INDUCTION MATERIAL

INTERNAL WORK STUDY UNIT
MARCH 2020
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1. Historical background of the Ministry including National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board (NAEB)

1.1 Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (HQs)

1.1.1 The need for comprehensive and integrated view of environmental protection and improvement with emphasis on the sustainable use of natural resources for development was being felt by the Government from early seventies. A National Committee on Environmental Planning & Co-ordination (NCEPC) was, therefore, set up in 1972 to advise the Government on environmental problems and suggest solutions after consultation with experts and the Ministries/Departments concerned. However, the aspects of environmental protection did not receive the desired attention.

1.1.2 The Government, therefore, constituted a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri N.D. Tiwari, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, to recommend legislative measures and administrative machinery for ensuring environmental protection. The Committee submitted its report to the Prime Minister on September 15, 1980. One of the recommendations of the Committee related to setting up of a Department of Environment to provide explicit recognition to the pivotal role that environmental Conservation must play for sustainable national development.

1.1.3 Accepting this recommendation, the Government of India constituted the Department of Environment with effect from November 1, 1980, vide Presidential Notification No.CD-1016/80. In accordance with the Allocation of Business Rules, the Department of Environment was the focal point within the Government of India for subjects relating to environment and ecology. The work pertaining to the Botanical Survey of India, Zoological Survey of India and National Museum of Natural History being looked after by the Department of Science & Technology (DST) was transferred to the newly created Department of Environment. The scientific and technical staff from the Environment Division of the DST formed the nucleus of the new Department.

1.1.4 This Department became part of the new Ministry of Environment and Forest constituted by Presidential Notification No.74/2/1/85-Cab. dated 4th January, 1985, which consisted of two Departments, viz. Department of Environment and Department of Forest and Wildlife. The latter Department was constituted by transferring to it work relating to Forestry from the erstwhile Department of Agriculture and Co-operation and work relating to Wildlife from the Department of Environment.

1.1.5 In September, 1985, the two Departments were merged to constitute a single Department of Environment, Forest & Wildlife. In July, 1991 there was an amendment in the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 whereby the name of the Ministry of Environment & Forest (Department of Environment Forests & Wildlife) was substituted with Ministry of Environment & Forest. The name of Ministry of Environment and Forest was changed to Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change vide notification dated 31st July 2014.
1.2 NATIONAL AFFORESTATION AND ECO-DEVELOPMENT BOARD (NAEB)

1.2.1 In 1983, the Ministry of Agriculture announced the decision to set up a two tier Central Body, namely, the National Land Board and the National Land Resources Conservation and Development Commission, to serve as a policy planning, coordinating and monitoring agency for issues concerning healthy and scientific management of the country's land resources.

1.2.2 In 1985, with a view to place proper emphasis on the twin objectives of proper land use and development of Wastelands, the National Land Board was reconstituted as the National Land Use and Wastelands Development Council under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. Two separate bodies under the Council were set up as under:

1.2.3 The National Land Use and Conservation Board (NLUCB) to be located in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, New Delhi, replacing the existing National Land Resources Conservation and Development Commission.

1.2.4 National Wastelands Development Board (NWDB) to be located in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, New Delhi.

1.2.5 Consequent upon the formulation of the new Department of Wastelands Development in the Ministry of Rural Development and the transfer of the National Wastelands Development Board (NWDB) to that Department in the year 1992, it was decided, with the approval of the Prime Minister, to set up the National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board (NAEB) in the Ministry of Environment & Forest. This Board came into existence in August, 1992.

***
2. ROLE AND MANDATE OF THE MINISTRY

The Ministry of Environment & Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) is the nodal agency in the Central Government for overseeing the implementation of India’s environment and forest policies and programmes relating to conservation of the country’s natural resources including lakes and rivers, its biodiversity, forests and wildlife, ensuring the welfare of animals and prevention and abatement of pollution. While implementing these policies and programmes, the Ministry is guided by the principle of sustainable development. The Ministry is also the nodal agency for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP), International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). The Ministry also coordinates with multilateral bodies such as the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), Global Environment Facility (GEF) and regional bodies such as Economic and Social Council for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP) and South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) on matters pertaining to environment. National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) was constituted vide order dated 13.8.2009 primarily to lay down guidelines for State CAMPA, monitor/assist/recommend State CAMPA and resolve issues.

The broad objectives of the Ministry are:

- Conservation and survey of flora, fauna, forests and wildlife
- Prevention and control of pollution
- Afforestation and regeneration of degraded areas
- Protection of environment, and ensuring the welfare of animals.
- Facilitate activities related to India’s commitments and obligations with three Rio Conventions i.e. UNFCCC, UNCCD and CBD and related reporting process.

These objectives are well supported by a set of legislative and regulatory measures, aimed at the preservation, conservation and protection of the environment. Besides the legislative measures, a National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development, 1992, National Forest Policy, 1988, a Policy Statement on Abatement of Pollution, 1992 and a National Environment Policy, 2006 also guide the Ministry’s work.

Subject under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

The following items of work have been allocated to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change:
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(PARYAVARAN, VAN AUR JALVAAYU PARIVARTAN MANTRALAYA)¹

1. Environment and Ecology, including environment in coastal waters, in mangroves and coral reefs but excluding marine environment on the high seas.
2. Environment Research and Development, education, training, information and awareness.
3. Environmental Health.
5. Forest Development Agency and Joint Forest Management Programme for conservation, management and afforestation.
6. Survey and Exploration of Natural Resources particularly of Forest, Flora, Fauna, Ecosystems etc.
8. Omitted.²
8A Omitted.³
9. Wildlife conservation, preservation, protection planning, research, education, training and awareness including Project Tiger and Project Elephant.
15. National Forest Policy and Forestry Development in the country, including Social Forestry.
16. All matters relating to Forest and Forest Administration in the Union territories.⁴
17. Indian Forest Service.
18. Wild Life Preservation and protection of wild birds and animals.
19. Fundamental and applied research and training including higher education in forestry.
22. Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute, Bangalore.
23. Afforestation and Eco-Development which shall include National Afforestation and Eco Development Board.
23A. Bio-fuel plantations in forest, wastelands and environmental issues concerning bio-fuels.⁵
24. Desert and Desertification.
25. Forest Survey of India.
27. Central Pollution Control Board.

