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DIPLOMA IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

EIGHTEENTH BATCH

August 09 – January 10

PROSPECTUS FOR ONLINE PROGRAMME



Sunset in Corbett, Moulika Arabhi, Corbett National Park

**Centre for Environmental Law
WWF-INDIA**

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CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

The Centre for Environmental Law (CEL) was established in 1993 as an integral part of the WWF-India. CEL is a unique institution, combining research, education, training initiative with legal activism. It is the only institution of its kind in the country and perhaps in the region as well. It has the support of the Government of India and various national and international organisations including multilateral funding agencies. Apart from handling and furthering WWF-India's conservation work involving policy analysis, campaigns and legal interventions on environmental issues, CEL serves as a resource centre for environmental law teaching and research in the national, regional and international context and hopes to fulfill a larger role for the developing world.

Course Description

An important feature of CEL's educational activities is the Diploma Programme in Environmental Laws. It was introduced to provide an in-depth exposure to participants on issues, institutions and initiatives in the field of environmental law and policy. CEL conducts 'Diploma in Environmental Law' for a better understanding of green law issues poignant worldwide, particularly in the Indian context.

Every year, since its inception in 1993, the diploma program has attracted participants with a variety of professional backgrounds: judges, lawyers, journalists, academicians, civil servants, chartered accountants, architects, environmental professionals and others from diversified fields. The hallmark of CEL's diploma programme has been convenient, quick environmental law for those who are seeking to enrich their professional knowledge. So far, 385 candidates have received 'Diploma in Environmental Law' from WWF-India.

Owing to the requests coming from students/professionals from different fields, in the year 2008, WWF-India decided to make the programme available through 'distance mode'. CEL has already successfully conducted two Diploma Batches, with a third batch presently ongoing, via 'Distance Learning' mode encompassing a total number of 107 participants from diverse backgrounds.



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Course Objective:

- ◆ Increase understanding on key issues related to National as well as International Environmental Law & Policies
- ◆ Develop knowledge on the International Legal & Policy context on thematic issues related to environment
- ◆ Enhancing skills on legal interventions for environment protection
- ◆ Promote networking and sharing of experiences among participants to actively contribute towards conservation

Participants:

The diploma program provides opportunities for law graduates and professionals working in the field of environment to enrich their understanding of environmental law. Law graduates, Legal practitioners, Environmental professionals, Media and NGO Personnel seeking to enrich their professional knowledge are encouraged to apply.

Faculty and Pedagogy:

The course methodology will comprise of communication *via* electronic media and communication between the Course Coordinator and the participants is mandatory. The methodology will comprise of teaching & learning methods inclusive of course material/lectures notes, interactive sessions, discussion forum, a term paper and a field trip.

The course faculty would be from CEL, WWF-India, legal practitioners, from civil sector, academicians and Government sector. All of whom are carefully selected to bring in rich experience.



Ranya Iyer, Forest Guest House, GHNP



Field Trip:

The field trip is an optional feature of the Diploma Programme. The trip would be to one of the conservation sites. Interaction with area officials, local community, local institutions or organizations, wildlife safari/trekking will be part of field visits. Field trip provides an excellent opportunity to understand environmental issues and policies from practical perspective.

Green Law Lecture:

Every year CEL, WWF-India invites a 'Distinguished Speaker' to share their experiences in the form of 'Green Law Lectures' which is compiled, published and disseminated.



XVI batch (2008-09) participants at Corbett National Park, Getting ready for the Elephant Safari



Course Syllabus:

I Introduction to Environmental Law and Policy

1. Concept of Law & Policy
2. Environmental Law and the Indian Constitution
3. Law of Crimes & Tort and Environment
4. Environmental Justice, Equity and Governance
5. The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Draft National Environmental Policy 2006

II Introduction to International Environmental Law

1. International Environmental Law and other disciplines
2. Making and application of International Environmental Law
3. Fundamental Principles governing International Environmental Law

III Environmental Law in the Global Context

1. From Stockholm to Rio
2. Environmental Security
3. Rights and duties under International Environmental Law

IV Role of International Organisations in emergence of Environmental Law

1. Role of International Organisations
2. International Environmental Institutions (IEIs) - Conference of Parties (COPs), Global Environmental Facility (GEF), *etc*

V Some Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)

1. Nature and Origin of Negotiations
2. Biological Diversity, Climate Change, *etc*
3. Hazardous Material and Waste
4. MEAs and Dispute Settlement Mechanism

VI Other major International Laws related to the Environment

1. Law of Seas and Regional Seas Agreement
2. Right to Environment as Human right and Right to Development under International Law International
3. Humanitarian Law and Environment: Armed Conflicts and Environment



