



Indian Environment Service (IES)

For Prelims: TSR Subramanian in 2014, Indian Environment Service (IES).

For Mains: TSR Subramanian in 2014, Indian Environment Service (IES), Environmental degradation.

Why in News

Recently, the Supreme Court asked the Centre to establish a dedicated **Indian Environment Service (IES)** at the all-India level.

- The creation of IES was recommended by a committee headed by former Cabinet Secretary **TSR Subramanian in 2014**.

Note

- The high-level committee was constituted in August 2014 under the chairmanship of Subramanian by the **Ministry of Environment, Forests And Climate Change** (MoEF & CC).
- The committee was established to **review environmental laws in the country** and to bring them in line with the then required needs.

Key Points

- **About:** It will act as an **expert group** in the public and quasi-governmental sectors over the next decades, **regarding environmental matters**.
- **Need:** The constant **environmental degradation, ecological imbalance, climate change, water scarcity**, etc. are a great concern for India.
 - The citizens are facing many **environmental issues such as air pollution, water pollution, non-eradication of solid waste** and garbage and pollution of the natural environment.
 - One of the major causes of environmental degradation is the **flaw of the existing system** that lies in the enforcement capabilities of environmental institutions at various levels.
- **Observations of TSR Subramanian Committee:** Looking at the current administrative set-up, it can be **inferred that the government servants might not be able to spare special time for environmental causes**.
 - **Lack of Specialised Cadre:** There is a **lack of trained personnel involved in the administration**, policy formulation, and supervising the implementation of policies of the state and central governments.
 - India had a **strong environmental policy and legislative framework** but weak implementation has resulted in environmental governance being criticised by conservation experts and the judiciary.

- It pointed out that there was no effective coordination amongst various Ministries/institutions regarding the integration of environmental concerns.
- **Associated Challenges:** IES will overlap with the already existing one All **India Service (Indian Forest Service)**.
 - Apart from this, IES will also pose the **challenge to federal structure**.

Way Forward

- The creation of new All India Services emanates from the fact that AIS officers have a generalist approach whereas contemporary challenges require a more specialized approach.
- In order to maintain a balance between the two, an **Indian Environmental Service Academy** can be set up, in order to train officers for enforcing environmental laws.

Source: [TH](#)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/indian-environment-service-ies>

