

UNDERGROUND DISASTER: AN INVISIBLE ECOCIDE

DEBASIS PODDAR*

Abstract

In his forthcoming deliberation, the speaker is scheduled to unearth a least explored domain of the hitherto disaster management scholarship. The corpus of groundwater constitutes a common concern of humankind since the same is a natural heritage humanity is blessed with by default while this natural resource is subjected to aggressive human intervention with diversified means and methods, tools and techniques, to its jeopardy. Groundwater depletion and groundwater contamination, taken together, are two major tributaries toward slow-yet-steady peril of this natural resource.

The speaker hereby strives to offer the argumentative building blocks for his discursive castle with jurisprudent reasoning behind his proposition and thereby unfolds a trajectory of his own toward rights-based approach in favour of scientific natural resource management vis-à-vis groundwater. Last yet not least, the lawlessness and public policy paralysis vis-a-vis groundwater governance comprise the core of research foci for the speaker; followed by the emerging issues and challenges in the wake of corporate intervention (by means of extraction and destruction) of the groundwater reserve to the gross detriment of its sustainable usage by the generations, prevalent and prospective generations alike; thereby nearing the doomsday:

*“Water, water, every where
Nor any drop to drink.”***

* Professor of Law, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam.

** Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* (1798).