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¹ Modified vide Amendment series no. 306 dated 31.07.2014
⁴ Modified vide Amendment series no. 300 dated 26.02.2012
⁵ Inserted vide Amendment series no. 287 dated 12.07.2006
29. Wildlife Institute of India and Indian Board for Wildlife.
30. Indian Institute of Forest Management.
31. Central Zoo Authority including National Zoo Park.
32. Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education.
33. Andaman and Nicobar Islands Forest and Plantation Development Corporation Limited.
34. Omitted.¹
35. Omitted.²
36. Omitted.³
36A. Climate change and all other matters related thereto.⁴
37. Omitted.⁵
38. Omitted.⁶
39. Omitted.⁷
43. The Indian Forest Act, 1927 (16 of 1927).
44. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (53 of 1972)

NOTE:- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change will be responsible for overall policy in relation to forests, except all matters, including legislation, relating to the rights of forest dwelling Schedule Tribes on forest lands.⁹

¹ Omitted vide Amendment Series no. 349 dated 04.04.2019 (transferred to D/o Animal Husbandry and Dairying).
² Omitted vide Amendment Series no. 349 dated 04.04.2019 (transferred to D/o Animal Husbandry and Dairying).
³ Omitted vide Amendment Series no. 349 dated 04.04.2019 (transferred to D/o Animal Husbandry and Dairying).
⁴ Inserted vide Amendment series no. 306 dated 31.07.2014.
⁵ Omitted vide Amendment Series no. 349 dated 04.04.2019 (transferred to D/o Animal Husbandry and Dairying).
⁸ Inserted vide Amendment series no. 334 dated 06.07.2017.
⁹ Inserted vide Amendment series no. 285 dated 17.03.2006.
3. THE ORGANIZATION SET-UP OF THE MINISTRY:-

3.1 The Ministry comprises two main Wings, namely (i) Environment and (ii) Forest & Wildlife Wing. The Divisions/Sections/Cells etc. are grouped under these two Wings. Service Divisions/Sections/Cells etc. have been separately grouped in the third part. The following offices of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change:

- Ministry proper
- Civil Construction Unit (CCU)
- Regional Offices (10)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Headquarter of the Regional Office</th>
<th>State and UTs under jurisdiction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(i)</td>
<td>Bengaluru</td>
<td>Karnataka, Kerala, Goa and Lakshadweep</td>
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<tr>
<td>(ii)</td>
<td>Bhopal</td>
<td>Dadra &amp; Nagar Haveli, Daman &amp; Diu, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>(iii)</td>
<td>Bhubaneswar</td>
<td>Orissa and West Bengal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iv)</td>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andaman &amp; Nicobar Islands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(v)</td>
<td>Chandigarh</td>
<td>Chandigarh, Haryana, Jammu &amp; Kashmir and Punjab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(vi)</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>Himachal Pradesh &amp; Uttarakhand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(vii)</td>
<td>Lucknow</td>
<td>Delhi, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(viii)</td>
<td>Nagpur</td>
<td>Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ix)</td>
<td>Ranchi</td>
<td>Bihar and Jharkhand</td>
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<tr>
<td>(x)</td>
<td>Shillong</td>
<td>Arunchal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura</td>
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3.2 In addition to above, there is an Attached Office of the Ministry viz. National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board (NAEB)

3.3 The whole Ministry is depicted under two organization charts. The first chart (Annexure I) covers the seniors officers who are looking after the work of ‘Environment and Service Wings’ and the second chart (Annexure II) covers the seniors officers who are looking after the work of ‘Forestry’ and Wildlife’ Wings of the Ministry. The broad channel of submission of subjects amongst the officers is clear from these two organization charts.
3.4 **Subordinate Offices under the Ministry:-**

- Botanical Survey of India (BSI)
- Directorate of Forest Education (DFE) (State Forest Colleges & Rangers Colleges)
- Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun
- Indira Gandhi National Forestry Academy (IGNFA), Dehradun
- National Museum of Natural History (NMNH)
- National Zoological Park (NZP), New Delhi
- Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Kolkata

3.5 **Autonomous Organizations under the Ministry:-**

- Govind Ballabh Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, UP
- Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal.
- Indian Plywood Industries Research & Training Institute (IPIRTI), Bengaluru
- Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun.
- Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun. Various Institutes and Centres under ICFRE are as:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institutes under ICFRE</th>
<th>Centres under ICFRE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(i) Forest Research Institute, Dehradun</td>
<td>(i) Forest Research Centre for Skill Development, Chhindwara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii) Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur</td>
<td>(ii) Forest Research Centre for Bamboo &amp; Rattan, Aizawl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iii) Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur</td>
<td>(iii) Forest Research Centre for Eco-Rehabilitation, Prayagraj</td>
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<tr>
<td>(iv) Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla</td>
<td>(iv) Forest Research Center for Livelihood Extension, Agartala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(v) Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi</td>
<td>(v) Forest Research Centre for Coastal Eco-System, Visakhapatnam</td>
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<tr>
<td>(vi) Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(vii) Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(viii) Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(ix) Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru</td>
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3.6 **Authorities under the Ministry:-**

- Central Zoo Authority (CZA)
- National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)
- National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)

3.7 **Boards under the Ministry:-**

- Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)
- Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB)

3.8 **Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry:-**

- Andaman & Nicobar Islands Forest & Plantation Development Corporation Ltd.
3.9 **Tribunal under the Ministry:**

- National Green Tribunal (NGT)

3.10 **The Ministry has the following Centres of Excellence (CoE) in specific areas of specialisation:**

- Centre for Environment Education (CEE), Ahmedabad on ‘Environment Education’
- CPR Environment Education Centre (CPREEC), Chennai on ‘Environmental Awareness’
- Centre for Ecological Sciences (CES), Bangalore on Ecology of Western Ghats and Research
- Centre for Mining Environment (CME), Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad on ‘Mining Environment’
- Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON), Coimbatore on ‘Avian Ecology’
- Centre for Environmental Management of Degraded Ecosystem (CEMDE), Delhi University, Delhi on Management of ‘Degraded Ecosystem’
- Foundation for Revitalization of local health traditions (FRLHT), Bangalore on ‘Medicinal Plants & Traditional Knowledge’
- Madras School of Economics (MSE), Chennai on ‘Environmental Economics’
- Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (TBGRI), Thiruvananthapuram on ‘Conservation of Tropical Plants’

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4.0 ENVIRONMENT WING:

The Divisions/Sections/Cells etc. under Environment Wing and the main functions of each of these are as follows:-

1. Conservation and Survey (CS)
2. Impact Assessment (IA)
3. Control of Pollution (CP)
4. Hazardous Substances Management (HSMD)
5. Research in Environment (RE)
6. Environment Education (EE)
7. Economic Division
8. Statistics Division
9. Policy & Law (P&L)
10. International Cooperation (IC)
11. Clean Technology (CT)
12. Climate Change (CC)
13. Wetlands Division
14. Desertification Cell (DC)
15. Ozone Cell
17. Swachh and Swasth Bharat (SSB) Cell
18. Media Cell

4.1 CONSERVATION AND SURVEY (CS) DIVISION:

CS Division deals with the administration of Botanical Survey of India and Zoological Survey of India. It also deals with the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), Biodiversity Conservation and World Heritage sites, Convention on Biological Diversity, Regional Botanical Gardens, Wetlands, Mangroves, Biosphere Reserves, Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History and the National Museum of Natural History. The Division also deals with the regulation of products and processes derived from modern biotechnology and implementation of Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. There are three (03) Sections under Conservation and Survey Division.

