

PROJECT GREEN

Challenge



Day 19 " Nature " Greener Challenge



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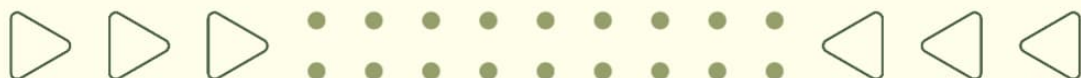
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✧ Introduction ✧



A broad Alliance of civil society organizations in partnership with governments, Indigenous Peoples, members of the scientific community, and future generations delegations make up and represent the large and growing Rights of Nature movement, committed to advocating, accelerating, and escalating the global adoption and implementation into legal systems of the Rights of Water Ecosystems (e.g. rivers, mangroves, ocean, and others) and in general, the Rights of Nature. This coalition seeks to align our laws with the laws of Nature, and in furtherance of this broader goal, pledges support towards the Rights of Water Ecosystems and Aquatic Ecosystem initiatives and its aim of promoting solutions to restore the health, balance, and biodiversity of aquatic environments.





RIGHT OF *Nature*



Nature Law in India

The highest court in one of India's 28 states ruled last month that "Mother Nature" has the same legal status as a human being, which includes "all corresponding rights, duties and liabilities of a living person."

The decision from Madras High Court, located in the southeastern state of Tamil Nadu, also said that the natural environment is part of the human right to life, and that humans have an environmental duty to future generations.

"The past generations have handed over the 'Mother Earth' to us in its pristine glory and we are morally bound to hand over the same Mother Earth to the next generation," Justice S. Srimathy said in a 23-page opinion. The case is the latest in a series of so-called "rights of nature" laws and court rulings that aim to give ecosystems, animals and elements of the natural world legal rights similar to those of humans, corporations and trusts. Countries including Ecuador, Bolivia, Panama and New Zealand have enacted variations of rights of nature laws, as have over 30 communities and local governments within the United States. Typically, legal rights, such as the right to exist and to regenerate, afford nature a higher degree of protection compared to conventional environmental laws.



RIGHTS OF NATURE

In the world



The Parana Delta in Argentina is a huge mosaic of wetlands, which are incredibly rich in biodiversity. But for the last three years now, it has been facing severe drought. The receding water level and human activities like clearing the land for cattle grazing or for real estate development combined with intense heat have led to the shrinking of the wetlands.

In July 2020, two NGOs filed a Collective Environmental Appeal before the Supreme Court of Justice to preserve the integrity of the wetlands. Citing precedents from countries like Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, India and New Zealand, it urged that "the Paraná Delta lives, breathes, develops, pulses, feels. Our petition goes beyond the demand of the right to live in a healthy environment.... The Delta has its own life and it is succumbing. It deserves protection and the recognition of rights."

The case is pending for a decision, like a similar case in Peru. They are part of an international movement called Nature's Rights—giving the same Constitutional rights to the natural environment as humans, recognising the inherent rights of Nature to exist, thrive and evolve.

Four countries have already enacted laws or amended their Constitutions to this effect. Ecuador was the first country which in 2008 wrote nature's rights in its Constitution, enabling its ecosystem to be defendant in any court of law. Ecuador's largest export, crude petroleum worth some \$6 billion, represents 29 per cent of GDP, but its extraction has led to huge deforestation in the Amazon basin inhabited by eight indigenous tribes, contaminating their water and causing widespread illness.



“ BIONEERS ”

Fighting for Rights of Nature



Who are they ??

For 30 years, Bioneers has acted as a fertile hub of game-changing social and scientific innovators with breakthrough solutions for the world's most pressing environmental and social challenges. A celebration of the genius of nature and human ingenuity, Bioneers connects people with solutions and each other through our acclaimed annual national conference, award-winning media, local Bioneers Network events, and visionary programs and initiatives. (Watch there video for Nature Right in India.





Thank You

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