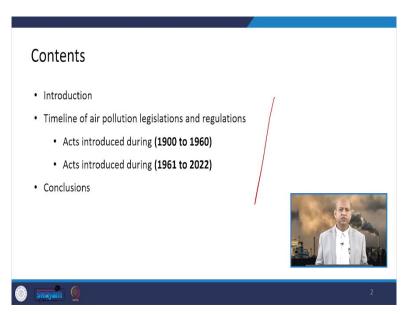
## Air Pollution Control Professor Bhola Ram Gurjar Department of Civil Engineering Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee Lecture 49

## Air Pollution Legislations and Regulations

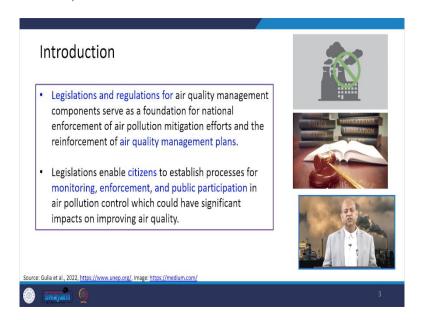
Hello friends, you may recall last time we discussed about air quality standards. So, basically whether it is air quality standards or legislations or regulations or policies, they contribute in air quality management in an effective air quality management. So, today we will look into air pollution legislations and regulations because they are the backbone of any kind of notifications, acts or policies which government prescribes and which we follow and we meet those standards which are based on those legislations basically.

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So, in this content, you can look into this introduction part will be there. Say, why we need these lessons, legislations or regulations what are their back bearing, then timeline of air pollution legislations and regulations in context of India, like which acts have been introduced up to 1960 from 1900 to 1960. Then which were the acts which were developed or enacted during 1961 to 2022. So, we will see major or most important acts and notifications in this particular presentation and then we will conclude.

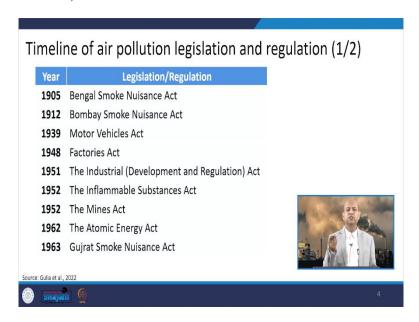
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So, when we talk about legislations and regulations, basically, they are the tools, soft tools for air quality management. So, these components serve as foundation for national policy framework on enforcement of air pollution mitigation plans or efforts and for the reinforcement of air quality management plans.

So, legislations basically help us or enable the citizens to establish processes and methodologies or programs for monitoring or enforcement or public participation in air pollution control which could like have significant impacts on improving the ambient air quality or if those legislations are related to indoor air quality, then they will improve the indoor air quality.

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So, this is the timeline in brief in 1905, Bengal Smoke Nuisance Act was enacted. Then in 1912, Bombay Smoke Nuisance Act was established. In 1939 Motor Vehicles Act was there and Factories Act was enacted in 1948. Then in 1951, the Industrial Development and Regulation Act has been enacted, basically, we are looking into only those acts which directly or indirectly influenced the air quality.

In 1952, the Inflammable Substances Act was enacted and the Mines Act was established or passed in 1952. Then in 1962, we had the Atomic Energy Act and in 1963, Gujarat Smoke Nuisance Act was formulated.

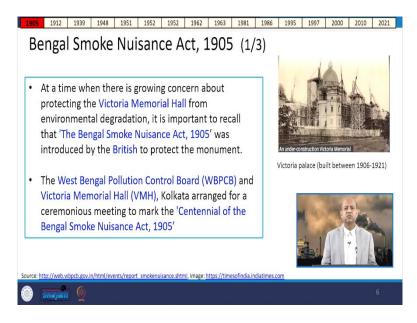
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In 1981, we had, very important this act which is known as Air Prevention and Control of Air Pollution Act or simply Air Act in 1981. Then in 1986, we had one umbrella kind of act this is known as the Environment Protection Act, EPA in 1995. Then afterwards, we had National Environment Tribunal Act, NETA.

