

Harmony in Practice: A Case Study Approach in Exploring the Intersection of Corporate Social Responsibility and Environmental Stewardship

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Abstract

“Corporate Social Responsibility is a management concept whereby companies integrate social and environmental concerns in their business operations and interactions with their stakeholders.” The Companies Act, 2013, mandated companies meeting specific criteria to allocate a percentage of their profits towards socially responsible initiatives, reflecting a paradigm shift in acknowledging the role of businesses in contributing to social and environmental objectives. Key CSR activities in India focus on education, healthcare, and environmental sustainability, with corporations aligning with national priorities such as the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. The article highlights successful case studies exemplifying the integration of CSR with environmental initiatives, including Tata Group's sustainable development initiatives, Infosys' green IT practices, and ITC Limited's Triple Bottom Line Approach. Furthermore, the challenges faced by companies in integrating CSR and environmental sustainability in India are elucidated, ranging from regulatory complexities to resource constraints and the need for continuous innovation. The article provides a comprehensive overview of the evolving landscape of corporate social responsibility and environmental stewardship in India, highlighting successful case studies, challenges faced, and the pivotal role of regulatory frameworks in shaping corporate behavior towards environmentally responsible practices.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has emerged as a pivotal component of business practices in India, transcending profit-centric models to embrace a broader commitment to societal well-being. In recent years, CSR in India has undergone significant evolution, driven by legislative changes and an increasing recognition of the interconnectedness between business success and social impact. The Companies Act, 2013, marked a watershed moment for CSR in India by mandating companies meeting certain criteria to allocate a percentage of their profits towards socially responsible initiatives. The inclusion of CSR provisions in the Companies Act reflects a paradigm shift, acknowledging the role of businesses in contributing to social and environmental objectives. Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013, outlines the CSR provisions. It

applies to companies meeting specific criteria, including a net worth of INR 500 crores or more, or a turnover of INR 1,000 crores or more, or a net profit of INR 5 crores or more during the prescribed financial year¹. One of the key focal points of CSR activities in India revolves around education. Many companies are investing in projects that enhance educational infrastructure, provide scholarships, and promote skill development, thereby contributing to the country's human capital development. Similarly, healthcare initiatives, especially in rural areas, have gained prominence as corporations work towards improving access to medical facilities and healthcare services². Environmental sustainability is another major sphere where Indian companies are channelling their CSR efforts. Initiatives range from afforestation drives to the adoption of eco-friendly practices within their operations. By aligning with national

¹ Avtar Singh, *Company law*, 17th Edition, Eastern Book Company.

² Seventh schedule of Company Act, 2013.

priorities, such as the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission), businesses are not only fulfilling their CSR obligations but also actively participating in the country's larger developmental agenda. Partnerships between corporations and non-profit organizations have become instrumental in driving impactful CSR projects. These collaborations leverage the strengths of both sectors, maximizing resources and expertise to address complex social challenges effectively³. It's worth noting that CSR in India is not merely about compliance; it reflects a broader shift in corporate culture towards responsible and sustainable business practices. The focus extends beyond philanthropy to strategic, long-term investments in social and environmental initiatives that align with a company's values and contribute to its reputation as a socially conscious entity. India's progresses towards economic growth is accompanied with CSR positioned as a critical force for positive change. Companies that integrate social responsibility into their core strategies are not only complying with regulatory mandates but also fostering a culture of empathy and sustainable development, ultimately contributing to a more equitable and resilient society.

2. CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has emerged as a crucial aspect of business practices globally, with an increasing focus on environmental sustainability. In India, the integration of CSR with environmental initiatives has become a key strategy for companies looking to address environmental challenges while contributing to social well-being. This case study article delves into the intersection of corporate social responsibility and environmental sustainability in India, analysing specific cases that highlight successful initiatives, challenges faced, and the overall impact on both business and the environment. In an era where the impact of business transcends profit margins, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has emerged as a powerful vehicle for companies to foster positive change. Among the myriad facets of CSR, environmental protection has become a focal point, reflecting a collective responsibility to safeguard our planet. Traditionally, businesses operated with a singular focus on financial success. However, the realization that corporations wield significant influence over the environment has led to a paradigm shift. CSR has become the avenue through which companies actively engage in initiatives aimed at preserving and rejuvenating the environment⁴. The main effort includes

- Sustainable Practices - Embracing sustainable practices lies at the core of CSR's environmental dimension. Companies are re-evaluating their operational processes, opting for eco-friendly alternatives, and reducing their carbon footprint. From energy-efficient

technologies to waste reduction strategies, businesses are aligning their operations with principles of environmental sustainability.

