



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.2411/5/2021-GC

11th February, 2021

I am writing to you regarding the highlights of the achievements and activities of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) during the month of **January 2021**:

The 3rd meeting of Indo-French Joint Working Group on Environment was held on 18-19 January, 2021. The meeting was organized virtually wherein both sides discussed a wide range of Environmental issues.

A bilateral Meeting was held between Shri Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and Barbara Pompili, Hon'ble Minister for Ecological Transition, France on 28th January, 2021 at Indira Paryavaran Bhawan. In the Meeting, the Ministers deliberated on issues relating to climate change, bio-diversity, blue economy, etc.

An Indo-French Year of Environment was jointly launched by Shri Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Ms. Barbara Pompili, the French Minister for Ecological Transition on 28th January, 2021 at Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi. The basic objective of this initiative is to strengthen Indo-French cooperation in sustainable development, increase the effectiveness of actions in favour of global environment protection and give them greater visibility.

Under the Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP), 5 courses commenced and 3 courses culminated in the month of January, 2021.

The third-party independent evaluation of 12 Central Sector Schemes of the Ministry was completed, through 4 evaluating agencies, with the submission of the final reports by the agencies, to the Ministry. The Divisions concerned have been instructed to draft the SFC/ EFC Memorandum for each of the Schemes, as per the instructions of the Department of Expenditure.

The Regional Museum of Natural History, Mysore organized a one-day teacher training workshop on 10th January 2021 in collaboration with Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement (SVYM), Mysuru.

Scientists of the Botanical Survey of India reported 1 novel plant species new to science. During this month, BSI published 22 research papers in various international and national journals.

During the Expert Appraisal Committee meetings held in January 2021, a total of 104 projects pertaining to different sectors were appraised. During the month, 69 projects were accorded environmental

clearance and 58 projects were prescribed Terms of Reference (ToRs). Thus, a total of 127 proposals were cleared during the month. The status for the month in this regard 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.*)

During the month, 734.61 ha of forestland in 117 cases were approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for use for non-forest purposes. 280.46 ha of non-forest land and 945.03 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 554 PAs, including Draft Notifications for 132 PAs and Final Notifications for 422 PAs. Further, ESZ notifications for 20 PAs have been approved and are under process for publications.

An expenditure of Rs 1695.12 Crores (Provisional) has been incurred until 31st January 2020 against the Net budget estimate of Rs 3209.78 crores for FY 2020-21.

During the month 304 Public Grievances were redressed and 127 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.

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 January, 2021

	Industry-(I)		Industry-(II)		Industry-(III)		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	EC	TOR
No. of projects at beginning of the month	18	9	29	6	46	9	2	0	14	8	13	13	22	37	30	11	28	6	202	91
Projects received during the month/ respond	13	16	7	16	18	6	1	0	1	4	5	7	5	20	13	13	2	8	65	91
Projects cleared during the month	3	9	9	19	25	5	0	0	0	2	4	7	4	7	13	8	11	1	69	51
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	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	6	0	10	4
Projects kept in abeyance/ delisted	1	0	1	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	4	1
EDS raised during the month *	2	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	3	1	0	0	7	8
Pending at PP due to Additional details sought *	1	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	3	1	2	0	12	4	2	0	4	1	29	6
Projects pending at the end of the month *	26	14	28	2	35	9	3	0	17	10	13	8	27	34	26	8	20	11	195	96

* 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.