In 1997, we had National Environment Appellate Authority, NEAA Act and 2000 is related to the Ozone Depleting Substances Regulation and Control Rules. So, in 2010, then we had National Green Tribunal Act and in 2021, we had Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act 2021. So, last year, we had basically and this year just a few days before, we had this draft notification for e-vehicles in NCR that is national capital region.

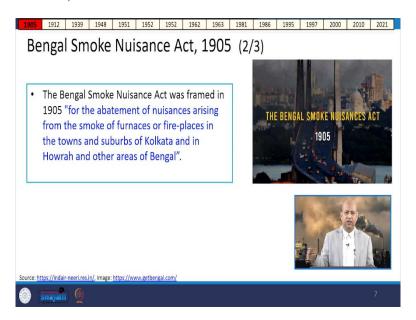
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So, if we look into one by one of these acts so that we can know, in what, background these apps were enacted, and what was their scope or how they really helped us to improve the air quality. So, if we come to the first act which was Bengal Smoke Nuisance Act in 1905. So, at that time, it was enacted to curtail the smoke from furnaces and other kind of burning activities in and around Kolkata.

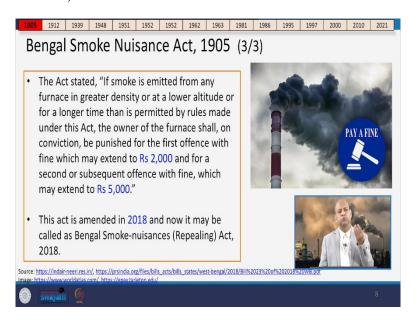
So, this Bengal Smoke Nuisance Act 1905 was introduced basically to protect the Victoria Memorial and other issues were also there. So, the West Bengal pollution control board and Victoria Memorial Hall Kolkata arranged for a ceremonious meeting to mark this centennial of this Bengali smoke nuisance act 1905 afterwards.

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Then this act for the abatement of nuisance arising from the smoke for furnaces or fireplaces in the towns and suburb areas of Kolkata and Howrah and other areas of the Bengal so this was the kind of periphery or the area where it was impacted.

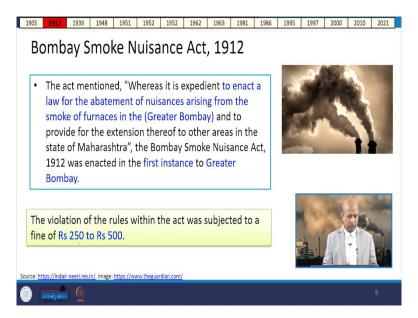
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Well, then, it was very kind of stringent acting at that time because it was stated in this particular act that if a smoke is emitted from any furnace in greater density or at a lower altitude or for a longer time period, then what is permitted by the rules made under this particular act, the owner of the furnace shall on conviction be punished for the first offense with fine which may extend up to 2000 rupees.

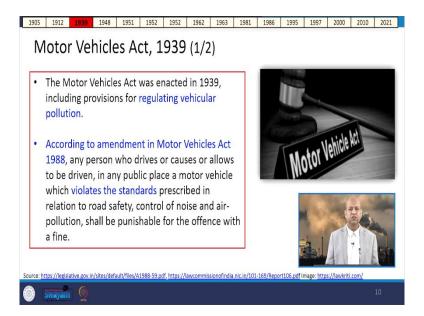
2000 rupees at that time was very big amount and for a second or subsequent offense with fine which could be even 5000 and but later on in 2018 recently, so this act was repealed because it was no more relevant due to this enforcement of air prevention and control of air pollution 1981 Act. So, it was repealed basically.