- Community Engagement - CSR initiatives are extending beyond the boardroom, reaching into local communities. Companies are investing in projects that enhance environmental awareness, promote responsible waste management, and encourage sustainable living. These endeavours not only benefit the communities but also create a ripple effect, fostering a culture of environmental consciousness.
- Biodiversity Conservation - Preserving biodiversity is a key focus within the CSR and environmental protection nexus. Companies are increasingly participating in initiatives that contribute to the conservation of ecosystems and endangered species. This extends beyond legal compliance, representing a genuine commitment to nurturing the planet's rich biodiversity.
- Innovation for a Greener Tomorrow - CSR encourages innovation as a driving force for positive change. Companies are investing in research and development to discover and implement innovative solutions for environmental challenges. Whether it's the development of sustainable packaging or the creation of cleaner technologies, innovation is at the forefront of CSR's contribution to environmental protection.
- Transparency and Accountability - CSR initiatives in environmental protection are not merely token gestures; they are integral to a company's identity. Transparency and accountability are emphasized through detailed reporting mechanisms, allowing stakeholders to assess the real impact of these initiatives. This ensures that environmental commitments are not just PR stunts but genuine efforts to make a difference.
- Global Collaborations - Environmental issues transcend borders, and companies are increasingly engaging in global collaborations to address shared challenges. Whether it's joining international alliances for climate action or participating in cross-industry initiatives, businesses are realizing the need for collective efforts in tackling environmental issues on a global scale.

The integration of environmental protection into CSR reflects a maturation of corporate values. It signifies a departure from the notion that profit and responsibility are mutually exclusive. Instead, it embraces the idea that businesses can thrive while contributing to a healthier, more sustainable planet. As corporations continue to evolve, the marriage of Corporate Social Responsibility and environmental protection stands as a

³ Tiwari, Nityanand, *Environment Protection and Corporate Social Responsibility: A Critique from Legal Perspective* (August 20, 2010). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=1662360> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.1662360>

⁴ Alam, S.M.S., Islam, K.M.Z. *Examining the role of environmental corporate social responsibility in building green corporate image and green competitive advantage*. *Int J Corporate Soc Responsibility* 6, 8 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40991-021-00062-w>

testament to the transformative power of conscious business practices⁵.

3. CASE STUDY ANALYSIS

3.1 Case Study 1: Tata Group's Sustainable Development Initiatives

Tata Group, one of India's largest conglomerates, has been at the forefront of incorporating CSR into its business practices. The case study explores Tata's initiatives, such as Tata Power's focus on renewable energy, Tata Steel's sustainable mining practices, and Tata Chemicals' water conservation projects. These initiatives align with environmental sustainability goals, contribute to community development, and positively impact the company's brand image.

The Tata group is influencing global and national sustainability policy and practice through:

Interactions with government bodies e.g. High-Level Committee of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs on the CSR Clause, National Voluntary Guidelines on Social, Environmental and Economic Responsibilities of Business, Policy dialogue for Energy Efficient India 2030, Member of NDMA's Disaster Recovery Committee, Member of FICCI and CII. Membership and participation in global coalitions such as We Mean Business, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), Energy Transitions Commission, Global CCS Institute, World Bank's Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition, WEF's Alliance of CEO Climate Leaders, Natural Capital Coalition and International Association for Volunteer Effort (IAVE)⁶.

In the year 2022-23 Tata group CSR interventions with regard to Environment included.	
Vasundhara For a greener India 5.5 Lakh Trees planted A wide range of green initiatives like promotion of renewable resources, creation of carbon sinks through large-scale sapling plantation, construction of water conservation structures and building awareness among the communities. 90% saplings of indigenous varieties and worked towards maintaining the survival rate as high as 90%. Through these initiatives numerous locations were converted into micro-habitats for diverse varieties of flora and fauna. Initiatives were taken to sensitise people, especially younger children about the environment.	Amrutdhara Drinking water solution 20,807 Beneficiaries through water intervention initiatives Tata Motors' Amrtudhara, a national programme, focuses on ensuring water security in rural areas and tribal hamlets. Every family were given access to drinking water within a 200-metre radius of their homes. As a result, there has been a remarkable reduction in seasonal diseases like scabies and dysentery, along with improved water, health and sanitation practices. The project has also lightened the burden for women, who previously had to travel long distances to fetch water, resulting in increased girls' enrolment in rural schools.