4.1.1 Conservation and Survey (CS-I) Section:

- Biosphere Reserve Scheme (All matters pertaining to identification and designation of Biosphere Reserve, Formulation of strategies for the conservation of diversity of species and eco system in such reserves, Sanctioning of Management Action Plans submitted by State Forest Departments, Nomination of Biosphere Reserves on World network of Biosphere Reserves designated by UNESCO and thereafter submitting 10 years Periodic Review Report to UNESCO and Conduction workshops/meetings for BR Managers).
- Scheme on financial assistance to Botanical Gardens for ex-situ conservation for Rare Endemic Plants
- Conservation of Western Ghats and its ecological studies through Centre of Excellence namely
Centre for Ecological Sciences (CES) located at Bangalore.

- UNDP-GOI-CCFII Projects on Biodiversity Conservation and Medicinal Plants.
- All India Taxonomy Capacity Building Project.
- E.K.Janaki Ammal National Award for Taxonomy
- General issue w.r.t. Biodiversity Conservation including drafting of NBAP, inputs to IC Division on GEF-RAF on Biodiversity for India, other sect oral & regional projects on Biodiversity.
- Centre of Excellence on Medicinal.
- Plants & Traditional Knowledge at FRLHT, Bangalore.
- Workshop/Seminar/Training Programme on Mangroves, Coral Reefs, Coastal & Marine Biodiversity.
- India’s participation in IUCN-MEF Initiative.
- Establishment of National Institute for Research in Mangroves & Coastal Bioresources at Sunderbans, West Bengal.
- Parliament Questions, VIP references, miscellaneous.
- Ramsar Convention.
- National Wetlands Conservation Programme.
- SACON as Centre of Excellence.

MOUNTAIN CELL

The main objective of Mountain Cell is conservation of natural resources and to ensure environmentally sound development in Indian Himalayan Region (IHR). The Mountain Cell deals with the following work:

(a) Administration of G.B.Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment & Sustainable Development (GBPNIHESD), an autonomous Institute of MoEF&CC
(b) Promoting the National Mission of Himalayan Studies (NMHS) a Central Sector (CS) Grant-in-Aid Scheme of MoF&CC
(c) Co-ordinate with International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD).

(a) (i) Key functions of G.B.Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment & Sustainable Development (GBPNIHESD):

- Recommended as Central Data Management Agency (CDMA) for IHR by NITI Aayog.
- Coordinating the implementation of National Mission on Himalayan studies (NMHS) in IHR.
- Collaboration with the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE) for thematic research in the IHR.
- In-depth R&D studies/ projects/ trainings of the IHR through:
  - Integrated Eco-development Research Programme (IERP)
  - ENVIS Centre on Himalayan Ecology
  - Rural Technology Complex
  - Surya-Kunj: Ex-Situ Conservation and Nature Interpretation Site
(b) (ii) National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS):
- Launched in 2015 as a Central Sector scheme for the Conservation and Management of the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR).
- The focus of the Scheme is Demand Driven Action Research in the IHR and the thematic Areas are:
  i. Water Management
  ii. Livelihood Options and Employment Generation
  iii. Biodiversity Conservation and Management
  iv. Skill Development and Capacity Building

(c) (iii) Co-ordination with International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
- International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) is an international organisation located at Kathmandu
- It works for Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Himalaya with 08 (eight) member countries of the Himalayan Region as Facilitator- India, China, Nepal, Myanmar, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bhutan and Bangladesh.
- MoEF&CC is the Nodal Ministry and GBPNIHESD is the Nodal Agency for implementing the 6 Regional Programmes (RP) of ICIMOD in India

MoEF&CC and ICIMOD

a) Annual Contribution: Under collaborative agreement, each year MoEF&CC gives annual contribution to ICIMOD.
b) Transboundary Landscapes: ICIMOD is involved with three Transboundary Landscapes.

  I. Under Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation and Development Initiative (KSLCDI) ICIMOD is working with China, India & Nepal.
  II. In Kangchenjunga Landscape Conservation and Development Initiative (KLCDI) ICIMOD is working with Bhutan, India & Nepal.
  III. Hi-LIFE the Landscape Initiative for Far Eastern Himalayas (HI-LIFE) is a collaborative effort of ICIMOD and the Governments of ICIMOD and Government of India, China and Myanmar.

***

4.1.2 Conservation and Survey (CS-II) Section:

It deals with the matters related to Botanical Survey of India (BSI) and Zoological Survey of India (ZSI).

Botanical Survey of India (BSI): The Botanical Survey of India (BSI) is the premier research utilization under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, for carrying out taxonomic and floristic studies on wild plant resources of the country. It was established on 13th February, 1890 with the basic objective to explore the plant resources of the country and to identify the plants species with economic virtues. The BSI has 11 regional centers at Shillong, Dehradun, Jodhpur, Port Blair, Coimbatore, Allahabad, Itanagar, Pune, Sikkim, Noida and Hyderabad, and four
units namely, Central National Herbarium, Central Botanical Laboratory, Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Indian Botanic Garden and Industrial Section Indian Museum located at Kolkata/Howrah. The aims and objective of the department were redefined, reviewed during the year 1987 and survey and exploration of plant resources and inventorisation of threatened species, publication of National and State Floras and development of National database were given top priority. In addition, the Botanic Garden of India Republic, at Noida is being developed on 163.76 acres of land and would serve as a nodal centre for conservation research and environmental education. It also aspires to develop into one of the most uniquely landscaped botanic gardens of modern times. The main objectives of the BSI are as follows:

- Exploration, inventoring and documentation of phytodiversity (including non-flowering plants) in general and protected areas, hotspots, fragile ecosystems and sacred groves in particular; publication of National, State and District Floras.
- Identification of Red list species and species rich areas needing conservation; *ex situ* conservation of critically threatened taxa in botanical gardens.
- Survey and documentation of traditional knowledge (ethnobotany) associated with plants.
- Develop a National database of Indian plants, including herbarium specimens, live specimens, botanical paintings /illustrations.

**Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) :** The Zoological Survey of India is the premier research organization under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India involved in the study of all kinds of animals from Protozoa to Mammalia. It was established on 1st July, 1916 with focus on baseline surveys, inventorisation, identification, indexing, cataloging, maintenance, upkeep of fauna and publication of faunal resources of the country, environmental impact assessments, habitat explorations, conservation and to promote awareness issues through participation in national and international advisory programmers and to build regional capacity projects. The head-quarters of the organization is located at Kolkata with 16 Regional Centers at Shillong, Pune, Dehradun, Jodhpur, Chennai (2 Regional Centres), Patna, Jabalpur, Port Blair, Hyderabad, Solan, Kozhikode, Gopalpur, Itanagar, Canning and Digha. The main objectives and activities of ZSI are as follows:

- Exploration, Survey, Inventorisation and Monitoring of faunal diversity in various states, some selected ecosystems and protected areas of India.
- Taxonomic studies and status surveys of all Threatened and Endemic species.
- Preparation of Red Data Book, Fauna of India and Fauna of States.
- Bio-ecological studies on some important communities/species.
- Preparation of database for the recorded species of the country.
- Publication of study- results, including documentation of Fauna of India and Fauna of States.

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4.1.3 **Conservation and Survey (CS-III) Section:** Under CS-III Section, there are two sub – divisions, namely

(i) CS-III (Biodiversity) and

(ii) CS-III (Biosafety)
**CS-III (Biodiversity):** It handles the following work:

1. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
2. Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)
3. Biological Diversity Act (BD Act) and National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)
4. Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)
5. National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) and National Biodiversity Targets (NBTs) and its implementation strategies
6. National reports to CBD
7. Projects on biodiversity implemented through NBA
   i. UNEP-GEF-MoEFCC ABS Project on Strengthening the Implementation of the Biological Diversity Act and Rules with Focus on its ABS Provisions
   ii. UNDP managed global project on Biodiversity Finance Initiative
   iii. Capacity Development of Statutory Institutions for Effective Implementation of the ABS Mechanism in India under Indo-German Biodiversity Programme
   iv. NBA-ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity Cooperation project entitled Capacity building towards implementing the Nagoya Protocol on ABS
   v. UNDP ABS global project on implementation of Nagoya Protocol
   vi. FAO TCP project on Strengthening Agriculture and Allied Sector Contributions to India’s NBAP and NBTs
   vii. ICLEI project on INTERACT-Bio: Integrated sub-national action for Biodiversity-Supporting implementation of National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

**CS-III (Biosafety):** It handles the following work:

1. Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB)
2. Nagoya Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress (NKLSPLR)
3. Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) which is be responsible for approval of proposals relating to release of genetically engineered organisms and products into the environment including experimental field trials and approval of activities involving large scale use of hazardous microorganisms and recombinants in research and industrial production from the environmental angle.

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**4.2 IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IA) DIVISION**

Impact Assessment (IA) Division deals with policy matters relating to Environmental Impact Assessment and its implementation. It includes appraisal of projects, Research and Training in the area of Impact Assessment. There are three sections in the IA Division dealing with different sectors.
Impact Assessment Division is one the divisions of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change which deals with the consideration of application for environment clearance under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 as amended from time to time.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a planning tool to integrate the environmental concerns into the developmental process right at the initial stage of planning. It ensures that the envisaged development is sustainable and addresses to the needs of the public at large for whose benefits it is aimed at. EIA essentially refers to the assessment of environmental impacts likely to arise from a project.

EIA in India started as early as 1978 with river valley projects. It was subsequently extended to large public sector projects requiring PIB clearance. EIA Notification came into existence on 27th January, 1994 requiring prior environmental clearance for 29 categories of projects/processes listed there under. It was subsequently enlarged to 32 categories. The notification provided the projects to obtain environmental clearance based on investment criteria (originally it was Rs.50 crores, which was enhanced to Rs. 100 crores). Public hearing was introduced on 10th April, 1997.

Review of EIA Notification, 1994 was undertaken based on recommendations of a project by World Bank as well as by Govindrajan Committee on Disinvestments. From the review it inter-alia emerged that;

- The procedure under EIA Notification, 1994 is too cumbersome
- Disproportionate information is sought
- It is time consuming.

Taking into account the recommendations, a new EIA Notification was issued on 14th September, 2006 mandating prior environmental clearance for:

(i) All new projects/activities listed in the Schedule;
(ii) Expansion and modernization of existing projects or activities listed in the Schedule with addition of capacity beyond the limits specified for the concerned sector, that is, projects or activities which cross the threshold limits given in the Schedule, after expansion or modernization; and
(iii) Any change in product – mix in an existing manufacturing unit included in Schedule beyond the specified range.

The projects / activities covered thereunder are based on their environment impact potential rather than investment criteria as in EIA Notification, 1994.

**Objective of EIA Notification, 2006**
The objective of EIA Notification, 2006 is to formulate a transparent, decentralized and efficient regulatory mechanism to:

- incorporate necessary environmental safeguards at planning stage,
- involve stakeholders in the public consultation process, and
- identify developmental projects based on impact potential instead of the investment criteria.
The EIA Notification, 2006 categorized all the projects in two categories namely; Category ‘A’ and Category ‘B’ based on the spatial extent of potential impacts on human health and natural and manmade resources. The Category ‘A’ projects are appraised at the Central Level in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change in consultation with the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC), while the Category ‘B’ projects are appraised at the State level i.e., State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authorities and Committees (SEIAAs and SEACs). The EAC/SEAC is a multi-disciplinary Committee constituted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change in terms of the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 entrusted with the responsibility of appraisal of the projects. The salient features of the EIA Notification, 2006 are as under:

(i) Comprehensive coverage of the category of projects and processes, which would require prior environmental clearance from the concerned regulatory authority.
(ii) Categorization of projects and processes into two categories namely; Category A and Category B, based on the spatial extent of potential impacts and potential impact on human health and natural and man-made resources.
(iii) Decentralized system of decision-making.
(iv) Four stages in the prior environmental clearance process for new projects namely Stage-I Screening, Stage-II Scoping, Stage-III Public Consultation and Stage-IV Appraisal.
(v) Structured approach to public consultation and integration of public concerns in the EIA report.
(vi) Improvement in the quality of EIA documents.

