



Assessing the Impact of National Green Tribunal on the Development of Environmental Jurisprudence in India

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Abstract

The National Green Tribunal, often known as the NGT, was established in India in the year 2010 with the purpose of mediating environmental disputes and upholding environmental regulations. The Supreme Court of India was once in charge of carrying out these functions. Throughout the history of its existence, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in India has played a significant role in contributing to the development of environmental law. An analysis of the impact that India's National Green Tribunal (NGT) has had on the development of environmental legislation in the country is the purpose of this research project. The inquiry makes use of a qualitative research technique, which comprises completing an in-depth review of relevant literature and case laws.¹ “This approach was chosen because it allows for a more in-depth understanding of the topic at hand. examines the significant cases that the NGT has ruled on in order to explore the part that the NGT has played in the development of environmental jurisprudence; the analysis will focus on the cases that the NGT has decided upon. In addition to this, the paper offers an analysis of the challenges faced by the NGT throughout the process of developing environmental legislation and gives recommendations for methods to increase the effectiveness of the organisation. According to the results of the study, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has made a significant contribution to the growth of environmental jurisprudence in India by delivering timely and specialised justice in environmental cases. This contribution was made possible as a result of the NGT's commitment to environmental protection. However, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) is struggling with a variety of environmental challenges, such as a lack of staff and resources, the need of specialised knowledge, and the absence of judicial independence. These issues all contribute to the degradation of the environment. Taking on these challenges front on would not only assist the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in becoming more successful in its mandate to generate environmental legislation, but it will also serve to promote sustainable development in India.

Keywords : Environmental protection, Sustainable development, Environmental laws, Judicial independence, Environmental crimes

Introduction

Deforestation, contamination of the country's air and water supply, and the consequences of climate change are only some of the significant environmental problems that India is now facing. These environmental concerns have substantial ramifications, not only on the health and well-being of the people as a whole, but also on the sustainable development of the country as a whole. In the year 2010, India established the National Green Tribunal (NGT), which is a specialised court that is responsible for settling disputes affecting the environment and for enforcing environmental standards. This was done with the intention of fixing the problems that were being caused. The National Green Tribunal is tasked with supporting sustainable development throughout the country in addition to ensuring that environmental issues are addressed in a timely manner. During the course of its existence, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in India has been an important contributor to the development of environmental

¹ Gill, Gitanjali Nain. 2016. Environmental Justice in India: The National Green Tribunal and Expert Members. *Transnational Environmental Law* 5(1):175–205. doi: 10.1017/S2047102515000278.

legislation. The decisions that the tribunal reached in a number of important environmental cases helped to establish new legal precedents and to make the existing environmental laws more effective². These lawsuits were significant due to the fact that they impacted the natural world. There are significant repercussions for environmental governance in India, as well as for environmental protection and sustainable development, as a result of the role that was played by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in the formulation of environmental jurisprudence. As part of the objectives of this project, an analysis of the National Green Tribunal's (NGT) impact on the development of environmental law in India will be carried out. will carry out an in-depth analysis of the significant cases that have been decided by the tribunal; will investigate the role that the NGT has played in the formation of environmental jurisprudence; and will evaluate the obstacles that the tribunal has encountered in its efforts to advance sustainable development in India. The purpose of this study is to provide insights into the usefulness of the NGT in creating environmental jurisprudence and to propose suggestions for boosting the efficiency of the NGT. The findings of the research are intended to provide light on these questions”.

Deforestation, contamination of the country's air and water supply, and the consequences of climate change are only some of the significant environmental problems that India is now facing. These environmental concerns have substantial ramifications, not only on the health and well-being of the people as a whole, but also on the sustainable development of the country as a whole. In the year 2010, India established the National Green Tribunal (NGT), which is a specialised court that is responsible for settling disputes affecting the environment and for enforcing environmental standards. This was done with the intention of fixing the problems that were being caused.³ The National Green Tribunal is tasked with supporting sustainable development throughout the country in addition to ensuring that environmental issues are addressed in a timely manner. During the course of its existence, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in India has been an important contributor to the development of environmental legislation. The decisions that the tribunal reached in a number of important environmental cases helped to establish new legal precedents and to make the existing environmental laws more effective. These lawsuits were significant due to the fact that they impacted the natural world. “There are significant repercussions for environmental governance in India, as well as for environmental protection and sustainable development, as a result of the role that was played by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in the formulation of environmental jurisprudence. As part of the objectives of this project, an analysis of the National Green Tribunal's (NGT) impact on the development of environmental law in India will be carried out. will carry out an in-depth analysis of the significant cases that have been decided by the tribunal; will investigate the role that the NGT has played in the formation of environmental jurisprudence; and will evaluate the obstacles that the tribunal has encountered in its efforts to advance sustainable development in India. The purpose of this study is to provide insights into the usefulness of the NGT in creating environmental jurisprudence and to propose suggestions for boosting the efficiency of the NGT. The findings of the research are intended to provide light on these questions⁴.

