



आर पी गुप्ता  
R P Gupta



सचिव  
भारत सरकार  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
SECRETARY  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**D.O.No.2411/3/2020-GC**

**June 11, 2020**

I am writing this letter to apprise you of the major achievements and activities undertaken during the month of **May, 2020** in respect of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).

A telephonic meeting was held on 20.5.2020 between Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC and CoP-26 President and Secretary of State, UK, Mr. Alok Sharma. During the meeting, issues like India's position on NDCs, green recovery post Covid-19, collaboration between India and UK in areas of technology in order to facilitate a green resilient growth post Covid-19, climate finance, organizing of CoP-26 in autumn next year in Glasgow and holding of Joint Working Group (JWG) between India and UK on climate action were discussed.

On 22-05-2020, a virtual meeting of the GEF South Asia Constituency Meeting was held under the chairpersonship of Ms. Aparna Subramani, Executive Director, World Bank and Council Member for South Asia Constituency.

Group of Ministers (GoM) discussed the National Forest Policy, 2020 in meetings held on 21.4.2020 and 15.5.2020 and had approved the same with some suggestions. The Final Note for the Cabinet for approval of National Forest Policy 2020 was submitted on 21.5.2020 to the PMO and Cabinet Secretariat for consideration and approval.

Based on reports of ingress of African swine fever, advisories were issued to Zoos for prevention of Babesiosis in captive animals housed in zoos in the North Eastern Region. A copy of FAQs on science based facts and knowledge about wild animals, zoos and SARS-CoV-2 virus was also circulated for the benefit of zoos in the country.

Immediate approvals amounting to Rs. 2965.26 crores were granted to 17 states as per their Annual Plan of Operations (APOs) in the first instant, for carrying out essential plantation and other activities.

Scientists of Botanical Survey of India reported 4 novel plant species new to science and 3 plant species as new additions to the flora of the Country.

The International Day for Biological Diversity was celebrated on 22 May. A webinar with 25 experts from the Frontier Himalayan Region participated in the same. To commemorate the occasion, the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) organized a Slogan Writing Competition for school children through online mode.

The Steering Committee of National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS) met on 8.5.2020 through video conferencing wherein 17 projects including a State Government project was approved.

During the month, financial Assistance of Rs 67.728 lakh was granted to Government of Odisha for the Conservation and Management of Ansupa Wetland in Odisha.

During the Expert Appraisal Committee meetings held in May 2020, a total of 115 projects pertaining to different sectors were appraised. 26 projects were accorded environmental clearance. The status of environmental clearance and TOR of Projects for the month is at **Annexure-I**. (\*Number of projects appraised and number of projects cleared during the month are not correlated as the appraisal and grant of clearance of a project may not necessarily occur during the same month.)

In terms of Forest Clearances, during the month, 688.90 ha of forestland in 80 cases were approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for use for non-forest purposes. 222.13 ha of non-forest land and 989.74 ha of degraded forestland were earmarked for Compensatory Afforestation (C.A.).

Out of 662 Protected Areas (PAs) in the country, the Ministry has issued ESZ Notifications for 540 PAs, including Draft Notifications for 157 PAs and Final Notifications for 383 PAs. Further, ESZ notifications for **27 PAs** have been approved and are under process for publications.

Till 31st May, 2020, expenditure of Rs 242.99 Crores (Provisional) has been incurred against the Net budget estimate of Rs 3209.78 crores for FY 2020-21.

During May, 2020, 445 Public Grievances were redressed, while **253** Grievances remained pending.

Encl: as above

Yours sincerely,  
sd/-

[R P Gupta]

Shri Rajiv Gauba,  
Cabinet Secretary,  
Cabinet Secretariat,  
Rashtrapati Bhawan,  
New Delhi-110001

Copy to: The Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, PMO, South Block,  
New Delhi-110001.

Sd/-  
[R P Gupta]

Copy also to:

- i) PS to Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC
- ii) PS to Hon'ble Minister of State, EF&CC
- iii) All Ministries of Govt. of India

*Consultant (IT)*

*Geeta Menon*  
[Geeta Menon]  
Joint Secretary

**Status of Environment Clearance and Terms of Reference of Projects for the month of May, 2020**

	Industry-(I)		Industry-(II)		Thermal		River Valley & Hydro-Electric		Mining(Coal)		Mining(Non-Coal)		Infrastructure and Miscellaneous Projects + CRZ		New Construction Projects and Industrial Estates		Total	
	EC	TOR	EC	TOR	EC	TOR	EC	TOR	EC	TOR	EC	TOR	EC	TOR	EC	TOR	EC	TOR
No. of projects at beginning of the month	30	28	108	7	5	4	16	24	17	19	120	54	59	27	15	13	370	176
Projects received during the month/ respond	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	1
Projects cleared during the month	7	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	2	0	0	0	26	0
Projects converted from EC to TOR due change of scope	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Projects exempted during the month	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Project rejected during the month (on merit)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Project closed during the month (due to non-submission of info.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Projects withdrawn/ returned/ transferred/ duplicate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Projects kept in abeyance/ delisted	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
EDS raised during the month *	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	3	0	2	0	12	1
Pending at PP due to Additional details sought *	10	6	45	0	3	3	7	7	7	8	85	26	17	7	1	1	175	58
Projects pending at the end of the month *	31	28	112	7	5	4	16	24	18	19	120	55	59	26	15	11	376	174

\* The total pending projects does not include the projects which are pending due to EDS. However, the EDS proposals have been included in the projects received during the month.