Steps taken in this behalf	
The Wadi Plantation Model was a significant move forward in 2020-21. Its aim is to create sustainable livelihoods for the farmers through plantations comprising fruit trees, nutrition-rich trees and forestry trees, converting unutilised land into cultivable land by benefitting from Government convergence the annual cost of aftercare of the plantation for the next three years. In 2022-23, Tata Motors planted 5.53 Lakh Saplings to some 1800 farmers covering 1784 Acre of unused barren land. They also announced the One Million Plantation drive for year 2023-23 with the aim of reaching 5000 farmers in eight Blocks, covering 69 villages and 4800 acres of land. A vast tract of 16.5 hectares of forest land in Warje in urban Pune had been encroached upon by slum dwellers and was being degraded further due to illicit rock mining by builders, who had created a deep quarry across it. It had largely become a dumping ground for wastes and was subject to other forms of misuse. Once the project received approval, in 2015 TERRE began planting mature indigenous trees with a high survival rate and high resilience, require minimal after care and low input cost, factors that proved key to the success of the three-year pilot phase. From 2015 to 2017, over 9500 trees were planted and a 95% survival rate ensure with active engagement of citizens. Visible change in the environment were soon evident, most noticeably an improvement in air and soil quality, increase in biodiversity, more	In the first phase in 2022, one Amrit Sarovar or Community Pond was created at Dongarpada with a capacity to hold 30 lakh litres of water. With focus now of "Ensuring Exponential Growth through Sustainable mechanisms", the Company intends to create 100 Amrit Sarovars with a capacity of 1 Cr ltr of water each to ensure water availability through entire year, both for drinking water and irrigation purposes. Meetings have been held with each block officer and their teams as well as with the gram panchayats.

⁵ Verchagina, Irina & Kolechkina, Irina & Grigashkina, Svetlana. (2021). Corporate social responsibility and environmental protection. E3S Web of Conferences. 315. 04008. 10.1051/e3sconf/202131504008. Vol 01 Issue 01; Jan-2021; Pg—13-19

⁶ <https://www.tatasustainability.com/AboutUs/OurApproach>

visitors for morning and evening walks, and the land was saved from illegal encroachment. As the trees enveloped the area, which also has a number of water bodies, a huge variety of local birds as well as migratory birds were spotted, justifying the purpose of greening the beautiful urban forest for the wildlife. In 2017, the project was scaled to cover six urban forests, a cumulative area of 200 hectares that host 1.25 lakh trees. They are rich and thriving habitats attracting citizens for recreation. It now covers forest land in Warje, Mahalunge, ARAI and Pachgaon Parvati, Wadachi Wadi SRPF Firing Range, SRPF Group 5 and 7 Daund and Kothale

Tata Motors has entered into an MoU with MNRGS to plant 1 million saplings in 2023-24. Immediately after, ~6000 farmers were identified in 8 blocks of Palghar as per the MNRGS criteria to cover 1233 hectares. To reduce the cost of plantation and distribution of saplings, nurseries have been developed in 6 locations, predominantly for Mango saplings. These saplings will be ready to be transplanted with the onset of the monsoon season. Cashew saplings will be sourced from other districts due to the higher mortality among locally nurtured ones.

Results

40% canopy cover in 120 hectares acres of once barren land Micro-habitats have been created with 10 species of animals and reptiles, 50 avian species, 200 species of insects and 15 species of vegetation. Over 3 lakh kilograms of Carbon is sequestered annually Oxygen production has increased to 20 lakh kgs annually. Soil erosion has reduced by 130 per cent. A more aware group of citizens has demonstrated a high degree of ownership. The urban forests have improved livelihood opportunities of proximate slum dwellers who harvest the grass and sell it as fodder in the open market

Source – Tata 2022-2023 CSR Report.