² Rengarajan, Sridhar, Dhivya Palaniyappan, Purvaja Ramachandran, and Ramesh Ramachandran. 2018. National Green Tribunal of India — an Observation from Environmental Judgements. 11313–18.

³ Rosencranz, Armin, and Geetanjoy Sahu. 2010. Assessing the National Green Tribunal after Four Years. 2010.

⁴ Singh, Aprajita. 2021. A Decade of National Green Tribunal of India: Judgement Analysis and Observations. 1–16.

- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has shown to be effective in resolving environmental issues in a timely manner, which is something that has proven to be a considerable difficulty for the judicial system in India.
- The formation of the NGT has also resulted in a rise in public awareness of environmental concerns as well as the essential nature of environmental preservation and protection.
- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has been instrumental in the successful enforcement of environmental legislation and the imposition of fines on environmental offenders, both of which have served to discourage the commission of environmental offences.
- By basing its decisions on international environmental treaties and conventions, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has also made a contribution to the development of jurisprudence in the field of international environmental law.
- The rulings made by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) have established legal precedents that other courts in India have followed to settle environmental issues⁵.
- Concerns have been raised over the National Green Tribunal's (NGT) lack of proper facilities and resources, which has an effect on the tribunal's ability to manage a large number of cases efficiently. This is the case despite the NGT's many accomplishments.
- The NGT also confronts difficulties when it comes to resolving environmental issues that include a number of different parties and striking a balance between conflicting interests.

The research has the potential to make a contribution to the current body of literature on the role of specialised courts in promoting environmental preservation and sustainable development. Additionally, the study may give insights into best practises in environmental adjudication.

An Independent Statutory Panel

For the purpose of resolving environmental lawsuits, the NGT has been granted extensive new powers. According to the provisions of the Act, efforts to seek judicial intervention for the protection and improvement of the environment will not be rejected on the grounds that the problems involved involve complex, scientific, and technical questions that are beyond the court's purview.⁶ This is because the provisions of the Act stipulate that such efforts will not be rejected. Environmental activists who are interested in bringing Public Interest Litigations (from here on out referred to as PILs) now have reason for optimism as a result of this development. In addition, the NGT is an independent statutory panel that consists of eight specialists from the fields of physics, chemistry, botany, zoology, engineering, environmental economics, social sciences, and forestry. These individuals provide assistance and advice to judges on a regular basis. There are only two judicial members on the NGT. The inclusion of a variety of specialists who are able to address a range of environmental issues will, without a doubt, be of assistance to the NGT in expanding its scope of analysis beyond the straightforward cost-benefit analysis of a specific project in order to better serve the overarching goals of environmental protection and economic growth. Petitioners will be able to bring regional environmental issues to the attention of the judicial system at a low cost thanks to the establishment of the NGT, which will also investigate the effects that choices made by the government have on the environment. It has been given the authority

⁵ Studies, Advanced, and Lucca Lucca. 2016. Access to Justice and Sustainable Development : The National Green Tribunal of India.

Gupta, P. K., & Khandelwal, R. (2017). National Green Tribunal in India: A Critical Analysis. International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Research, 7(1), 55-62.

Laxmi, V. (2018). National Green Tribunal: A Boon or Bane. International Journal of Pure and Applied Mathematics, 119(18), 403-407.

to decide disagreements that pertain to the preservation of the environment. It has the authority to declare any administrative activity that violates or weakens environmental legislation to be unlawful and void, and it may use that authority. The NGT has the authority to evaluate orders that have been issued under all of the current laws that protect the environment, including those that deal with water, air, forests, and animals. No other court or body has the jurisdiction to hear a claim or action that is properly within the purview of the Tribunal to resolve. Because of this, government agencies have to proceed with caution when clearing projects that might have an influence on the environment⁷.

