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Bengaluru: NGT wants to assess carbon footprint of city's glass-facade buildings

The NGT took note of the concern that glass facade buildings can reflect solar radiation into the surrounding areas

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The [National Green Tribunal \(NGT\)](#) has taken note of the concerns regarding the environmental impact of glass facades covering buildings in Bengaluru.

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... by the rate, SEIAA considers the environmental impact of large buildings and lays down
conditions while giving Environmental Clearance (EC). Kumar submitted two ECs issued by the
authorities in 2016 and 2019.

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facades ranges from 14,000 to 17,000 kWh per year, while in zones with eco-friendly buildings, it ranges from 1,300 to 1,500 kWh per person per year.

The use of lighting and air conditioning increases the buildings' carbon footprint, while air conditioning units have been found to emit chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) detrimental to the ozone layer.

The NGT took note of the concern that glass facade buildings can reflect solar radiation into the surrounding areas and directed the SEIAA-Karnataka to submit a detailed report with a scientific analysis of the issue. It also asked for an explanation as to why different rules were applied in the two clearances.

It also issued notices to the Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment Science, the state and Central pollution control boards and the Bureau of Indian Standards.

The petitioner also highlighted a report from the NYC Audubon, a community dedicated to the well-being of wild birds, which estimated that at least 90,000 birds crash into buildings in New York every year, with reflective glass being the primary culprit.

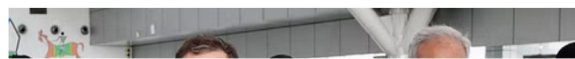
Kumar said he had approached the authorities to ban or restrict the glass facade but got no response.

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