

Environmental Laws of India

Indian Forest Act, 1927

- categorises forest
 - reserve forest
 - protected forest
 - village forest
- act does not define the forest or forest land
- defines forest produce

Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960

- prevent the infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering on animals
- **Animal Board of India** was constituted under this act
- **Supreme Court banned Jhalikatti**

Wildlife Protection Act, 1972

- protection of wildlife
 - animals
 - birds
 - plants
- 6 schedules
- **schedule 1 and part 2 of schedule 2 providing maximum absolute protection**
- schedule 5 animals can be hunted
- schedule 6 plants are prohibited from cultivation and planting
- **National Board for wildlife** and **National Tiger Conservation** were constituted

Forest Conservation Act, 1980

- restrict use of forest land for non-forest purposes
- preventing the de-reservation of forest that have been reserved
- restrict leasing of forest land to private individuals, authority, corporations not owned by the government
- prevent clear felling of naturally grown trees

Environment Protection Act, 1986

- enacted in the wake of **Bhopal Gas Tragedy** under **article 253**
- implements agenda of **UN conference on human environment**
- regulate pollution
- lay down procedures and standards for industrial waste, emissions, hazardous waste
- **Environment Protection Authority** under this act

Water Act, 1974

- creates central board, state board, **Central Pollution Control Board** and **SPCB**

- water polluted from industrial waste was the main target

Air Act, 1981

- implement decision of UN conference on human environment
- also covers noise pollution