Procedure:

For seeking environmental clearance, application has to be made in the prescribed Form-1 along with a copy of the pre-feasibility project report to the competent authority based on the project category. The EIA process consists of four stages namely, Stage-I Screening, Stage-II Scoping, Stage-III Public Consultation and Stage-IV Appraisal. The EAC and the SEAC screen, scope and appraise the projects. During the scoping process the EAC/SEAC determine detailed and comprehensive Terms of Reference (TORs) addressing all relevant environmental concerns / parameters for the preparation of the EIA report.

Based on the TORs, the applicant is required to prepare a draft EIA report. The draft EIA report is placed before the public during public consultation for integration of public concerns in the EIA report. The suggestions made by the public during public consultations are thereafter incorporated in the EIA report. Thus the final EIA report so prepared is submitted to the regulatory authority for appraisal. Based on the recommendations of the EACs/SEACs, a decision on the project is taken.

The EIA Notification, 2006 has also prescribed a time limit for appraisal of projects under the provisions thereof. According to this, a time period of 30 days is specified for prescribing the TORs; 45 days for public consultation; 60 days for appraisal; and 45 days thereafter for communicating the decision to project proponent.

The work of Impact Assessment Division is currently distributed among three Joint Secretaries. The Sector wise distribution of work including the details of Expert Appraisal Committee (EACs) is as under:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>EAC</th>
<th>Chairman</th>
<th>Date of Constitution</th>
<th>Concerned Joint Secretary</th>
<th>Member Secretary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Industry-I</td>
<td>Dr. Chhavi Nath Pandey</td>
<td>13.11.2018</td>
<td>Shri S.K. Bajpayee</td>
<td>Shri A. K. Agrawal, Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Industry-2</td>
<td>Dr. J.P. Gupta</td>
<td>04.12.2018</td>
<td>Shri S.K. Bajpayee</td>
<td>Dr. R.B. Lal, Scientist ‘E’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mining (Non-Coal)</td>
<td>Dr. Satish R Wate</td>
<td>02.01.2019</td>
<td>Shri S.K. Bajpayee</td>
<td>Shri Sundeep, Scientist ‘E’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Coal and Thermal</td>
<td>Dr. Navin Chandra</td>
<td>09.12.2016</td>
<td>Ms. Geeta Menon</td>
<td>Thermal – Dr. S. Kerketta, Scientist ‘F’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coal – Dr. R.B. Lal, Scientist ‘E’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>River Valley and Hydro Power</td>
<td>Prof. Sharad Kumar Jain</td>
<td>16.12.2016</td>
<td>Ms. Geeta Menon</td>
<td>Infrastructure – Shri Raghu Kumar Kodali, Scientist ‘F’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CRZ – Shri W. Bharat Singh, Scientist ‘F’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Infrastructure (Industrial Estate, Road, Highways) &amp; CRZ</td>
<td>Dr. Deepak Arun Apte</td>
<td>09.12.2016</td>
<td>Shri Arvind Kumar Nautiyal</td>
<td>Infrastructure – Shri Raghu Kumar Kodali, Scientist ‘F’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CRZ – Shri W. Bharat Singh, Scientist ‘F’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Infra-II</td>
<td>Prof. T. Haque</td>
<td>07.06.2019</td>
<td>Shri Arvind Kumar Nautiyal</td>
<td>Shri Subrato Bose, Scientist ‘F’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Nuclear, Defence and related proposals</td>
<td>Shri Pratyush Sinha</td>
<td>26.12.2018</td>
<td>Shri S.K. Bajpayee</td>
<td>Dr. Shruti Rai Bhardwaj, Scientist ‘E’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Violation</td>
<td>Dr. Satish R Wate</td>
<td>06.06.2017</td>
<td>Ms. Geeta Menon</td>
<td>- Shri Raghu Kumar Kodali, Scientist ‘F’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the Category ‘B’ projects following SEIAAs/ SEACs have been constituted by the Ministry for grant of environment clearance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>States/ Uts</th>
<th>Date of Re-constitution of SEIAA/SEAC</th>
<th>Date of expiry of SEIAA/SEAC</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Assam</td>
<td>01.03.2017</td>
<td>28.02.2020</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>05.04.2018</td>
<td>04.04.2021</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>29.06.2018</td>
<td>28.06.2021</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Daman, Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli</td>
<td>11.05.2017</td>
<td>10.05.2020</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Goa</td>
<td>28.06.2017</td>
<td>27.06.2020</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>28.06.2017</td>
<td>27.06.2020</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Haryana</td>
<td>30.01.2019</td>
<td>29.01.2022</td>
<td>Present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Streamlining Measures

In order to follow the principles of good governance (transparency, rationality, accountability, reduction in time and costs, participation, and regulatory independence), MoEFCC has taken following initiatives to streamline the environment clearance process:

I. USE OF ICT: Ministry has mandated online submission of applications for Terms of Reference (TORs) and Environment Clearance (EC) with the objective to reduce delays:

- w.e.f. 1st July, 2014 in MoEFCC
- w.e.f. 2nd July, 2015 for category ‘B’ projects by SEIAA; and
- w.e.f. 28.06.2016 for category ‘B2’ projects by DEIAA

II. Decentralization of Clearance Process: In order to realize greater decentralization, State level and District level agencies were empowered by providing greater responsibility for environmental regulation and management.

- General Conditions for Category B project to become Category A reduced from 10 km from PA, CPA, ESZ to 5 Km – more projects will be appraised at State level.
• TPP [1(d)] up to 15 MW based on biomass or non-hazardous municipal solid waste using auxiliary fuel such as coal, lignite/ petroleum products upto 15% exempted from EC and more than 15 MW will be Category ‘B’.
• Non-Molasses based industry [5(g)], the threshold limit raised from 30 kld to 60 kld (< 60 kld) to be appraised as Category ‘B’.
• Mineral Beneficiation projects [2(b)] threshold limit for Category ‘B’ raised from 0.1 MTPA to 0.5 MTPA (<0.5 MTPA throughput).
• Delegated power at the district level headed by District Magistrate or District Collector for mining of minor minerals including sand mining for mine lease area upto 5 ha. For individual lease and 25 ha. In cluster.
• Constituted DEIAA and DEAC.

