

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

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**NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE THROUGH
SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT: ISSUES, CHALLENGES
AND SOLUTIONS**

29th & 30th December, 2018



ENLIGHTENMENT TO PERFECTION

Organised by:
DEPARTMENT OF LAW
Raja Rammohunpur, P.O. NBU,
Dist. Darjeeling, WB, PIN 734013

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE THROUGH SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

Human demands on the world's available freshwater supplies continue to grow as the global population increases. In the endeavour to manage water to meet human needs, the needs of freshwater species and ecosystems have largely been neglected, and the ecological consequences have been tragic. Healthy freshwater ecosystems provide a wealth of goods and services for society, but our appropriation of freshwater flows must be better managed if we hope to sustain these benefits and freshwater biodiversity.

In many areas of the world, growing human populations are rapidly depleting available freshwater supplies. During the 20th century, the global human population increased many fold. Water withdrawn from natural freshwater ecosystems increased several fold during the same period. Facing an ominous spectre of increasingly severe water supply shortages in many areas of the world, social planners and government leaders are exploring strategies for managing water resources sustainably. This quest for sustainability typically centres on managing human uses of water such that enough water of sufficient quality is available for use by future generations.

In the endeavour to manage water to meet various human needs, however, the water needs of freshwater species and ecosystems have been largely neglected. The ecological consequences have been tragic. The alteration of river flow regimes associated with dam operations has been identified as one of three leading causes, along with nonpoint source pollution and invasive species, of the imperilment of aquatic animals. Freshwater ecosystem services and products valued by society have been severely compromised as well.

The water needs of humans and natural ecosystems are commonly viewed as competing with each other. Certainly, there are limits to the amount of water that can be withdrawn from freshwater systems before their natural functioning and productivity, native species, and the services and products they provide become severely degraded. Water managers and political leaders are becoming increasingly cognizant of these limits as they are being confronted with endangered species or water quality regulations, and changing societal values concerning ecological protection. During the past decade, many examples have emerged from around the world demonstrating ways of meeting human needs for water while sustaining the necessary volume and timing of water flows to support affected freshwater ecosystems. In fact, we believe that the compatible integration of human and natural ecosystem needs identified here as *ecologically sustainable water management* should be presumed attainable until conclusively proven otherwise.

Sub Themes:

1. *Ecologically sustainable water management*
2. *Politics of water and impact on water management*
3. *Water management and economics*
4. *Conservation and Protection of water*
5. *Sociological Perspectives of water management*
6. *Influence of literature to create awareness of water conservation*

Department of Law:

The Department of Law is prominently situated on National Highway 31 between Bagdogra and Siliguri in the District of Darjeeling. The distance from Bagdogra is six kilometers and from Siliguri is seven kilometers. The Department has its own campus in the south Block of the North Bengal University. The sprawling campus of the University enjoys the pristine beauty of the eastern Himalayas and is the intellectual hub of North Bengal. Siliguri is an important subdivision of the district and commercial capital of North Bengal. Located at the foot hills of eastern Himalayas, Siliguri is the gate way to North eastern India and land locked countries like Bhutan and Nepal. It shares a huge and porous international border with Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan. It is well connected with all metropolis and major cities by air and rail.

The Department of Law was formerly known as the University College of Law and was established as such in the year 1974. It was upgraded as the Department of Law in the year 2000. Presently the Department offers a B.A. LL.B. [Honours] 5 year integrated course, LL.M. course and Ph.D. The intake at the LL.B. level is eighty, and the LL.M. course which was started in 1993 has twenty five seats. The criteria of admission both at B.A. LL.B.[Honours] under CBCS mode and LL.M. under CBCS mode are on merit. The Department has a rich Ph.D. programme. It was started in 1999 and since then more than 38 Ph.D. degrees have been awarded. Presently there are about twenty five scholars engaged in doctoral research under various faculty members under the UGC Regulation, 2009. The Department attracts scholars and students from all over India and especially from Sikkim, Assam, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Orissa. It also attracts students from Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh.

