15 Oct 2019:

First hand assessment of various strategies to protect flora and fauna in Protected Area Networks. Our study too focused on land encroachments of the tribals in the name of industrialization and development.

10. Visit to Eco Pro NGO, Chandrapur: 14th Oct 2019:

It was an informative and a thought provoking session where our hosts informed us of the many activities undertaken by their group like rescue operations for animals encroaching upon human spaces , emergency services to animals who are accidentally hurt by moving vehicles, heritage conservation etc. As a true environmental soldier, Mr.Dhotre recounted the days of his struggle when he pushed back the Adani Coal Mine project much to the relief of ecological needs of the geographical entity. Apart from this, in his interaction with the members of the delegation he rightfully exchanged his deep insights and experiences regarding biodiversity conservation. His outstanding work with respect to the cleanliness of one of the fort entrances was even cited by the Hon. Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi.He rightfully extended the importance of cleanliness to the villages in order to prevent animals who feed

on wastes to encroach upon the said spaces. He also elucidated that most of the attacks take place in the morning when the villagers go out to relieve themselves. It was mainly through the posture; Mr. Dhotre maintained that the animals especially the Tiger could make out whether it was hunting an animal or a human. His volunteers reiterated the caution and restraint which they maintained while dealing with any case of rescuing any animal which had wrongfully entered a human space. This to put in the kind consideration of the college management that the model of engaging like minded people to work for larger social good can surely be replicated in the college as well

Object:

Understanding the power of Social Capital in conserving environment and the ways in which citizens can contribute towards this cause.

11. Interaction session with Mr. S. S. Bhagwat Forest Officer, Agarjari Area, Chandrapur on 14th Oct 2019:

Meeting with RFO- Impressed by the inquisitiveness of the young delegation, the top officer warmly welcomed us at his office. We were also shown a short documentary made on the 4 tigresses apart from others inhabiting the said tiger reserve. He shared all his experiences very diligently. In his interactions he decried the un-necessary sensationalisation of any tiger death inside the reserve even if it died of natural reasons. He revealed that there is a proper process of investigation undertaken by an investigating officer only after which the said dead body of the tiger is burnt to ashes. He also showcased the various types of camera traps so used inside the forests. He explained that there are mainly 3 types of camera traps of which mostly the ones powered by lithium ion cells are used. He informed us about the compensation scheme being practiced in Maharashtra and the problems the forest officials face in ascertaining the rightful beneficiary of the compensation.

Object:

Understanding the various facets of forest management by the Government and the rehabilitation policy so followed.

12. Visit to Hemalkasa: 15th Oct 2019:

The purpose of the visit was to make students better understand the various ways in which they can contribute towards social development. The visit was able to fill them with empathy and motivated them further to work for social upliftment especially the poor and underprivileged. Also Understanding the rich legacy of Lok Biradari Parikalp. Their contributions in the field of health, education and Environmental conservation.

13. Interactive session With Mrs Ashwini, DEO Maharashtra Government on 15th Oct 2019:

Our meeting helped students in better understanding the dynamics of forest administration. While humbly answering all questions put forth during our interaction, the officer revealed the ways in which the government ensures Biodiversity conservation as also giving adequate compensation to the farmers who are victims of animal attacks, etc.

Object:

Understanding Government's approach towards spreading education in Maoist affected areas.

14. Mula-Mutha river Survey (water pollution): 9th Nov 2019:

Khadkwasla to CEOP with **Mr. Narendra Chugh, Dr. Bhagyashree Deshpande**, I/C, Principal, BVDU New Law College, Pune, **Dr. Jyoti Dharm** Asst. Prof. BVDU New Law College, Pune **Ms. Jayashree Khandare** Asst. Prof. BVDU New Law College, Pune

Object:

Assessing the increasing prevalence of pollution in water bodies and the ensuing strategies.

15. Visit to Priyadarshani Vidya Mandir: 3rd Feb, 2020 Priyadarshani Vidya Mandir, Pune **Dr. Jyoti Dharm** Asst. Prof. BVDU New Law College,

Pune and **Ms. Jayashree Khandare** Asst. Prof. BVDU New Law College,
Pune

Object:

Interactive session to acquaint young students with the basics of Environmental science, rising pollution and the need for their effective contribution.

16. Discourse on Environmental Law on “Sustainable Development Goals: A need for Better India”: 17th Feb,2020:

With humankind continuing to face existential threat due to onslaughts of climate change and extreme weather events, the Environment Cell held a discourse on Sustainable Development to reiterate its importance in the modern times.

Our distinguished guest gave invaluable insights on the said subject and reiterated India’s age old insistence on SUSTAINABILITY right from the ancient times to the modern era with it's foremost ambassador being Mahatma Gandhi.

Object:

The need to incorporate sustainable environmental practices for a more equitable world of tomorrow.

17. 1st National Online Environment Quiz, 25th May 2020:

The New Law College organized 1st National Online Environment Quiz, 25th May 2020 to generate special interest amongst the student community with regard to Environmental Sciences particularly in the backdrop of a global Pandemic.

With the objective of revealing the wonders of Environmental Sciences to our students, the Environment Cell organized the first ever National Online Quiz Competition by making full use of the digital connectivity.

The event got a phenomenal response with more than 200 students taking up the quiz from different parts of the country. Questions were of a general

order relating to the basics of Environmental Sciences, National & international conventions, statutes, and biodiversity and latest developments regarding COVID19 PANDEMIC. A total time of 12 minutes was provided to the students to answer a set of 25 questions.