There is scholarly literature that makes the case for the engagement of experts in decision making on the basis of the contribution that they make to the process. Science may be involved in the process of making decisions about the environment; as a result, scientific skills may give acceptable answers to environmentally relevant issues that are technical or sophisticated. Effective environmental governance requires procedural values such as transparency, inclusion, deliberation, and participation, which involve the input of experts while simultaneously offering collective and effective solutions to problem-solving. These values can be summed up as the four I's: transparency, inclusion, and participation. The legitimacy of the procedures and the organisation that aims to impart environmental justice is dependent, in many people's minds, on the existence of certain procedural principles. By contributing their extensive domain-specific expertise, the archetypal expert decision maker plays a critical part in the achievement of the institutions', organisations', and laws' respective ideals and objectives. This feature has a lot of backers, but its status is still up for discussion and negotiation. For instance, there is a disconnect between the development of expert knowledge and its application, which has raised questions about the level of engagement and responsibility of experts in the process of making decisions pertaining to the environment. The legitimization and scientification of environmental decision making through the use of experts and their expertise is challenged by a number of issues, some of which include the identification and selection of an expert, the existence of homogenous or heterogenous groups of experts, collegial and collaborative decision making, knowledge application, and input to policy decisions. The record that India has established for itself as a progressive jurisdiction on environmental problems thanks to its proactive judicial system is acknowledged globally. The esoteric National Green Tribunal of India (NGT or Tribunal) is a forum that provides greater plurality for environmental justice. According to its official description, it is a specialised body equipped with necessary expertise to handle environmental disputes involving multi-disciplinary issues. The NGT or Tribunal is also known as the Green Tribunal. The NGT has broad authority, and its membership is comprised of both judges and technical experts who make decisions on pending cases in an open forum. During every stage of the decision-making process, it uses a variety of different methods, including adversarial, inquisitorial, investigative, and collaborative ones⁸. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) serves as a decision-making

⁷ Chakraborty, D. (2019). National Green Tribunal: A Study of its Efficacy in Protecting the Environment. *International Journal of Innovative Research and Development*, 8(9), 23-29.

Singh, N. P., & Pandey, S. (2018). National Green Tribunal and Environmental Jurisprudence in India: An Overview. *International Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities Research*, 6(3), 142-147.

⁸ Jain, S., & Garg, A. (2020). Role of National Green Tribunal in Environmental Protection in India. *International Journal of Advanced Research in Management, Architecture, Technology and Engineering*, 2(1), 23-28.

Singh, N., & Chauhan, D. (2018). National Green Tribunal: Its Role and Effectiveness in Environmental Protection in India. *International Journal of Scientific Research and Management*, 6(4), 106-112.

body for environmental disputes, and this article focuses on the function that experts play within the NGT and the knowledge that they bring to the table". The specialists are more on the central side of the NGT's normative framework than on the peripheral side. For the purposes of this article, the terms expert and expertise do not refer to judicial members; rather, they refer specifically to technical members who have a broad range of specialised scientific knowledge. This knowledge can include environmental sciences, environmental studies, environmental engineering, technology, ecology, forestry, plant sciences, soil sciences, zoology, and other related categories. Scientists with years of experience, ecologists who are now in practise, and managers of natural resources are all regarded experts. "Therefore, scientific competence and its input into the decision-making process is essential for the nature of the NGT's choices as well as its working procedures.

The national green tribunal of India

In the 1980s, public interest litigation (PIL) was encouraged as a result of the role that India's court played in achieving the enforcement of rights that were not covered by statute law but were within the constitutional mandate. PIL is a method that takes a wide perspective and focuses on individuals. It encourages access to justice by using judge-made procedures and remedies. PIL brought about a sea change in the court process by instituting the following three procedural innovations:

- (i) expanded standing;
- (ii) non-adversarial procedure; and
- (iii) wider remedial action as a result of expanded frontiers of fundamental rights, particularly the right to life under Article of the Constitution of India.

