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

D.O. No.2411/8/2019-GC

Dated: 11th April, 2019

Following are the highlights of the achievements and activities of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) in the month of **March, 2019**:

1. **Rules / Notifications / Policy Decisions: NIL**
2. **Conferences/Workshops/Seminars and other activities:**
 - 2.1 The United Nations Environment Programme hosted the fourth Meeting of Open –Ended Committee of the Permanent Representatives (OECPR) in Nairobi, Kenya from 4-8 March, 2019. Representative from the Ministry participated in the meeting.
 - 2.2 4th Session of United Nations Environment Assembly held in Nairobi, Kenya from 11-15 March, 2019. The Indian Delegation was headed by Shri Rahul Chhabra, High Commissioner of India & Permanent Representative of India to UNEP.
 - 2.3 H.E. Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator, UNDP called on Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC on 14th March, 2019 and discussed various activities that UNDP is carrying out in the field of Environment and Climate Change in India.
 - 2.4 World Wildlife Day - 2019 was celebrated at National Zoological Park on 3rd March, 2019. The theme for this year was "Life below Water" focusing on marine species and the critical issues and values of marine wildlife to our everyday lives.
 - 2.5 Annual meet of Coordinators of South Delhi Municipal Corporation VIPNET Science Clubs was held on 27th March, 2019. The event was organized in collaboration with National Museum of Natural History and MoEF&CC.
 - 2.6 Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal and Bhopal Birds, jointly organized a painting competition on Save Sparrow for the students of schools and colleges in the association with MP State Biodiversity Board, Bhopal on 20th March, 2019 on the occasion of World Sparrow Day.
 - 2.7 Scientists of Botanical survey of India discovered *Syzygiumbournei* and *Tripogonparamijitianus* collected from the western Ghats of Tamil Nadu, as new to Science.

- 2.8 Arunachal Pradesh Regional Center, Itanagar organized the 3rd Capacity Building workshop on Long Term Monitoring of Himalayan Biodiversity for stakeholders of Himalayan Region at ZSI, Itanagar in association with ZSI Kolkata during 31st March, 2019 to 1st April, 2019.
- 2.9 International Day of Forests 2019 was celebrated at Forest Research Institute, Dehradun on 19.3.2019.
- 2.10 An exhibition space of 4200 sq ft had been taken at the Prayagraj Kumbh Mela 2019. The exhibition was a great success. It was visited by more than 4.5 Lakh people from 19.1.2019 - 4.3.2019.
- 2.11 Ministry finalized the concept note and layout for Development/creation of national portal for inter-state/intra –state movement of Timber and bamboo and its products.
- 2.12 A two member Indian Delegation led by DGF&SS participated in the Forest Europe Expert level meeting in Bratislava, Slovak republic from 19-20 March, 2019.

2.13 **Environmental Clearances:**

During the month, **135 projects** pertaining to different sectors were appraised and **46 projects were accorded environmental clearance** while **60 projects were prescribed TORs**. Thus a total of **106 proposals** were cleared during the month. The status of environmental clearance and TOR of Projects for the month of **March, 2019** is at **Annexure-I**.

2.14 **Forest Clearances:**

During the month, **736.55 ha of forest land** in **56 cases** approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. **368.82 ha of non-forest land and 909.42 ha of degraded forest land** earmarked for Compensatory Afforestation (C.A.).

2.15 **Total Expenditure:**

An expenditure of **Rs 2611.27 Crores (Provisional)** has been incurred until **31st March, 2019** against the Net budget estimate of **Rs 2683.42 crores** for FY 2018-19.

2.16 **Eco sensitive Zone**

Out of **651 Protected Areas (PAs)** in the country, the Ministry has issued ESZ Notifications for 508 PAs. This includes **Draft Notifications for 202 PAs and Final Notifications for 306 PAs**.

3. **Important policy matters held up because of prolonged inter-ministerial consultations: NIL**

4. **Compliance of CoS Decisions:**

No. of CoS decisions pending for compliance	Proposed action plan/time lines for compliance of CoS decisions	Remarks
Nil	Nil	Nil

5. Number of cases of 'sanction for prosecution' pending for more than three months: **NIL**

6. Particulars of cases in which there has been a departure from the Transaction of Business Rules or established policy of the Government: **NIL**

7. Details of cases in which ACC directions have not been complied with: **NIL**

8. **Status of Public Grievances:**

No. of Public Grievances redressed during the month	No. of Public Grievances pending at the end of the month
286	369

9. **Information on the specific steps taken by the Ministry/Department for utilization of the Space Technology based tools and applications in Governance and Development:**

Ministry has its own Decision Support System developed by FSI based on combining GIS platform and remotely sensed imagery obtained by Indian Satellite IRS P-6 Liss-III. This system is used for Wildlife, Biodiversity and Forest Management and decision-making related with these issues.

Yours sincerely,

Encl: as above

sd/-

[C.K. Mishra]

Shri P.K. Sinha,
Cabinet Secretary,
Cabinet Secretariat,
Rashtrapati Bhawan,
New Delhi-110001

Copy to:

The Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, PMO, South Block, New Delhi

sd/-

(C.K. Mishra)

Copy also to: i) PS to Hon'ble Minister, Environment, Forest & Climate Change.

ii) All Ministries of Govt. of India

Geeta Menon

[Geeta Menon]
Joint Secretary

Status of Environment Clearance and Terms of Reference of Projects for the month of March, 2019

	Industry-(I)		Industry-(II)		Thermal		RiverValley& Hydro-Electric		Mining (Coal)		Mining (Non-Coal)		Infrastructure and MiscellaneousProjects + CRZ		New Construction Project 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 the beginning month	49	42	149	41	3	6	25	16	26	32	35	75	103	31	43	15	433	258
Projects received during the month/ reopened	13	15	42	65	1	5	1	2	2	2	14	13	19	4	7	5	99	111
Projects cleared during the month	6	3	14	42	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	17	12	7	1	46	60
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
Projects rejected during the month (on merit)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Projects closed during the month (due to non-submission of inf.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Projects withdrawn/ Transferred/Returned/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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	20
Projects pending at the end of the month	44	49	142	55	4	10	26	14	23	26	32	52	91	22	42	18	404	246