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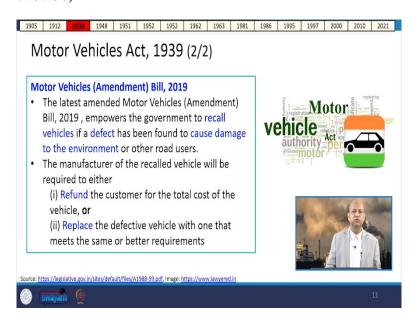
In 1912 we had this Bombay Smoke Nuisance Act, so it was on the line of Bengal Smoke Nuisance Act and here this fine amount was a little bit less in comparison to that amount. So, 250 and 500 were kept in this particular act and this was applicable in the greater Bombay area basically or extension in other areas of the Maharashtra. So, this Bombay Smoke Nuisance Act was enacted in 1912.

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And then in 1939, we had the Motor Vehicle Act. So, this was for regulating vehicular pollution or emissions and according to the amendment in Motor Vehicle Act in 1988, this is mentioned that any person who drives or causes or allows to be driven in any public place a motor vehicle which violates the standards prescribed in relation to the road safety, control of the noise and air pollution shall be punishable for the offense with a fine. So, in 1988, it was categorically mentioned.

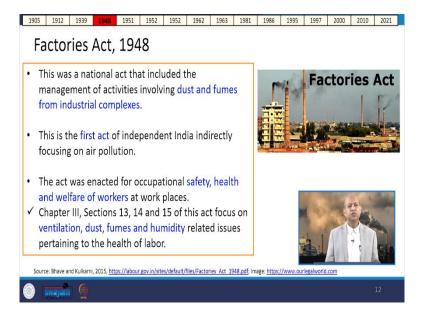
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Well, then in 2019, we had this Motor Vehicle's Amendment Bill. So, this latest bill basically recalls vehicles if a, it has provision for recalling these vehicles which are defective in nature

and they cause damage to the environment. So, the manufacturer either has to recall those kinds of vehicles, they have to refund the customer the total cost or they have to replace the defective vehicle.

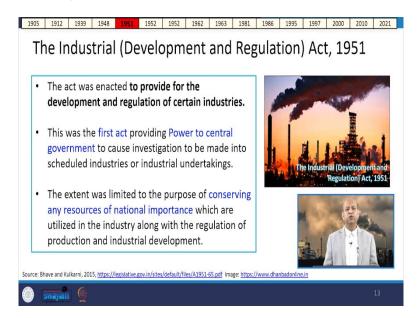
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In 1948, we had Factories Act. So, this was a national act that included the management of activities involving dust and fumes from industrial complexes so that we again it is related to air pollution. And this is the first act of independent India, indirectly focusing on air pollution, this Factories Act 1948 and this Act was enacted for occupational safety, health and welfare of workers at the workplace.

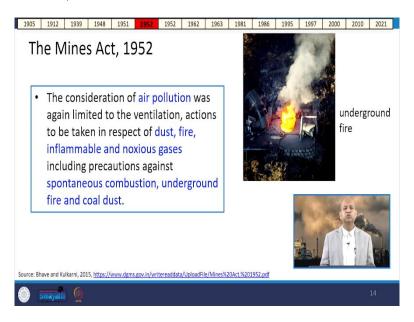
So, occupational related issues, it was included and at the chapter third and sections 13, 14 and 15 of this particular act focused on ventilation and dust, fumes and humidity related issues pertaining to the health of labour. So, occupational related hazards included all these kinds of things.

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So, in 1951, we had this Industrial Development and Regulation Act and this Act was enacted to provide for the development and regulation of certain industries. So again certain industries means those could contribute to the air pollution and the extent was limited to the purpose of conserving any resources of national importance which could be utilized in that particular industry along with the regulation of production and industrial development. So, that way indirectly it was also regulating the air pollution.

