



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

आर पी गुप्ता
R P Gupta

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

August 13, 2020

I am writing this letter to convey to you, the major highlights of the achievements and activities carried out during the month of July 2020, in respect of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).

On 7th July 2020, the Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, participated in the first virtual Ministerial on Climate Action, co-chaired by the European Union, China and Canada to advance discussions on the full implementation of the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), to demonstrate continued political commitment to global climate action.

The Hon'ble Minister highlighted India's commitment to successful implementation of climate actions and India's policies and programmes; including renewable energy expansion, energy efficiency measures, policy incentives for e-vehicles etc.

The Hon'ble Minister also called upon developed country parties to implement their commitments under UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement, especially the promise of mobilizing USD 100 billion per year by 2020.

On 7th July, 2020, the Hon'ble Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change participated in the opening plenary of Virtual Industry Transition Day. The key challenges and opportunities for transition to abate industries towards low carbon pathways to support the implementation of Paris Agreement and combating climate change were discussed.

The Environment Ministers of the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) participated in the 6th BRICS Environment Ministers' Meeting (held under the presidency of Russia) on 30 July 2020 via video-conference). The theme of the meeting was "Full Circle - 5 years of Environmental Cooperation in BRICS " Where are we now and what's next?

The National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) organized a pan India online summer vacation programme 2020 from 20.6.2020 to 24.7.2020. A you tube channel of NMNH has been created where educational and activity based videos by the museum are posted. E-certificates will be issued for completing the one month online summer vacation camp 2020.

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Financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 60.00 lakh was granted to the Wetland International South Asia (WISA) a Lead Technical Support Agency (LTSA) for the project titled "Integrated management of Wetland Biodiversity and Ecosystem services (IMWBES) under Global Environment Facility (GEF)".

During the month, two guidelines were issued under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The guidelines are regularly updated on MoEF&CC Website [www.parivesh.nic.in].

Extensive Plantation was done at Suryakunj Campus of the G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment on the occasion of Harela Diwas on 16.7.2020.

A meeting of the Steering Committee of the Centrally sponsored Forest Fire Prevention & Management Scheme was held under the Chairmanship of Shri Sisir Kumar Ratho, ADG(FC) through video conferencing for scrutiny of Annual Plan Operations (2020-21) of State Governments.

Piloting of National Transit Pass System (NTPS) [a National Portal for inter-state/ intra-state movement of timber, bamboo and other forest produce] was launched by Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC on 23.7.2020 through video conferencing.

The Search-cum-Selection Committee headed by a sitting Judge of Supreme Court of India, conducted interviews/interaction with candidates for filling up of six vacancies of Expert Members of National Green Tribunal on 25.7.2020.

Environmental Clearances: During the Expert Appraisal Committee meetings held in July 2020, a total of 130 projects pertaining to different sectors were appraised.

During the month, 47 projects were accorded environmental clearance and 31 projects were prescribed ToRs. Thus, a total of 78 proposals were cleared during the month. 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.*)

491.04 ha of forestland in 96 cases were approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for use for non-forest purposes during the month. 61.86 ha of non-forest land and 884.31 ha of degraded forestland were earmarked for Compensatory Afforestation (C.A.).

An expenditure of Rs 615.34 Crores (Provisional) has been incurred until 31st July 2020 against the Net budget estimate of Rs 3209.78 crores for FY 2020-21.

Out of 662 Protected Areas (PAs) in the country, the Ministry has issued ESZ Notifications for 548 PAs, including Draft Notifications for 162 PAs and Final Notifications for 386 PAs. Further, ESZ notifications for 23 PAs have been approved and are under process for publications.

During the month 551 Public Grievances were redressed and 84 Grievances were pending.

Yours sincerely,

Encl: as above

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) OSD 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 July, 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	21	25	94	12	4	1	11	17	11	10	44	40	43	9	16	7	244	121
Projects received during the month/ respond	13	10	46	20	0	3	0	3	3	3	6	14	11	10	6	3	85	66
Projects cleared during the month	3	7	16	18	1	0	1	2	0	0	8	3	15	0	3	1	47	31
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	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Projects kept in abeyance/ delisted	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	0	0	0	0	8	6
EDS raised during the month *	5	0	16	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	8	4	6	0	0	29	19
Pending at PP due to Additional details sought *	2	1	27	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	5	10	5	0	2	0	46	11
Projects pending at the end of the month *	26	17	99	6	3	3	12	17	15	9	36	36	35	17	20	4	246	109

* 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.