3.2 Case Study 2: Infosys and Green IT Practices

The main focus of Infosys in Environmental protection involves steps taken for climate action. The emphasis on decreasing carbon emissions through energy efficiency and conservation by renewable energy, minimizing waste going to landfills and conservation of fresh water. Infosys works on aspects such as⁷

- Carbon neutrality – Emission levels from diesel generators and diesel – operated fire-fighting pumps are monitored on a monthly basis. Infosys has set up solar PV panels on the rooftops of office buildings. In total, Infosys has 14.4 MW of rooftop and ground mount solar PV panels. Further Infosys has set up a 40 MW captive solar power plant at Sira, Karnataka. In total, Infosys has 60 MW of total installed solar capacity.
- Climate change solutions – Various energy efficient measures, green buildings and use of renewable energy are done at Infosys. Carbon offset projects were implemented. As a part of environmental, social and

governance (ESG) Vision 2030, carbon neutrality across Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions are maintained each year⁸. The Climate Pledge, in partnership with Amazon and Global Optimism, is to become net zero by 2040. Infosys is the first Indian company to participate in the RE 100 initiatives and set an internal carbon price. Our emission reduction targets are validated by the Science Based Target Initiative (SBTI). Infosys has set up solar PV panels on the rooftops of office buildings. In total, Infosys has 14.4 MW of rooftop and ground mount solar PV panels. Further Infosys has set up a 40 MW captive solar power plant at Sira, Karnataka. In total, Infosys has 60 MW of total installed solar capacity.

- Water – 100% recycling of waste water - Rooftop rainwater harvesting – Infosys have built groundwater injection wells at Bengaluru, Chandigarh, Chennai, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Mysuru and Pune campuses. Injection wells and artificial lakes are useful in replenishing the groundwater table. Non-MBR Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) were upgraded to MBR technology to improve treated water quality and utilize

⁷ Infosys ESG Report 2022-2023

⁸ Scope 1 emissions - Scope 1 covers emissions from sources that an organisation owns or controls directly. Scope 2 emissions - Scope 2 are emissions that a company causes indirectly and come from where the energy it purchases and uses is produced. Scope 3

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emissions - Scope 3 encompasses emissions that are not produced by the company itself and are not the result of activities from assets owned or controlled by them, but by those that it's indirectly responsible for up and down its value chain

treated water for all recycling purposes⁹. In fiscal 2023, Infosys have upgraded the STP plants in Chennai, Sholingnallur, Nagpur, Pune Phase I locations. The procurement of secondary quality water through authorized agencies to meet the water demand for landscaping helped to reduce freshwater dependency.

- Waste – True zero waste certification through Green Business Certification Inc. (GBCI) in Bengaluru, Chennai and Pune in 2023. The Infosys waste management practice involves segregation of waste at source, secondary segregation, efficient collection and handling, recycling, and effective disposal of all wastes while adhering to applicable legislations.

Examining the information technology sector, the case study delves into Infosys' commitment to environmental sustainability through its initiatives. This includes energy-efficient infrastructure, sustainable building designs, and the implementation of green IT practices. Infosys assesses how these measures not only reduce the company's carbon footprint but also enhance operational efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

3.3 Case Study 3: ITC Limited's Triple Bottom Line Approach

ITC Limited, a diversified conglomerate, has adopted a Triple Bottom Line (TBL) approach, focusing on economic, social, and environmental aspects. The advancement of industrial society has significantly depleted the Earth's natural capital, simultaneously leaving a considerable portion of the global population entrenched in severe poverty.

The various initiatives of ITC are¹⁰

- Decarbonisation - ITC includes increasing footprint of renewable energy, green infrastructure and carbon sequestration amongst others. During the year, around 42% of our total energy requirements were met from renewable sources. They have also commissioned first offsite 14.9 MW solar plant in Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, which has already enabled them to meet 90% of their electricity requirement in Tamil Nadu from renewable sources. ITC is a pioneer in the Green Building movement, with 38 buildings having received Platinum certification by USGBC (U.S. Green Building Council)/IGBC (Indian Green Building Council). Cumulatively, ITC has greened more than 950,000 acres generating 173 million-person days of employment. ITC's Agro-Forestry initiative which ensures food, fodder and wood security cumulatively extends to over 1.78 lakh acres.
- Water Security - This programme covers over 1.33 million acres of land, creating a total rainwater harvesting potential which was nearly 4 times the net

water consumed by our operations in FY2021-22. The 'More Crop per Drop' programme for demand side efficiency in agriculture continues to be scaled up. Over 7 lakh acres have been covered till date across 11 states.

