media reports, however, show that people are still occupying the land of the fort, defying the courts' orders. One is not safe even in death, with court orders needed to stop the construction of a road through Azimpur graveyard.

The list is endless. But, while the problems are not new, recent initiatives by aware and concerned citizens and organisations seeking legal remedies have gained popularity. Under Article 102 of the Constitution, the High Court Division may give "directions or orders to any person or authority, including any person performing any function in connection with the affairs of the Republic, as may be appropriate for the enforcement of any of the fundamental rights conferred by Part III of th[e] Constitution" and may also direct "a person performing any functions in connection with the affairs of the Republic or of a local authority to refrain from doing that which he is not permitted by law to do or to do that which he is required by law to do".

With the authorised bodies failing to deliver, people and organisations have been forced to choose the last resort -- the courts. Public interest litigation or PIL is becoming increasingly popular in developing nations such as India and Pakistan where good governance is an everyday battle. "This is because people here do not abide by the law," says Advocate Manzill Murshid. "If they followed the law and performed their duties then there would be no need for PIL." However, in developed nations such as UK and US too, PIL is popular in terms of issues such as the environment.

