

HIMANSHU AHLAWAT

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EDUCATION

LL M in Climate Change and Environmental Law, Jigme Singye Wangchuck School of Law (Bhutan)*	2025–2026
LL B (First Class), University of Delhi	2017–2020
B A (First Class), Maharshi Dayanand University	2013–2016

EXPERIENCE

LL M Field Practicum Jigme Singye Wangchuck School of Law	Aug 2025–Present <i>Bhutan</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Engaged with the Cabinet Secretary, Royal Government of Bhutan, on frameworks for effective government action on environmental issues.Met the Governor of Gelephu Mindfulness City to assess environmental risks and discuss governance & compliance frameworks.Engaged with Bhutan Ecological Society in reviewing waste segregation, collection, and treatment practices, contributing to the development of potential short and medium-term reform options on waste management.Held consultative sessions with Royal Civil Service Commission Chairperson and the Environment & Climate Committee of the National Assembly of Bhutan on environmental challenges in the Global South, climate change, and COP negotiations, as well as on integrating young professionals into environmental governance.	
Independent Lawyer and Research Consultant	Jul 2024–Jul 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Drafted a report with Dr. Sujith Koonan for IIM Ahmedabad on inter-state river water disputes.Served as legal consultant to the Naz Foundation; conducted legal-literacy trainings on queer, HIV, and sex workers' rights.	
Research Fellow Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy	Mar 2022–Jun 2024 <i>New Delhi</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Conducted research on environmental issues, developing legal-policy solutions and contributing to published reports.Coordinated with legal, policy, and environmental experts to generate actionable recommendations; research findings prompted parliamentary questions on pandemic-related policies in the Lok Sabha (27/03/2023).Developed policy briefs and strategic communications for ministries, regulatory agencies, and parliamentary committees, enabling effective stakeholder engagement.Led digital outreach and content strategy for <i>The Green Mandate</i>, a national policy dialogue, increasing engagement via targeted campaigns and multimedia storytelling.Designed advocacy materials, press releases, and digital campaigns to enhance visibility of policy initiatives and stakeholder participation.Planned and executed national advocacy events, media briefings, and public engagement campaigns.Produced multimedia knowledge products (infographics, reports, policy briefs) to improve accessibility for diverse audiences.	
Research Assistant Dr. Abdullah Nasir, Assistant Professor of Law	Jan 2022–Mar 2022 <i>National Law University, Lucknow</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Analyzed Supreme Court judgments (1947–2022), mapping the Court's treatment of <i>socialism</i>.	

*I have been generously awarded a full scholarship to pursue my Masters' in Climate Change and Environmental Law at the Jigme Singye Wangchuck School of Law, Bhutan; grant amount ~USD 25,000.

Research Assistant

Dr. Sujith Koonan, Associate Professor of Law

Aug 2021–Dec 2021

Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

- Analyzed legal and financial issues surrounding manual scavenging and sanitation infrastructure projects in India.
- Conducted fieldwork to gather first-hand data to inform policy recommendations.

Legal Associate

Advocate Deepak Gupta

Oct 2020–Jul 2021

District Court, Rohtak

- Assisted with drafting pleadings, preparing case files, and conducting legal research to support trial proceedings.

PUBLICATIONS & POLICY SUBMISSIONS

Co-authored *Environmental Rule of Law in India: A Transformative Principle or Old Wine in a New Bottle* with Sujith Koonan, published in the Journal of Indian Law and Society (2022). This article critically assesses environmental law principles in India. ([Read Here](#))

Co-authored *(De)Regulating the Environment? An Analysis of Regulatory Changes Introduced during COVID-19 in India*. ([Read Here](#))

Co-authored a chapter on *Decentralising Forest Management in the Briefing Book*, proposing legal reforms aligned with post-colonial constitutional goals. ([Read Here](#))

Co-authored four Working Papers as submissions to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the Joint Parliamentary Committee:

- Comments on the Proposed Decriminalisation of Four Key Environmental Legislations. ([Read Here](#))
- Comments On The Proposed Amendments to The Indian Forest Act, 1927. ([Read Here](#))
- Comments on the Draft Animal Birth Control Rules, 2022. ([Read Here](#))
- Analysis of Proposed Amendments to the Environmental Laws in Jan Vishwas Bill, 2022. ([Read Here](#))

Co-authored *An Analysis of 20 years of Regulating Street Dogs*, evaluating the regulatory approaches towards street dogs over two decades. ([Read Here](#))

Contributed to research, review, and editing tasks for Chapter 40 on Penalties and Compensation in *The Oxford Handbook of Environmental and Natural Resources Law in India*. ([Read Here](#))

SKILLS

- Legal & Regulatory: Conduct comparative legal research; support legislative and rule drafting; review petitions, statutes, and bylaws; produce concise policy briefs and memos.
- Policy Analysis: Analyze environmental law and public policy; conduct Regulatory Impact Assessments (RIAs) and Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) reviews; prepare consultation documentation.
- Stakeholder Coordination: Engage ministries, regulators, committees, NGOs, and academia; map stakeholders; capture meeting notes; track actions.
- Project Management: Plan and deliver interdisciplinary policy projects; build timelines and work plans; maintain risk and assumption logs; ensure quality control.
- Writing & Communication: Summarize clearly for decision-makers; draft policy notes, submissions, and op-eds; write plain-language explainers.
- Events & Outreach: Organize expert panels, academic sessions, and multi-stakeholder dialogues; set agendas and run-of-show plans; manage follow-ups.
- Tools: Excel, Word, PowerPoint; Google Workspace; citation and reference managers.