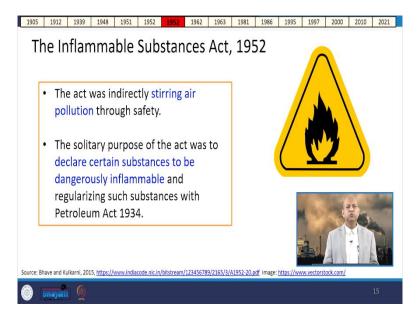
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The Mines Act of 1952 consideration air pollution was again limited to the ventilation actions to be taken in respect of the dust, fire, inflammable and noxious gases including precautions

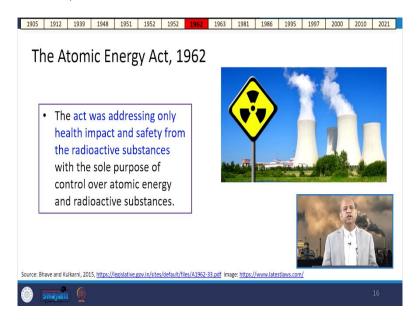
against a spontaneous combustion and underground fire, the coal dust. Again related to occupational hazards as such.

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In 1952, the Inflammable Substances Act was enacted and again because it was related to air pollution through safety issues indirectly and the solitary purpose of this act was to declare certain substances to be dangerously inflammable and regulating them for under this Petroleum Act of 1934 but indirectly it could also relate to the air pollution.

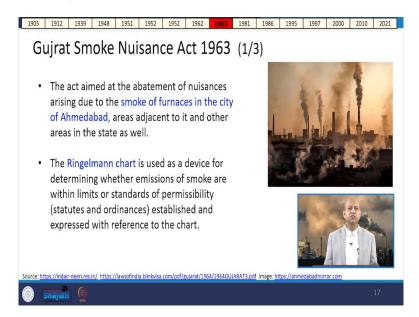
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In 1962, afterwards, we had this Atomic Energy Act. So, this act was basically addressing only the health impact and safety from the radioactive substances. So, radioactive substances can go

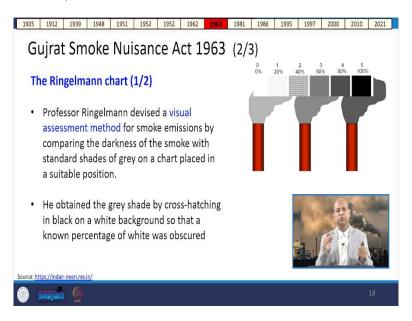
from one place to another, and it is hazardous and very toxic. So, this substances with the sole purpose of control over atomic energy and radioactive substances, this act was focusing on especially.

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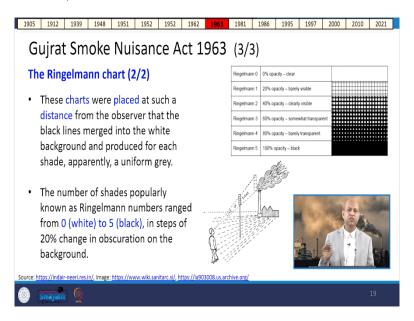
Then in 1963, Gujarat Smoke Nuisance Act was enacted. So, this act aimed at the abatement of nuisance arising due to the smoke which was coming out of furnaces in the city of Ahmedabad and in the adjacent area of that Gujarat state and how to identify whether this is nuisance or not. So, this Ringelmann chart was used as a device for determining whether emissions of the smoke are within the limits of the standards or they are violating.

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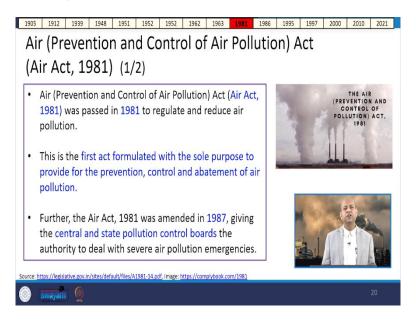
And like this kind of chart was used which was prepared by Professor Ringelmann. He devised a visual assessment method. So, like light grey, then darker than black those kind of color schemes were there and this used to be placed into eyesight at a particular distance and it used to be matched with the color of the smoke.

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So, one could easily judge whether how much intensity of the pollution is there. So, basically there were five grading 0 to 5, 0 – white, 5 – black and in between, there were different shades of the grey.