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VII Policy and Legal Trends in Biodiversity Conservation

1. Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) and the Biosafety Protocol
2. India's Compliance with the CBD

VIII Intellectual Property Rights Regime

1. International IPR Regime
2. Importance of TRIPs and WIPO
3. Sharing of benefits arising from the use of biological resources and associated traditional knowledge
4. Environment and IPRs: Legal and Policy linkages
5. Protection of plant varieties and breeders rights
6. International Convention for the protection of New Varieties of plants (UPOV Convention)

IX Legal and Policy Frameworks related to Forest Conservation

1. Introduction to Conservation Laws and Policies
2. Indian Forest Act, Forest Conservation Act
3. National Forest Policy
4. Joint Forest Management: Issues and Implementation
5. The Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act, 2006

X Tenure and Property Rights Regimes, Access to Natural Resource

1. Land and Revenue Tenure Systems
2. Land acquisition Act/Private forest Acquisition Act, Land Ceiling Act

XI Legal and Policy Frameworks related to Wildlife Conservation

1. Species Conservation – National Parks and Sanctuaries
2. Wildlife Protection Act
3. Wildlife Trade and Trafficking
4. Policy dialogues for protection of different species (In depth-CITES)

XII Trade and Environment

1. Introduction to Trade and Environment
2. Negotiations on Trade and Environment
3. GATT, WTO, Doha and beyond
4. Committee on Trade and Environment
5. WTO agreements and its relevance to multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)



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6. Understanding Dispute Settlement Undertaking (DSU)- Environment related disputes : An overview: Tuna, Dolphin, Shrimp, Turtle cases

XIII National Legal Policy/ Frameworks/ Processes

1. EIA and its requirements
2. Infrastructure Development and Environment Concerns: Dams, embankments, dredging
3. Case Studies: Environment Projects

XIV National Legal Policy/ Frameworks/ Processes

1. National Water Policy
2. Water and Air Act
3. Agriculture Policy and Urban Development
4. Abatement of Pollution
5. Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal/Toxics-Municipal Solid Waste Management, Bio-Medical Waste Management and E-Waste Management

XIV Role of the Judiciary in Conservation in India

1. Judicial Trends in Conservation
2. Public Interest Litigation in India
3. Role of Legislators



Wildlife Spotting at the Field Trip, Amrita Neelakantan, Corbett National Park



Eligibility: Graduates from any discipline can apply. Preference would be given to those who are working in the field of Environment.

Course Duration: The Seventeenth Diploma Programme will commence in the month of September 2009 and will end in the month of February 2010. The Six months programme will be held through 'distance learning' mode.

Participants of the 'distance learning' course shall be receiving regular mail updates from the Course Coordinator for which they shall be expected to respond as per requirement. Participants will also have to submit timely assignments thrice in every two months, and a term paper towards the end of the programme.

Selection: Candidates will be selected on the basis of personal or telephonic interviews. Admission will be offered on the basis of academic qualifications, experience and performance in the interview.

Fees: The course fee of Rupees 15,500/- in *cash or by demand draft* in favour of "WWF-India" payable at New Delhi should be paid at the time of admission. This covers tuition fee, cost of course material and field trip.

Those who cannot be/do not want to participate in the field trip will have to pay the fee of **Rupees 10,500/-**. No stipend/scholarship/TA/DA will be paid to the participants for attending personal interview or pursuing the course.

Last Date for Receiving Applications: Interested candidates should apply in the prescribed form available along with the prospectus and submit to Ms. Moulika Arabhi, WWF-India, 172-B, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi- 110 003 along with Covering letter, Curriculum Vitae and photocopies of testimonials, on or before **28 August 2009**.



Gharial family, Amrita Neelakantan, Corbett National Park



WWF-India

WWF-India is the country's premier conservation organisation committed to nature conservation and environmental protection.

The organisation has its headquarters in Delhi and a network of branches across the country. It is also among the 26 independent WWF National Organisations. India was the first in Asia and in the developing world to establish the WWF National Organisation in 1969. It was registered, as a Public Charitable Trust in 1970.

WWF-India, started as a modest wildlife conservation organisation with a focus on protecting particular species of wild fauna. Over the years, the perspective broadened to encompass conservation of habitats, ecosystem and support to the management of the country's protected areas network. In 1989, WWF-India articulated its mission as follows, to suit India's specific ecological, social and economic milieu:



“The promotion of nature conservation and environmental protection as the foundation for sustainable and equitable development”

WWF- Canon/ Michel Gunther