18. 1st Video/Movie Making Contest, 26th May 2020

19. 1st National Photography Contest, 26th May 2020:

The Environment Cell of New Law College has organized the National Photography Contest to invoke special interests amongst the students regarding Nature and wildlife photography. It was also our objective to see the many ways in which the students perceived the COVID19 Pandemic. It is not just limited to academic competition. The Environment cell also organized a one of it's kind photography and mobile movie making contest to see how this social Media savvy generation perceives the richness of biodiversity. We also were keen to see how our students interpret their life changing experiences of lockdown through short videos and mobile movie.

20. S.T.A.R. Talks (Strategies for Rehabilitation Talks), 27th May 2020

Theme:

“Life in the post lockdown Scenario for a better, cleaner and Sustainable Environment”



Key Speakers:

1. Dr. Bhagyashree M. Deshpande , I/C, Principal New Law College, Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University), Pune

A polymath of sorts particularly with specialization in the field of Criminal Law, Research Methods, Jurisprudence, Law and Medicine, Environmental and Administrative Laws. Ma'am's unique way of teaching and explaining the most difficult concepts very simplistically has been recognized by one and all. A recipient of the **BEST TEACHER AWARD** in MAHARASHTRA, Ma'am has the distinctive honor of being felicitated by the hands of Hon'ble Ajit Pawar, Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra state, and the BOMBAY SOCIETY OF LEGAL SCHOLARS apart from a host of other prestigious institutions.

2. Dr. Rajindra Prasad Singh

Dr. Rajinder Singh is popularly known as the "WATER MAN" of India; Sir is a noted Environmentalist and is the President of the TARUN BHARAT SANGH a reputed NGO working for the cause of Water Conservation. Sir is also the recipient of the "Ramon

Magsaysay Award" and also holds the honor of being a member of various important committees concerned with Nature conservation, climate Change and Biodiversity Protection.

3. Dr. S. N. Trivedi, I.F.S. (Rtd)

Dr. Trivedi is a retired officer of the Indian Forest Service. During his illustrious career he held several important assignments, the notable being the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife, Jharkhand, the Chief Wildlife Warden, Jharkhand and the Chairperson, Jharkhand State Biodiversity Conservation Board. He holds the degree of Ph. D in forest economics from the University of Wales, U. K.

4. Col. Shashikant Dalvi. Col (Rtd)

Col (retd) Dalvi has spread awareness through seminars, lectures and workshops in schools, colleges, community centres, corporate events and industry. He is a regular participant on shows in TV and Radio. Since July 2015, he is a part of the Times Of India "News in Education" campaign, to spread awareness on water conservation in 120 schools in Pune.. He has also participated in more than 200 awareness campaigns through Print, Radio & TV media.

He currently volunteers with the Climate Reality Project and is the National Convener for water harvesting. The Project is run by former US Vice President and Nobel Laureate Al Gore. He has attended multiple domestic and international seminars and workshops and is regularly invited as chairperson for these events.

He is closely associated with International Longevity Centre- India, as a resource person for value education on environmental issues in different schools. He works with them to spread awareness about climate crisis and water issues amongst students in Maharashtra.

Col Dalvi has been the recipient of multiple awards and recognitions from organisations from all walks of life – from Governments, Political Parties, NGOs to citizen organisations and schools.

5. Dr. Narendra Chugh, Environmentalist

Dr. Chugh is a noted environmentalist, philanthropist and a Senior Member of the Pune JalBiradari. He has worked very actively with regard to the pollution of our rivers and has ensured the Mula-Mutha River in Maharashtra breathes back to its original pristine state.

**21. Webinar on “An Analysis of Environment Impact Assessment Draft” ,
Adv. Anirudha Hariani, Independent Counsel, 28th May 2020**

**22. Webinar on “Water Quality Of River Ganga - Identification Of
Pollution Sources And Its Potential Threat To Living Organisms”, Dr.
Moushumi on 29th May 2020:**

The Environment Cell of the New Law College, Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University), Pune, organised Webinar on “Water Quality of River Ganga”. Water of river Ganga has been found fit enough for drinking purposes after decades, revealed recent research by Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee. This lockdown has been little harsh for the humankind but a period of Rejuvenation for Mother Nature. Ganga also referred as river of Life in India has been through a lot of contamination in past decades but this lockdown proves to be a boon for river Ganga. Let's

get more enlighten on this issue and a fact check of on ground reality from the expert in this field.

23. Webinar on, “An Overview of Biological Diversity Act, 2002” by Prof. Dr. Erach Bharucha, Director, Institute of Environment Education and Research, Pune, on 30th May 2020:

With 2020 being the penultimate year to review India's achievements with respect to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets adopted in the year 2011-12, the Environment Cell of the New Law College took upon itself to acquaint our students with it's basic principles by organizing a Webinar on the subject “An overview of the Biodiversity Act”. The session was very informative with our key note speaker Dr. Bharucha explaining in detail the basics and its other dimensions along with important provisions of the Statute. With Lockdown in effect, the whole programme was conducted online.

1. Webinar on Environment Law, Hon’ble Shri. M.C. Mehta Renowned Environmentalist & Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, 4th June 2020.

The importance of knowing various Environmental laws for an individual is well known. With Pollution, climate change and the recent COVID19 Pandemic it's importance can hardly be overemphasized.

It is in this backdrop we organized one webinar on the topic "IMPORTANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS" with none other than the

legendary Shri.M.C.MEHTA. The event was well received and left a lasting impression on everyone.

2. U.R.J.A. Chapter II, Prof C. K. Varshney, Member, Governing Body, Wetlands International South Asia, 5th June 2020

Continuing it's rich legacy of drawing attention to the most pressing issues of our times, the Environment Cell conducted it's second edition of U.R.J.A. (Urgently. REQUIRED. JOINT. ACTION) on the topic "Conserving Wetlands: Strategies and challenges for the future".

This event holds special significance especially in the wake of depletion URAN and challenges to PANJE wetlands.