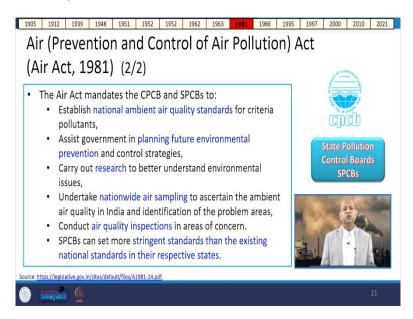
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Well, then we had this very, very important act, this was known, especially Air Prevention and Control of Air Pollution Act or simply Air Act in 1981 this was enacted. So, it was completely exclusively was focused on air pollution and this is the first act which was formulated with the sole purpose to prevent and control and , having the abatement of air pollution to improve the air quality.

In 1987 it was amended basically giving the central and state pollution control boards the authority to deal with severe air pollution related emergencies.

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And the Air Act amendment this has mandated through CPCB (Central Pollution Control Board) and the State Pollution Control Board as SPCBs they were given these rights or authority to establish national ambient air quality standards for criteria pollutants, you may recall those standards we have discussed.

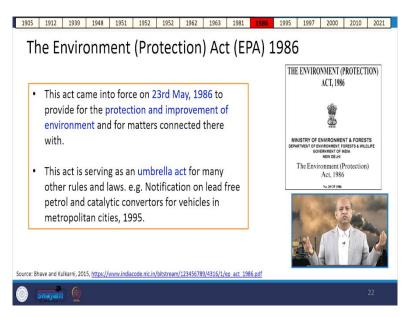
So, this is the act which has given the authority to central pollution control board and SPCBs to have the ambient air quality standards and to apply them across India and to assist the Government in planning future environmental prevention and control strategies. So, these were clearly mentioned in this act.

Then carrying out research to better understand environmental issues and undertake nationwide air sampling to ascertain the ambient air quality in India and identification of the related problems in those areas and to conduct air quality inspection in areas of the concern and the

state pollution control boards were allowed to set more stringent standards then what is prescribed by the central government through CPCB.

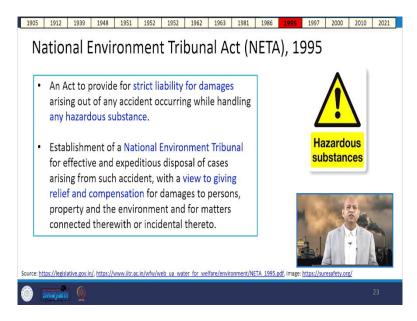
Those air quality standards and the network is now you see of air quality monitoring across India is basically routed in this particular act.

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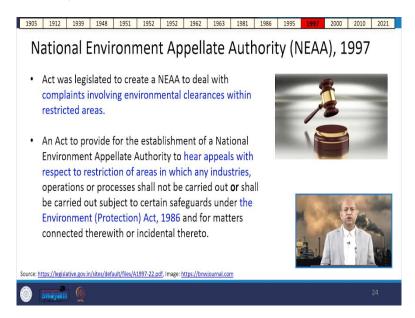
Then 1986 then we had this Environment Protection Act. This is an umbrella Act which covers many rules and laws and this notification on lead free petrol and catalytic converters for vehicles in metropolitan cities all these many other acts were routed or offshoots of this particular Environment Protection Act.

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Well National Environment Tribunal Act, NETA 1995 this was established to this act is to provide basically strict liability for damages arising out of an accident occurring while handling any hazardous substances or the establishment of this particular tribunal for effective and expeditious disposal of cases arising from such accidents with a view to giving relief to people who are victims of those kinds of accidents and the property or the environment and related issues to handle legally and properly and in a fast mode.

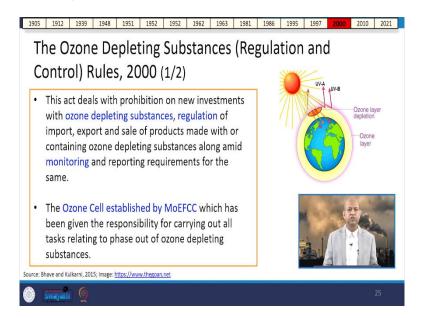
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Well, then in 1997, we had this National Environment Appellate Authority. So, this act was legislated to create this authority to deal with complaints involving environmental clearances within the restricted areas, not simple areas but the restricted areas.