Environmental public interest litigation is a product of the courts' response to inaction by the state or the wrongful action of state agencies in performing their statutory duties, which has resulted in endangering or impairing the quality of life of people as guaranteed by Article 21 of the Constitution of India. Environmental PIL is a product of the courts' response to inaction by the state or the wrongful action of state agencies in performing their statutory duties. It is the responsibility of the state to ensure that this fundamental right is upheld by formulating and carrying out a programme that is consistent with and well-coordinated across all aspects of the population's health and welfare. As a result of the state's failure, the judges were forced to give some short interim directives that were referred to as continued mandamus. In this regard, the Public Interest Law (PIL) is considered to be a wheel of change since it provides access to justice, among other things, to victims of environmental damage. PIL petitions from various quarters seeking remedies have been entertained by the courts over the past twenty years, and in the absence of legislation, these petitions have resulted in the issuing of guidelines and directions. Human rights and the environment have been linked together during this time period. The proactive judiciary, acting as 'amicus environment,' has produced a major shift in the environmental landscape of India. In addition, the proactive judiciary has declared and promoted the principles of sustainable development as well as the precautionary and the polluter pays principles as elements of fundamental law. This shift has had a significant impact on India's environmental landscape⁹.

In spite of this, questions over the efficiency of PIL were raised as a result of the active participation of the Indian court in the delivery of environmental justice. This was in relation to the rapidly increasing number of petitions, complicated technical and scientific issues, unrealistic court directions, and individual judicial preferences, which were frequently personality driven rather than reflecting

⁹ Sharma, S. (2021). National Green Tribunal: An Analysis of its Contribution to Environmental Jurisprudence in India. *International Journal of Law, Management and Humanities*, 5(1), 60-69.

collective institutionalised adjudication, in addition to the problem of creeping jurisdiction. Even though the Supreme Court established a process that enabled low-income individuals and concerned citizens to access the courts via the Public Interest Litigation (PIL) route, it did not turn out to be the magic bullet that was widely anticipated. The Supreme Court of India was particularly worried by the intricacy and unpredictability of the scientific evidence that was offered to the court. The claimants' anxieties and the defendants' attempts to reassure them both contributed to the tension that was produced by evidence that was generated outside. Concerns were raised by the judiciary over its capacity to examine and factor in this scientific data when dealing with complicated environmental matters. When scientific information, claims, and counterclaims are incorporated into policy making as a foundation for decision making by the court, there is a greater likelihood of there being an issue with uncertainty. As new information becomes available, scientists may choose to enhance, amend, or even abandon certain variables or models. However, governmental organisations and courts are tasked with making decisions in light of the scientific information now available. In addition, evidence that is often presented in a scientific format may be difficult to verify or disprove, depending on the circumstances. As a result, it is possible that shortcomings in the record that are the result of ambiguity or a lack of appropriate information may not be properly addressed or evaluated”¹⁰.

The debate over India's judiciary and the protection of environmental rights

Aside from the overall tendency that was outlined before, the origin of the National Green Tribunal may be traced back to the extraordinary history of India and the country's judicial system. The Supreme Court of India is certainly one of the organs with the broadest powers when compared to other apex judicial bodies in constitutional systems. “These powers range from the drafting of the constitution to the development of spaces of action that were only implied in the text of the fundamental law of India. The Supreme Court has intervened in the legislative and political arena through the issuance of its judgments in order to achieve the goal of carrying out the social programme that is outlined in the constitution. This was done after the Fourth Part of the fundamental text, which was on the Directive Principles for State Policy, was removed. However, this judicial activism, which played a significant role in the 1970s, has been widely criticised. This is due to the fact that the scope of action of the negative legislator was substantially expanded by the court itself, by means of a judicial review power seen as both a possibility to abrogate statutes and of suggesting new legislative actions, as a positive legislator. This has resulted in widespread criticism of judicial activism.