- Climate Smart Agriculture - ITC has promoted Climate Smart Villages (CSV) across 2,500 villages covering over 8 lakh acres and has demonstrated reduction in GHG emissions by 66% and increase in net income by 93% for soybean crop in Madhya Pradesh.
- Biodiversity - ITC's Biodiversity programme focusses on reviving ecosystem services provided to agriculture such as natural regulation of pests, pollination, nutrient cycling, soil health retention and genetic diversity, which have witnessed considerable erosion over the past few decades. The initiative has cumulatively covered 1.3 lakh acres in more than 29 districts across 10 states.
- Net Generation Agriculture - ITC has commenced implementation of a Super App called ITC-MAARS or Metamarket for Advanced Agriculture and Rural Services to bring the power of such cutting-edge digital technologies to farmers, that will progressively empower over 10 million farmers.

4. CHALLENGES IN INTEGRATING CSR AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY.

The challenges faced by companies in India when integrating CSR and environmental sustainability, can be analysed from case studies and industry trends. Common challenges include regulatory complexities, resource constraints, and the need for continuous innovation to align business operations with sustainable practices¹¹. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Environmental Sustainability are twin imperatives shaping the modern business landscape. While the synergy between these two concepts holds immense promise, the integration process is not without its challenges. The various challenges are listed out under

- One of the primary hurdles lies in striking the delicate balance between maximizing profits and fulfilling CSR commitments. Businesses often grapple with the challenge of allocating resources to sustainability initiatives without compromising financial viability.
- In a world that often prioritizes immediate gains, companies encounter challenges in aligning long-term environmental sustainability goals with short-term business objectives. Nurturing a commitment to enduring impact amidst quarterly demands requires strategic foresight.
- Establishing consistent and meaningful metrics for CSR and environmental performance is a persistent challenge. The lack of standardized measurement and reporting frameworks makes it challenging to evaluate

⁹ A Membrane BioReactor (MBR) is a process which combines a microfiltration or ultrafiltration membrane unit with a suspended growth bioreactor, and is now widely used in both municipal and industrial WasteWater Treatment Plants (WWTPs)

¹⁰ ITC 2022-2023 Sustainability and Integrated Report

¹¹ Dhawan, Shivangi & Samantara, Rabinarayan. (2020). Corporate social responsibility in India: Issues and challenges. *IIMS Journal of Management Science*. 11. 91-103. 10.5958/0976-173X.2020.00008.1.

the true impact of sustainability initiatives across industries.

- For companies with complex supply chains, ensuring the environmental sustainability of every link poses a formidable challenge. From sourcing raw materials to logistics, achieving a comprehensive eco-friendly supply chain requires concerted efforts and collaboration.¹²
- Navigating an evolving and often fragmented regulatory environment adds complexity to integrating CSR and environmental sustainability. Differing regulations across regions can create compliance challenges for multinational corporations seeking a cohesive approach.
- Effective CSR and environmental sustainability strategies necessitate the engagement of various stakeholders. Balancing diverse interests and expectations, from consumers to investors and local communities, demands adept communication and relationship management.¹³
- Embracing sustainable technologies and practices requires ongoing innovation. Many companies face challenges in adopting and integrating these innovations seamlessly into their existing operations, often due to costs or a lack of understanding of available solutions.
- Transforming organizational culture to embed sustainability as a core value can be met with resistance. Overcoming ingrained practices and fostering a collective commitment to environmental responsibility necessitates strategic leadership and cultural change efforts.
- The dynamic nature of environmental challenges introduces uncertainties and risks. Developing effective risk management strategies that anticipate and mitigate the impact of unforeseen environmental changes is an ongoing challenge.
- A lack of awareness and understanding of the intricacies of CSR and environmental sustainability poses a challenge. Both internal and external stakeholders may require education to appreciate the value and necessity of these initiatives.

5. REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AND COMPLIANCE

In an era where environmental concerns have become paramount, the role of regulations is increasingly crucial in steering corporate behavior towards sustainability. Governments worldwide are recognizing the pivotal role businesses play in

environmental stewardship, and regulatory frameworks are being crafted to encourage, and in some cases, enforce environmentally responsible practices. Goal 7 (or MDG 7) focuses on the objective to “ensure environmental sustainability” and includes specific targets related to issues as diverse as the integration of sustainable development principles into country policies and programmes; the need to reverse the loss of environmental resources; improved access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation; and significantly improve the living conditions in slums worldwide¹⁴

- Regulations set forth precise guidelines and expectations for environmental stewardship, acting as a compass. These standards, which range from waste disposal policies to emissions limitations, establish a baseline that businesses must follow and promote a shared understanding of what constitutes responsible environmental behaviour.
- Regulations establish a system of checks and balances to guarantee that businesses follow environmental standards. There may be fines, penalties, or even legal action for noncompliance. Businesses are encouraged to prioritise ecologically friendly practices by this accountability because they are aware that regulatory organisations are keeping an eye on their operations.
- Governments frequently combine punitive and proactive measures. While there are consequences for non-compliance, many countries also offer tax rebates, grants, or subsidies to businesses that adopt eco-friendly methods. Businesses are encouraged to see sustainability as a strategic advantage as well as a moral obligation by using this dual approach.
- Regulations can drive innovation by requiring companies to invest in research and development for sustainable technologies and processes. This, in turn, accelerates the transition towards a greener economy and provides a competitive edge for companies at the forefront of eco-friendly innovation.
- Many regulatory frameworks mandate companies to disclose their environmental impact through transparent reporting. This not only allows stakeholders to assess a company's commitment to sustainability but also fosters a culture of openness and responsibility within the business community.
- Regulations often extend their reach to encompass entire supply chains. This compels companies to ensure that their suppliers and partners adhere to similar environmental standards, creating a cascading effect that ripples through the entire business ecosystem.

¹² Ganesh, M. K., & Venugopal, B. (2023). *Challenges, Practice and Impact of Corporate Social Responsibility on Sustainable Development of Environment and Society*. *Journal of Law and Sustainable Development*, 11(11), e1486. <https://doi.org/10.55908/sdgs.v11i11.1486>

¹³ Mariam Kasradze, Mahyar Kamali Saraji, Dalia Streimikiene, Remigijus Ciegis, *Assessing key indicators of efficient green energy production for IEA members*, *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*, 10.1007/s11356-023-26285-x, 30, 19, (55513-55528), (2023).

¹⁴ Institute of Medicine (US), *Roundtable on Environmental Health Sciences, Research, and Medicine. Global Environmental Health in the 21st Century: From Governmental Regulation to Corporate Social Responsibility: Workshop Summary*. Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US); 2007. 5, *Corporate Social Responsibility*. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK53982/>

- Environmental regulations encourage businesses to adopt a long-term perspective in their planning. By considering the ecological impact of their operations, companies can better position themselves to navigate future regulatory changes and mitigate risks associated with environmental issues¹⁵.
- Many specialised laws have been passed to safeguard the ecology and environment. In addition to these laws, a comprehensive legislation known as the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, along with a number of rules enacted under it, have been created to stop, limit, and mitigate all forms of pollution. But the validity of these laws is in jeopardy because companies are unwilling to abide by them^{16, 17}.

Thus, these steps on regulatory framework is necessary to achieve the goals for environment protection through the initiatives taken through Corporate Social Responsibility in India.

6. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the case study article emphasizes the integral role of corporate social responsibility in addressing environmental challenges in India. It highlights successful models implemented by leading companies, the challenges they face, and the overall impact on business sustainability. It can be seen that regulations play a pivotal role in shaping corporate behaviour towards environmentally responsible practices. They act as catalysts for change, guiding businesses towards a more sustainable and conscientious future. As regulatory frameworks continue to evolve, businesses that proactively embrace and exceed these environmental standards not only comply with the law but also position themselves as leaders in the global movement towards a greener and more sustainable business landscape. The article concludes with a forward-looking perspective, emphasizing the growing importance of CSR and environmental sustainability as critical components of India's corporate landscape.

7. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Conflict of interest declared none

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¹⁵ *El-Mallah, R.K.E.-D., Aref, A.A.e.H. and Sherif, S. (2023), "The role of social responsibility in protecting the environment – a case of the petrochemical companies in Alexandria Governorate", Review of Economics and Political Science, Vol. 8 No. 6, pp. 487-519. <https://doi.org/10.1108/REPS-04-2019-0052>*

¹⁶ *Environment Law, S.C Shastri, Sixth edition, Eastern Book Company*