So, this is basically an act to provide for the establishment of this particular authority to hear appeals with respect to restrictions of areas in which any industries or operations or processes shall not be carried out or if they are carried out then with the subject to certain safeguards within the guidelines of the Environment Protection Act of 1986. So, those have to be incorporated which basically.

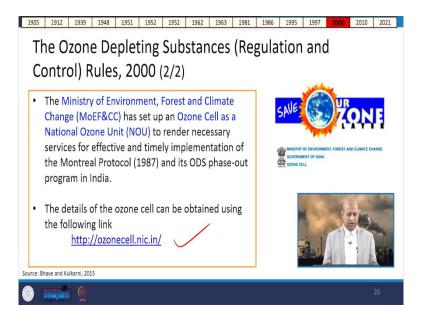
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Well, then next is the ozone depletion or ozone depleting substances regulation and control rules 2000. So, this act was for dealing with prohibition of new investments with ozone depleting substances and regulation of import export and sale of those products which have these ozone depleting substances because as Montreal Protocol was signed in 1987 and then some time was given to developing countries.

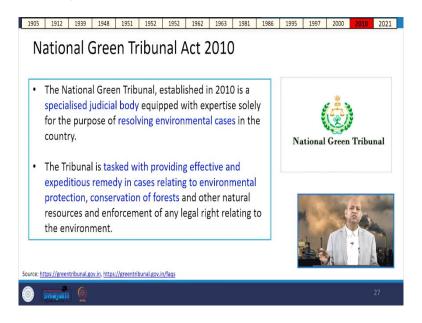
So, in that process this in 2000, we had this particular act, so that this could be phased out properly. So, the ozone cell established by Ministry of Environment forests and climate change, this has been given the responsibility for carrying out all tasks relating to phasing out of the ozone depleting substances.

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So, you can see this particular site is there where it can be seen and it was related to Montreal Protocol.

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Next is National Green Tribunal Act 2010. This is very important to hear any kind of complaint. So, this tribunal was established in 2010, it has a specialized judicial body basically equipped with expertise solely for the purpose of resolving environmental cases in the country. So, as environment related cases are heard in this NGT.

This is very important judicial authority. The Tribunal is tasked with providing effective and expeditious remedy in cases relating to environmental protection or conservation of the forest

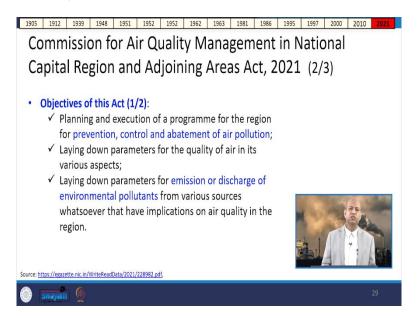
and other natural resources and enforcement of any legal relating to the environment. So, whatever activity is harming the environment, one can complain to NGT and they will give the judgment after hearing all parties.

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Well, Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and adjoining areas Act 2021. So, this is to provide basically the constitution of the this commission of Air Quality Management in this NCT, this National Capital Region and adjoining areas for better coordination, research identification and resolution of problems which are surrounding in this area related to poor air quality index or which are matters related to whatever your quality related issues are there.

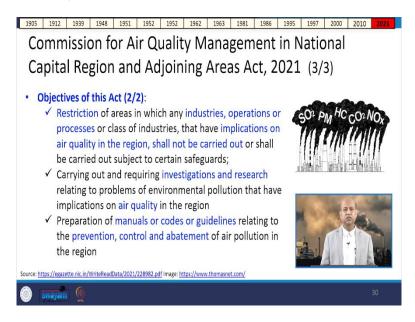
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So, the objective of this particular Commission has been to plan and execute the program for this region of NCT to prevent control and abatement of the air pollution. And it was also given the s to laying down the parameters for the quality of air in its various aspects. So, that in a comprehensive manner, air quality can be studied and managed.