On judicial review, if several limits to the powers expressly derived from the text itself, the so-called explicit limits (having a reference in Article 13 of the Indian Constitution), the Supreme Court of India expanded the possibility of protecting fundamental rights and the structure of the Constitution from the amending powers of the Parliament in a landmark judgement called *Kesavananda Bharati vs. State of Kerala*, defining the basic structure doctrine. This was done in a case called *Kesavananda Bha*. The Supreme Court managed to establish and enlarge the hurdles placed in front of the legislative and executive powers to amend the Constitution by using this doctrine as a standard of review in order to assess the limits of state power. They did this by holding that the fundamental aspects of the Constitution (and especially the fundamental rights enshrined in Part III) shall remain unchangeable. This was accomplished through the use of this doctrine as a standard of review in order to assess the limits of

¹⁰ Tripathi, P. (2019). National Green Tribunal and its Role in the Protection of Environment. *International Journal of Innovative Science and Research Technology*, 4(11), 566-569.

state power. His judicial activism, which is an inherent part of judicial review, eventually led to the enactment of a multitude of remedies in order for the Supreme Court to supervise the orders it delivered. These remedies were enacted in a manner that was considered to be infringing on the prerogatives of both the executive branch and the legislature. Setting the stage since the 1970s with such powers, the fields of environmental regulation and environmental case law, in their very first start, could not help but be affected by these premises, particularly in a socio-economic atmosphere that was characterised by a certain neglect of concerns towards the environment on the part of the authorities. Since the 1970s, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been responsible for enforcing environmental regulations¹¹.

Review of literature

(Rosencranz and Sahu 2010) studied *Assessing the National Green Tribunal after Four Years* discovered this and The National Green Tribunal was founded in 2010, and in the short time since its inception, it has had a significant amount of influence on the environmental litigation in India. Its five benches, in contrast to its predecessor, the National Environment Appellate Authority, have wide-ranging authority to decide any case that contains matters of significance to the environment. The country's system for protecting the environment has been significantly bolstered as a result of the combination of this power and technological ability. The effectiveness of the Tribunal in mediating environmental conflicts has been shown in a number of judgements that it has rendered. In order to have a better understanding of the current tendencies in environmental jurisprudence in India, the writers of this essay conduct a review of some of the significant judgments that have been handed down by the different benches of the National Green Tribunal.

(Singh 2021) studied *A Decade of National Green Tribunal of India: Judgement Analysis and Observations* discovered this and Specialized environmental courts are the venues that are necessary in order to realise access to justice in cases pertaining to the environment. Even though countries like Australia, New Zealand, Scandinavia, and the United States have had specialised environmental courts for quite some time, it is crucial to have a conversation about the National Green Tribunal of India because India is the most populous and most rapidly developing country in the world. One of the most groundbreaking institutions to emerge in the 21st century is the development of specialised environmental courts. In the 1970s, there were only a small number of environmental court tribunals, but today there are over 1200 environmental court tribunals at the national regional level in developed, developing countries. Environmental court tribunals are making a significant impact on the manner in which environmental disputes are resolved. (When it comes to the development of specialised tribunals in environmental concerns, the National Green Tribunal of India was a trailblazer among developing nations and is credited with being the first of its kind. It makes for a really nice research that was conducted more than ten years ago. It was founded with the intention of realising the right to a healthy environment as outlined in Article 21 and expanding access to justice in environmental disputes. This was the driving force for its creation. 2010 saw the passage of the National Green Tribunal Act, which led to its establishment. The authorising legislation grants it a broad trial, appellate jurisdiction over the entire body of environmental and natural resources law, review only by the supreme court, flexibility in its procedure, strict standards for judicial appointments, recognition of the right to a healthy

¹¹ Chandra, P., & Yadav, R. K. (2018). National Green Tribunal in India: An Overview of its Contribution to Environmental Jurisprudence. *International Journal of Social Science and Economic Research*, 3(4), 2144-2151.

environment, and some of the broadest principles on this planet for public participation and access to justice. It also gives it a mandate to apply international treaties and principles.¹²

(Gill 2016) studied Environmental Justice in India: The National Green Tribunal and Expert Members discovered that this, together with the participation of technical specialists in decision making, leads to improved environmental outcomes while yet acknowledging the inherent unpredictability of scientific research. The record that India has established for itself as a progressive jurisdiction on environmental problems thanks to its proactive judicial system is acknowledged globally. A venue that provides more multiplicity for environmental justice is the esoteric National Green Tribunal of India (NGT), which is officially defined as a specialised body equipped with required ability to address environmental disputes involving multi-disciplinary concerns. The matters that are brought before the NGT are discussed publicly before being decided on by members of the NGT who have judicial and technical expertise. When it comes to making decisions, the NGT considers the experts to be central, not marginal, participants. In order to conduct an analysis of the function of scientific experts as decision makers inside the NGT, this paper makes use of the theoretical insights produced by Lorna Schrefler and Peter Haas. Unprecedented access to interviewees has provided data that gives a glimpse into the interior deliberations of each of the five benches that make up the National Green Tribunal (NGT). The broader policy significance of scientific information and its contribution to the National Green Tribunal's decision-making process are both shown through reported instances, which are supplemented by additional remarks made by bench members.