The Department was jointly selected by the British Council, Delhi, University of Warwick, U.K., and the National Law School of India University to carry out the 'Human Rights Outreach Project'. It was also a partner institution with CEERA, National Law School of India University for carrying out environment education for forest personnel, Tea Garden personnel and judicial officers.

The Department has published Booklets in Human Rights, Environment Legislations in Bengali and Nepali. It has a Legal Aid Clinic in collaboration with the State Legal Services Authorities. It runs a very successful NSS programme. Last but not the least the Department has been organizing Regional, National and International Seminar / Conference / workshop / Symposium etc. at regular intervals (30 programmes in last 14 years). The Department also undertakes a number of Research Projects sponsored by different National and International bodies on regular basis. Moreover, it has close collaboration with renowned national and international institutions.

The publication cell of the Department is very active. It brings out the Indian Journal of Law and Justice on regular basis during March and September each year. More over the cell brings out an edited book on the topic of that year's Seminar. The Cell has presently undertaken a venture to publish the research projects undertaken by the Department and outstanding research work done by the students.

Registration Fee:

Registration fee is payable by **each of the authors of the papers individually and separately** in cash on arrival at the place of the seminar before inauguration.

- i) Teachers/Academics/Govt. Officials/Advocates/ NGOs/INGOs officials from India: ₹ 1200 and ₹ 1400 for each accompanying person (Teachers/Officials from the University of North Bengal are exempted to pay any registration fee).
- ii) Research Scholars and post graduate students from India: ₹ 700 each and ₹ 800 for each accompanying person (Research Scholars and LL. M. students of University of North Bengal are exempted to pay any registration fee).
- iii) Teachers/Academics/Govt. Officials/Advocates/ NGOs/INGOs officials from outside India ₹ 2500 each and ₹ 3250 for each accompanying person.
- iv) Research scholars and students, both LL. B. and LL.M. from outside India ₹ 900 each and ₹ 1350 for each accompanying person.

Limited number of accomodation is available on first come first serve basis to the participants and resource persons free of cost.

Apart from this, a list of Hostels/Lodges is being provided for accommodation as ready reference for those who would like to avail. This will be chargeable and to be paid by the participants and resource persons directly to the Hostels/Lodges as per their tariff.

Registration fees include:

Breakfast, Lunch, Tea, Coffee, Snacks & Seminar kit on 29th - 30th December only.

*Registration Fee does not include dinner on any of above mentioned days, travel cost including local travel, sight seeing etc. are not a part of the Seminar Programme.

Climate:

In the concerned period of December, the weather will be cold in Siliguri, the temperature varying between 08°C and 15°C.

Key Dates:

Submission of abstract: 09/10/2018

Communication of acceptance of abstract from Organisers' side: 11/10/2018

Submission of full paper: 30/11/2018

Seminar: 29th & 30th December, 2018 (Saturday & Sunday)

Contact Details by Telephone:

1. Department of Law +91353-2776307, 8637579743(M)
2. Prof.(Dr.)Rathin Bandyopadhyay +919434328537
3. Prof.(Dr.)Gangotri Chakraborty +919434037671
4. Dr. Sujit Kumar Biswas +919434427710

Contact Details by e-mail:

1. nbulawdepartment@gmail.com (Perferred email address)
2. rathinbanerjee@gmail.com
3. gangotrichakraborty@gmail.com
4. Sujitkbiswas@yahoo.com

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Prof. (Dr.) Rathin Bandyopadhyay [Head of the Department & Seminar Chairperson]

Prof. (Dr.) Gangotri Chakraborty [Seminar Director]

Dr. Sujit Kumar Biswas [Member Secretary]

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Ms. Manasree Dasgupta [Member]

Call for Papers:

Papers on various sub-themes, along with an abstract of not more than 200 words are invited which may kindly be sent in advance to any of the members of the organizing committee. Papers, if selected, will feature in Indian Journal of Law and Justice [IJLJ; ISSN 0976-3570], a peer reviewed refereed journal brought out by the Department of Law, University of North Bengal.