III. Facilitating Faster Infrastructure, Industrial & Educational Growth:
- All highway projects [7(f)] in border States exempted from scoping requirement.
- All linear projects in border States exempted from the requirement of public hearing subject to suitable conditions.
- Finalized thirty nine sector specific manuals along with the model Terms of References (TORs) and uploaded on Ministry’s website for the benefit of all stakeholders.
- Standard TORs enable the project proponent to commence preparation of an EIA report after successful online submission and registration of the application. Additional ToRs, if any has to be prescribed in 30 days by EACs/SEACs, failing which automatic TORs issued to PP.
- Advisory issued to EACs/SEACs to consider the proposal comprehensively at the scoping stage and seek information in one go from the proponent instead of revisiting the issues at the time of appraisal of the project.
- Exemption from PH for expansion of coal mining up to 6 MTPA.
- Cases will be considered for EC even if the data in EIA report is slightly older than 3 years if EAC has recommended.
- Documents required for evidence of possession of land for consideration of EC – Govt. initial Notification and consent of land owners.
- Construction of industrial shed, school, college, hostels for education institution are exempt from the requirement of EC under EIA Notification, 2006.
- Clarified that industrial sheds implies building(whether RCC or otherwise) which is being used for housing plant, machinery of industrial units and include Godowns and buildings connected with production related and other associated activities of the unit in the same premise.
- Projects granted CRZ Clearance under 1991 Notification will not require clearance under Notification of 2011.
- If a Port as a whole has obtained EC, individual berths, dredging etc. will not require separate EC.
- Validity of ToR raised to 4 years for all projects and 5 years for HEP.
- Validity of environment clearance increased from 5 years to seven years without altering the overall validity of ten years.
- Public hearing exemption provided for the existing pellet plants.
- Transfer of environment clearance of cancelled coal block to legal person to whom such block is subsequently allocated without referring to EAC/SEAC.
• Preparation and presentation of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) report and Environment Management Plan by the accredited Consultants.

IV. Post project monitoring of Environment Clearance conditions:

(i) The project proponent submits six monthly self monitoring report of the project to regional Office of the Ministry and site inspection carried out by the Regional Office of MoEFCC.

(ii) Compliance of the conditions stipulated while granting environmental clearance (EC) is being monitored by the ten Regional Offices of MoEFCC.

(iii) In addition to the regular monitoring, on need basis Joint site inspections are also being carried out by the Regional Offices of MoEFCC along with respective State Pollution Control Board and Central Pollution Control Board, as and when required.

(iv) All the Regional Offices of MoEFCC has been provided separate user ID and password to upload the six monthly monitoring reports received from the project authority and is being uploaded.

Impact Assessment Division has divided the works according to the specific sector into three Sections namely,

• Impact Assessment (IA-I)
• Impact Assessment (IA-II)
• Impact Assessment (IA-III)

Impact Assessment (IA-I) Section dealing with the following work:

• Hydropower & River Valley Projects for Environmental Clearance
• Thermal Projects for Environmental Clearance
• Defence Projects for Environmental Clearance
• Nuclear and Strategic Projects for Environmental Clearance
• Post monitoring of all projects for compliance of EC conditions

Impact Assessment (IA-II) Section dealing with the following work:

• Industrial Projects for Environmental Clearance
• Coal Mining Projects for Environmental Clearance
• Non-Coal Mining Projects for Environmental Clearance
• Court matters related to Industry, Coal Mining and Non-Coal Mining Projects
• Uploading of TOR/EC/Amendment and other letter on the website of Ministry

Impact Assessment (IA-III) Section dealing with the following work:

• Environment Clearance for the Project related to Infrastructure, Industrial Estates and Building / Construction under EIA Notification, 2006
• CRZ Clearance for the Project under CRZ Notification, 2006
• Environment Clearance for the project related to violation of EIA Notification, 2006
• Constitution/ re-constitution of State Coastal Zone Management Authority
• Constitution/ re-constitution of SEIIA/SEAC at State level
• Policy matter relates to Impact Assessment Division
• Uploading the EC/ToR/OM on the website

**Pro Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive and Virtuous Environmental Singlewindow Hub (PARIVESH)**

PARIVESH is a workflow based application which has been rolled out for online submission, monitoring and management of proposals submitted by Project Proponents to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India as well as to the State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAA) to seek various types of clearances such as Environment, Forest, Wildlife and Coastal Regulation Zone Clearances. It automates the entire process of submitting the application and tracking the status of such proposals at each stage of the processing.

PARIVESH was launched by the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India during the World Biofuel Day celebration held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 10th August, 2018. It is being implemented in two phases, the first phase was for facilitating the online submission of proposals and tracking the status of such proposals at each stage of the processing. PARIVESH has been implemented both at the Centre and the State level. The implementation of PARIVESH has reduced the time taken for granting EC to about 105 days.

The phase two of PARIVESH involves online processing of these proposals subsequent to finalization of minutes by the EAC/SEAC and involving approval by the competent authorities (hitherto done on physical files) through the PARIVESH portal. The phase two of PARIVESH is being implemented in the State level since 16th August, 2019.

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**4.3 CONTROL OF POLLUTION (CP) DIVISION:**

There are 2 Sections in CP Division dealing with the following work.

**4.3.1 Control of Pollution (Air):**

- Administration of Air Act.
- Air Pollution/Noise Pollution
- National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) scheme
- Monitoring and implementation of activities of High Level Task Force (HLTF)
- Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP)
- Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP)
- Certification of air quality monitoring instruments/equipment
- Public Outreach and Complaint Redressal
- Vehicular Pollution and related issues
- Source Apportionment Studies
- Industrial Pollution
- Monitoring and survey of 17 highly polluted industries and Critically Polluted Area
- Corporate Responsibility for Environmental Protection (CREP)
- Loss of Ecology Authority
• National award for prevention and control of pollution
• Matters relating to Custom Duty Exemption
• The Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority for NCR (EPCA)
• Taj Trapezium Zone (TTZ) and Taj Trapezium Zone Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority
• Emission Trading Scheme
• Appeals under Air Act
• National Air Quality Index