(Studies and Lucca 2016) studied Access to Justice and Sustainable Development : the National Green Tribunal of India discovered this and India undoubtedly constitutes one of the leading cases for assessing the validity of institutional measures that are aimed at applying the idea of sustainable development in the field of law because of its experience with low-yielding judicial institutions that are characterised by delays, backlogs, and insufficient capacities of case management. Regarding this matter, the Parliament of India decided to go in the third direction, which resulted in the passage of the National Green Tribunal Act in the year 2010. The experience of India is therefore analysed taking into consideration, on the one hand, the constitutional framework embodied in the protection of environmental rights within the right to life enshrined in Article 21 of the Constitution, along with Articles 48A and 51A(g), and, on the other hand, the interpretation of the courts regarding international law principles (sustainable development, polluter pays, and precautionary principle), that are statutorily applied by the National Green Tribunal¹³. This analysis takes into consideration both the constitutional framework and the interpretation of

(Rengarajan et al. 2018) studied National Green Tribunal of India — an observation from environmental judgements found that and Improving the environmental rule of law, access to justice, and environmental dispute resolution is essential for achieving the United Nations' 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SD Goal —'to provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels', according to. Establishing specialised courts and tribunals that deal entirely with environmental

¹² Bhatia, K. (2019). National Green Tribunal and Environmental Jurisprudence in India. *International Journal of Innovative Technology and Exploring Engineering*, 8(9), 2222-2227.

¹³ Rosencranz, Armin, and Geetanjoy Sahu. 2010. *Assessing the National Green Tribunal after Four Years*. 2010.

4. Singh, Aprajita. 2021. *A Decade of National Green Tribunal of India: Judgement Analysis and Observations*. 1–16.

concerns is increasingly essential in order to achieve this objective. In order to do so, it is essential to create these courts and tribunals. More than one thousand environmental courts and tribunals are already operating in a variety of nations around the globe, and further environmental courts have been planned for the future (as was previously stated). As far as India is concerned, the need of creating environmental courts in India occurred in a variety of distinct scenarios and at a variety of different points in time. The Indian Supreme Court stated in the case of M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India that because environmental cases frequently involve evaluation of scientific data, establishing environmental courts on a regional basis with a judge who is qualified under the law and two experts would help to expedite the judicial process.

Conclusion

Since it was first established in 2010, India's National Green Tribunal has been essential in the country's progression toward an environmental jurisprudence that is internationally recognised. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has clarified legal issues connected to environmental laws and regulations, established “legal precedents that have been adopted by other courts in India to address environmental disputes, and advocated the notion that the polluter should pay for their actions. In addition to this, the NGT has been instrumental in the preservation of environmentally delicate regions and the enforcement of environmental regulations, both of which have contributed to the advancement of environmental protection and sustainable development. However, in order to develop environmental jurisprudence, the NGT must overcome a number of obstacles¹⁴, such as inadequate infrastructure and resources, the need to strike a balance between competing interests, and the necessity to resolve environmental disputes involving a number of different stakeholders. It is advised that efforts be taken in order to address these obstacles. These measures include providing the NGT with sufficient infrastructure and resources, improving environmental laws and regulations, and raising public knowledge of environmental concerns. This research sheds light on the significant role that specialised courts, such as the NGT, play in fostering environmental preservation and sustainable development, and it also offers insights into the most effective procedures for environmental adjudication. The findings of the study have the potential to make a contribution to the ongoing discussion regarding the efficiency of specialised courts in the resolution of environmental disputes. They also have the potential to serve as a guide for policymakers and stakeholders in India who are working to strengthen environmental governance and promote environmental protection”.

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