

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW IN INDIA*

*Dr. K. Vidyullatha Reddy***

Prof. Gurdip Singh book on Environmental Law in India, is one among the few environment law books, aim to provide comprehensive understanding of the subject. The challenge that authors of environmental law have to encounter will be to incorporate the latest developments while providing the framework that is necessary to understand the existing law and the course of development. The subject is growing at such a speed that to encompass everything will make the book a compilation while explaining everything may make it a treatise. In such a situation the efforts of the author to bring forth a book that addresses the needs of the student community alongside others is commendable.

The conceptual clarity and the style in which the concepts were introduced is very apt and reader friendly. The complexity that arises due to intertwining of concepts with issues has been dealt with in a very precise manner. The Environment Impact Assessment has been explained well as a concept though the author chooses not to discuss the Impact Assessment Notification and the subsequent amendments issued by the Central Government. The author shares similar views as the Law Commission of India as far as the constitution of environment court is concerned.

The book is unique to the extent that though it discusses the Supreme Court cases under one head mostly, unlike topic wise, tries to explain the stand and the development in a very usual style which generally other law books does as opposed to environmental law books. The chapters on water pollution, air pollution and others explain the legislation so well that the distinction that exists between conservation law, pollution law and land use law do not act as a hindrance in understanding the subject. The book though covered most of the existing law in the subject it would have been complete in all aspects if the author covered all the Rules and the Coastal Zone Regulation alongside Impact Assessment Notification issued by Central Government under the Environment Protection Act.

* Author Prof. Gurdip Singh - Published by Macmillan India Limited, 2005.

** Asst. Professor, NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad, India.