4.3.2 Control of Pollution (Water):

• Administration of Water Act. Residuary matters related to Water Cess Act. (Since repealed)
• Water Pollution including Marine Pollution
• Comprehensive Environmental Protection Index (CEPI)
• Environment Health
• Recognition of private laboratories under EPA 1986
• Assistance for Abatement of Pollution Scheme
• Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP) Scheme
• Grants in aid, Bilateral and Multilateral programs of CPW
• Training programs on Overseas Development Agencies (O.D.A)/ World Health Organization (WHO)
• All works relating to coordination of CP Division
• Formulation and notification of Environmental Standards
• Administrative and financial matters of CPCB
• Bilateral multilateral programs

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4.4 HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES MANAGEMENT (HSM) DIVISION

The Hazardous Substances Management (HSM) Division is the nodal point within the Ministry for management of chemical emergencies and hazardous substances. The main objective of the Division is to promote safe management and use of hazardous substances including hazardous chemicals and hazardous wastes, in order to avoid damage to health and environment. The activities of the division are carried out in main thrust areas, viz., Chemical Safety; Management of Hazardous Wastes, e-waste, Municipal Solid Waste, Plastic Waste, Bio-medical Waste, C & D waste and Fly Ash Utilization. Major programmes/activities are as follows:

Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016
• Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 have been notified on 8th April, 2016 and applicability has been extended beyond municipal areas to urban agglomerations, census towns, notified industrial townships, etc. The source segregation, door to door collection of waste has been mandated to channelize the waste for useful purposes such as recovery, reuse and recycle.

E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016
• E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 have been notified on 23 March 2016 and applicability has been extended to manufacturer, dealer, refurbisher, e-retailer and Producer Responsibility
Organization (PRO) to address leakage of e-waste to informal sector at any stage of the chain.

**Hazardous Waste Management**
- The Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 has been notified on 4th April 2016 incorporating waste management hierarchy in the sequence of priority i.e. prevention, minimization, reuse, recycling, recovery, co-processing and safe disposal. This rules shall apply to the every occupier of the facility who is engaged in handling, generation, collection, storage, packaging, transportation, use, treatment, processing, recycling, recovery, pre-processing, utilization, offering for sale, transfer or disposal of hazardous and other wastes.

**Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016**
- Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016 have been notified with the objectives to improve segregation, collection, processing, treatment and disposal of infectious bio-medical waste in an environmentally sound and safe manner. These rules are applicable to all persons who generate, collect, receive, store, transport, treat, dispose, or handle bio medical waste in any form including hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, dispensaries, veterinary institutions, animal houses, pathological laboratories, blood banks, ayush, hospitals, clinical establishments, research or educational institutions, health camps, medical or surgical camps, vaccination camps, blood donation camps, first aid rooms of schools, forensic laboratories and research labs.

**Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016**
- Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 have been notified on 18th March, 2016. These rules apply to the manufacture, import stocking, distribution, sale and use of carry bags, plastic sheets or multilayered packaging etc. The jurisdiction of applicability of the rules have been expanded from municipal area to rural areas as well. For the first time, responsibility of waste generators has been prescribed. Individual and bulk generators like offices, commercial establishments, industries are to segregate the plastic waste at source, handover segregated waste, pay user fee as per bye-laws of the local bodies.

**Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste Management Rules, 2016**
- For the first time the Government has notified Construction & Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2016. The rules apply to everyone who generates construction and demolition waste such as building materials, debris, and rubble waste resulting from construction, re-modeling, repair and demolition of any civil structure of individual or organization or authority.

**Fly Ash Notifications**
- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has issued first Notification on 14th September, 1999 which has subsequently been amended in 2003, 2009 and 2016. Fly ash notification mandates the use of fly ash for the purpose of manufacturing ash-based products such as cement, concrete blocks, bricks, panels or any other material or for construction of roads, embankments, dams, mines backfilling/stowing, agriculture etc.

**Chemical Safety**
- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals (MSIHC) Rules, 1989 and the Chemical Accidents

The Division is also the nodal point for the following four International Conventions viz. Basel Convention on Control of transboundary movement of Hazardous waste and their disposal; Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent Procedure for certain Chemicals and Pesticides in International trade; Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Minamata Convention on Mercury and Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management.

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4.5 RESEARCH IN ENVIRONMENT (RE)

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is classified as a ‘Scientific Ministry’ under the Government of India. Since its inception in 1985, the Ministry has been funding research through grants-in-aid projects to many research institutions in different areas under the broad ambit of environment protection and management. The Ministry has brought out guidelines for revised scheme on Research & Development (R&D) for Conservation & Development (2017-2020). The R&D Scheme for Conservation and Development is an important Decision Support System for Policy and Planning of the Ministry’s programmers and activities incorporating the key objectives for addressing environmental problems and measures for conservation and protection of environment by building indigenous capacities and strengthen manpower in multi-disciplinary aspects and new and emerging areas of environment and ecology, generating information for taking policy decisions, preparedness and basis for international negotiations, supporting basic and applied research in environment, ecology and related fields, and to facilitate database management on Research projects undertaken under the scheme on relevant thematic areas of the Ministry.

R&D for Conservation & Development has been rationalised by dropping certain sub-scheme components such as Bio-safety (shifted under Conservation and Survey), Assistance to Botanical Gardens (shifted under Conservation & Survey), Taxonomy Capacity Building (TCB) also known as “All India Coordinated Project on Taxonomy” (AICOPTAX) (shifted under Botanical and Zoological Survey of India under Conservation & Survey) and merging National Natural Resource Management System (NNRMS) with R&D Scheme. An MIS portal has also been launched for the Scheme – https://repmismoef.nic.in/. The important thematic areas of R&D Scheme include:

i. Biodiversity Conservation including Issues of Alien and invasive species and Human wildlife Interface.
ii. Ecosystems Conservation & Management (Mountain, Forest, Coastal, Wetlands, Pastoral, etc) and Evaluation of Ecosystem Services.
iii. Socio-economic issues of environment and Sustainable Development.
iv. Conservation and Management of Landscapes and Ecologically sensitive areas including issues of sustainable livelihoods.
v. Sustainable Management of Natural Resources.
vii. Pollution Prevention – Clean Technologies and Processes, Cleaner Production, 3Rs, Resource Efficiency, Waste Minimisation and Management, etc.
viii. Use of remote sensing technology for inventorisation, assessment and monitoring of country’s natural resources such as land, water, forests, wetlands, glaciers etc. and for environmental conservation and protection on areas given above.

The research projects enable the Ministry to build database for finding practical solutions to problems of environmental protection and management and to generate information and knowledge from outcome of R&D projects used for developing policies, strategies, action plans and in better management and conservation of natural resources.

