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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 December, 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 **November, 2019**:

1 Rules / Notifications / Policy Decisions:

1.1 Four Guidelines were issued for diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 during the month of November 2019.

2. Conferences / Workshops/Seminars and other activities:

2.1 The Ministry participated in the 2nd meeting of the G20's Climate Sustainability Working Group (CSWG) adaptation program during 18-19 November 2019 at Bangkok, Thailand.

2.2 MoEF&CC attended the preparatory meeting of the Industry Track Leadership Group held in Stockholm during 19-21 November 2019 at Sweden.

2.3 The 2nd Meeting of Indo-French Joint Working Group on Environment (JWGe) was held at Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi.

2.4 First meeting of the Technical Committee constituted for the preparation of the National Elephant Action Plan was held on 26 November 2019 at MoEF&CC, New Delhi.

2.5 Under the Green Skill Development Programme, 11 courses commenced at various ENVIS Centers across the country while 3 courses were completed in November 2019.

2.6 An exhibition of posters/publications and a lecture session were organized by Centre for Biodiversity Conservation & Management (CBCM) under Dr. R. S. Toliya Forum in Dehradun from 15-17 November 2019.

2.7 National Museum of Natural History [NMNH] in collaboration with CMS Vatavaran organized quiz and poster making competition for school students as part of the 10th CMS Vatavaran- Asia's largest International Film Festival and Forum on Environment and Wildlife from November 27-30 2019 at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.

- 2.8 A Short Film Competition and Festival had been launched by the HMEFCC on 6th June 2019 at the Ashok, Chanakyapuri during the celebration of World Environment Day 2019. Film entries were called on the topic 'Pollution'. Short Film Festival was organized at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi from 27-30 November 2019.
- 2.9 A two days meeting of Chief Wildlife Wardens and Field directors of Tiger Reserves was organized by National Tiger Conservation Authority [NTCA] at Vigyan Bhawan on 14-15 November 2019.
- 2.10 Meeting for brainstorming session/workshop on man-tiger conflict involving Field Directors of Tiger Reserve, forest officials deployed in the tiger landscape adjoining tiger reserve, officials of other government and non-government conservation partners organization working in the mitigation of conflict etc. was held on 16 November 2019 by NTCA.
- 2.11 Scientists of Botanical Survey of India [BSI] recorded twenty new additions of Lichen plants from the A&N Islands, of which ten are reported for the first time from India. Besides, they also reported orchid species viz. *Oreorchis patens* for the first time from the Eastern Himalaya. During the month, scientists of BSI have undertaken eight botanical explorations in various parts of the country and collected 939 field numbers of plants under various research projects.
- 2.12 Donations were collected on the occasion of Flag Day from the officials of the Ministry on 25th November 2019.
- 2.13 Secretary, EF&CC read out Preamble to the Constitution of India on 26th November 2019 on the occasion of Constitution Day.

2.14 **Environmental Clearances:**

Number of projects appraised: During the Expert Appraisal Committee meetings held in **November 2019**, total of **129 projects** pertaining to different sectors were appraised.

Number of projects cleared: During the month, **38 projects** were accorded environmental clearance while **38 projects** were prescribed ToRs. So, a total of **76 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.*

2.15 **Forest Clearances:**

During the month, **1324.25 ha of forestland** in **64 cases** were approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for use for non-forest purposes. **198.96 ha of non-forest land** and **1897.31 ha of degraded forestland** were earmarked for Compensatory Afforestation (C.A.).

2.16 Total Expenditure:

An expenditure of **Rs 1791.20 Crores (Provisional)** has been incurred until **30th November 2019** against the Net budget estimate of **Rs 3062.72 crores** for FY 2019-20.

2.17 Eco sensitive Zone:

Out of **662 Protected Areas (PAs)** in the country, the Ministry has issued **ESZ Notifications for 527 PAs**, including **Draft Notifications for 161 PAs and Final Notifications for 366 PAs**. Further, ESZ notifications for **22 PAs** have been approved and are under process for publications.

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

4. Compliance of CoS Decisions:

No. of CoS decisions pending for compliance	Proposed action plan/time lines for compliance of CoS decisions
CoS/4560/8- MoEF&CC may follow up with Ministry of Steel to resolve the matter of fixing of reserve price of movable assets of A&N Islands Forest and Plantation Development Corporation by FSNL.	The e-auction for the movable assets of ANIFPDCL by M/s MSTC Ltd. was held on 20 th November 2019. The movable assets were divided into five lots. The bids have been approved only for two lots and bids rejected for two lots as bids quoted were lower than the reserve price. No bidders have been received for one lot. The re-tender of movable items will be held on 10 th December 2019.
CoS/2644/7 – Andaman & Nicobar Islands Forest & Plantation Corporation Ltd. Recommendation: (i) MoEF&CC may examine the possibility of transferring the management of the Corporation to the UT of A&N Islands. (ii) MoEF& CC may also consider diversifying mandate of the Corporation to bring in eco-tourism and renewable energy in consultation with M/o New and Renewable Energy and M/o Tourism. (iii) In case the above options do not fructify, MoEF& CC may consider closing the company by offering VRS/redeploying staff with the UT administration.	The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting dated 16 th August, 2017 approved the closure of Andaman & Nicobar Islands Forest & Plantation Corporation Ltd. (ANIFPDCL), Port Blair by offering VRS/VSS to all its employees and disposal of movable/immovable assets. The Ministry is implementing the closure plan of ANIFPDCL.

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 including brought forward
668	339

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

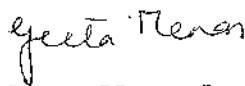
Copy to:

The Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, Prime Minister Office, South Block, New Delhi-110001.

Sd/-
[C.K. Mishra]

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


[Geeta Menon]
Joint Secretary

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

	Industry-(I)		Industry-(II)		Thermal		River Valley & Hydro-Electric		Mining (Coal)		Mining (Non-Coal)		Infrastructure and Miscellaneous Projects + 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 beginning of the month	43	38	174	32	7	5	35	28	30	27	85	53	85	20	29	13	488	1
Projects received during the month/ respond	15	16	38	67	0	2	1	4	8	3	13	16	6	12	10	5	91	1
Projects cleared during the month	2	6	17	21	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	3	19	1	0	2	38	1
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	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3	1
Projects kept in abeyance/ delisted	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	1
Projects pending at the end of the month*	43	41	163	67	6	6	33	29	33	24	75	52	66	28	32	14	451	1

* 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.