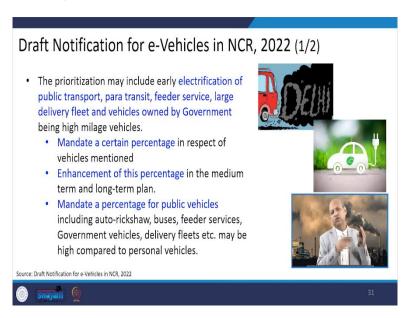
Then it was also for laying down parameters for emissions or discharges of environmental pollutants from different sources whatever they are and their implications in terms of air quality in this particular region.

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And next like to restrict the areas in which industries are operating or having the processes which can harm the environment in this particular region also to carry out and whatever investigations are needed and to do research relating to the problems of environmental pollution and which are having the implications of air quality in that region and preparation of manuals or guidelines, codes related to the prevention, control and abatement of air pollution in this particular region.

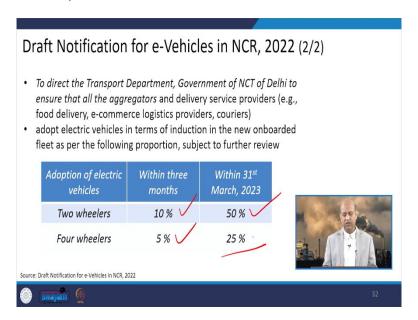
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Well then only a few days before draft notification of e-vehicles in NCR has been issued. So, this is basically for privatization, which can include early electrification of public transport as Government of India is giving much encouragement for e-vehicles so that we can have zero emission kind of transport sector.

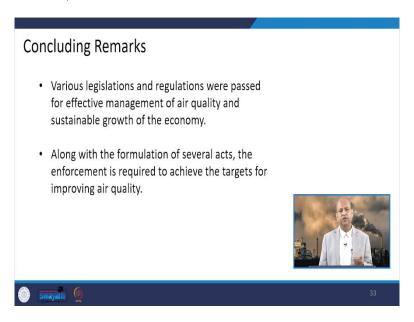
So, these feeder services or transit related vehicles, large delivery fleet vehicles owned by government, so they have to be in this particular act and the mandate of this particular notification is related to certain percentage to remove those petrol or diesel driven vehicles, fossil fuel driven vehicles and to convert them into e-vehicles at a particular percentage and to for doing the enhancement of this percentage after a certain period. So, long term plan is that we can have more and more e-vehicles basically.

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So, this particular direction has been given to the transport department of Government of NCT that adaptation of electric vehicles like in terms of two wheelers or four wheelers. So, within three months after this notification was passed, so 10 percent of two wheelers have to be converted to this vehicles. And up to 31st March of 2023. So, only within one year it has to be encouraged up to 50 percent similarly, the four wheelers 5 percent in next three months, and within one year 25 percent.

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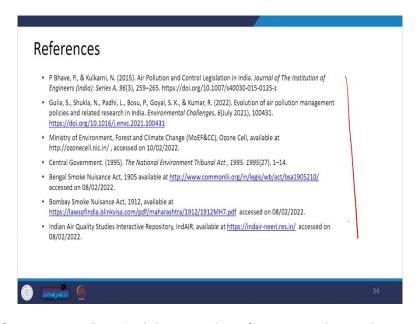
So, we can conclude that there are several legislations. Over the years, those legislations and regulations have been formulated and enacted by the government, for effective management of

the air quality and to ensure the sustainable growth of industrial economy in our country and to safeguard the occupational related issues of the labour and people and also have safe environment in urban areas or in suburban areas.

And now, we talk about the entire country basically. So, there are several legislations have been enacted, but still we are having the problem. So, the basically it is not only important to have the legislations or regulations but we should also go for their proper implementation.

So, that is the key that of course, we should have timely the required legislations or acts or notifications related to air pollution control and mitigation but also their enforcement should be proper and in an effective way, so that we can have the improve air quality and we can have a healthy life.

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So, thank you for your attention. And these are the references we have taken much material for this presentation you can go through these references in leisure time. So, thanks again. See you in the next lecture. Thank you.