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4.6 ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION (EE)

The Environmental Education, Awareness and Training (EEAT) Scheme is Central Sector Scheme launched during financial year 1983-84 which aims to promote environmental awareness and mobilize student’s participation for environment conservation.

Five programmes operational under the EEAT Scheme are as follows:

i. National Green Corps (NGC) – “Ecoclub” Programme
ii. National Nature Camping Programme (NNCP)
iii. Capacity Building Activities (CBA) on EEAT Scheme
iv. Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE)
v. Green Good Deeds (GGDs)

- **National Green Corps (NGC) Programme:** MoEF&CC embarked upon a major initiative for creating environmental awareness among children by formulating National Green Corps (NGC) in 2001-02. There are around 1,00,000 Ecoclubs across the country. A financial assistance of Rs 5,000/- per school and college is provided under this programme. The following activities are undertaken:

  - Awareness on solid waste management (waste segregation into biodegradable and non-biodegradable) through establishing 2-Bins in schools— (1) Blue Bin for dry waste like Paper waste, Glass waste, E-waste and (2) Green Bin for wet waste.
  - Celebration of important environmental days in schools such as World Environment Day, World Wetland Day, Earth Day, etc. by organising debates, quiz, slogan competitions, drawing/poster competitions etc, on the related theme.
  - Plantation drives in and around the school campus
  - Cleanliness drives

- **National Nature Camping Programme:** The ‘Nature experience’ to children and teachers has huge potential to trigger the sensitivity towards nature appreciation and conservation, leading to positive environmental actions at different levels. Under this programme field visits (nature camps) are organised in different protected areas/ Nature parks/Tiger Reserves of the country for 3 days to create awareness amongst school/college students on environment and nature. The activities undertaken includes ‘Apna Paryavaran Janiye’ (Know your Environment)
by preparing small checklist of flora and fauna seen/spotted by them in the nature trail, Bird watching, Trekking, Green Pledges, Group Discussion involving record/sharing of experiences and Other nature based activities

- **Capacity Building Activities:** The objective of this programme is to support capacity building activities and to impart skills to students (schools and colleges) and teachers of Eco-club on various thematic areas like Bio-diversity conservation, Waste Management and concept of 4Rs – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle & Recover; Sustainable Development Goals, Climate Change related issues with focus on Adaptation and Mitigation, Control of pollution and any other related theme of MoEF&CC.

- **Globe Programme:** The Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Programme – an international Science and Education programme – provides a unique opportunity to the school students to carry out various measurements so that they can learn about scientific protocols and perform environmental learning activities. GLOBE provides grade level appropriate, in disciplinary activities and inventions about the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and pedosphere, which have been developed by the scientific community and validated by teachers. The programme which focuses on Hands-on-approach based environmental learning and has tremendous potential in enhancing the quality of Environment Education.

- **Green Good Deeds:** Green Good Deed movement is a social movement with an aim to bring about mass environmental awareness among society. Ministry intends to reach every citizen in the country who shall adopt green good deeds in his daily life. With this preamble, the GGDs has been initiated through schools/colleges under National Green Corps “Eco-club” programme of Ministry.

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### 4.7 ECONOMIC DIVISION

The Environment Information Division, Trade & Environment Division, Economic Cell, DBT Cell and GST Cell have been merged under the Umbrella Division, “Economic Division” since 10.4.2019. The Economic Division is headed by the Economic Adviser working under the supervision of the Senior Economic Adviser/Principal Adviser. It is responsible for the following areas of work (handled by the erstwhile Divisions/Cells):

(a) **Environment Information System (ENVIS)**

The Environmental Information System (ENVIS) Scheme serves as a single-stop web-enabled repository of comprehensive environmental information with collection, collation, storage, retrieval and dissemination of the same through a nationwide network of ENVIS Hubs(hosted by the Environment/ Forest Department of State Governments/ UT Administrations) and ENVIS Resource Partners(RPs) (hosted by environment related governmental and non-governmental organizations/institutes of professional excellence).
The Economic Division handles the following areas of work related to the revamped ENVIS Scheme, after termination of the XIIth Five Year Plan:

i. Promote, implement and coordinate Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP), an initiative to skill youth in environment, forest and wildlife sectors and enabling them to be gainfully employed or self employed.

ii. Implement and coordinate National Environment Survey (NES) – a Grid-based Resource Information and Decision Support System (GRIDSS) for sustainable management of natural resources. The survey would be conducted at the district level to fill in data gaps in respect of various environmental parameters such as emission inventory and pollution; forest and wildlife (flora and fauna); wetlands; rivers and other water bodies; public health etc.

iii. Build a repository and dissemination centre in Environmental Science, Information and Management.

iv. Periodic convening of the meeting of Steering Committee to review the functioning of the Scheme.

v. Review and approval of Annual Plan of activities of each of 67 ENVIS Hubs/RPs across the country, set up for providing scientific, technical and semi-technical information on various environmental issues.

vi. Monitoring and overseeing the functioning of ENVIS Hubs/RPs

vii. Updation and maintenance of an ENVIS Portal connecting all ENVIS Hubs/RPs.

viii. Coordination of and conducting annual performance review of each ENVIS Hub/RP independently and also through a National Evaluation Committee on both thematic issues and Status of Environment and Related Issues.

ix. Updation and maintenance of India State-Level Basic Environmental Information Database (ISBEID) to collect, compile and disseminate State/Uts environmental information in 17 modules and 110 sub modules covering 617 parameters at the state/district level on a centralized server.

x. All financial matters relating to the scheme.

(b) Trade & Environment (T&E)

- Coordinating formulation of Ministry’s views/ position on trade-related matters referred to it by other Ministries, including issues related to Regional/ Bilateral/ Multilateral Trade Agreements on environmental, ecology, wildlife and forestry issues, Trade Policy Review of India by WTO.

- Acting as Nodal Division within the Ministry to deal with references received from M/o Commerce & Industry relating to Trade & Environment including Cabinet/ Cabinet Committee/ Committee of Secretaries matters.

- Coordinating MoEF&CC inputs on Bilateral investment agreements/investment protection agreements/ international negotiations and other trade related matters referred to MoEF&CC.

- Representation in Committees constituted by Department of Commerce on Bilateral/ Plurilateral/ Multilateral negotiations in Environmental Goods and Services.

- Coordinating matters related to relevant areas considered/reviewed by National Committee on Trade Facilitation (NCTF) headed by the Cabinet Secretary, wherein Secretary, EF&CC is a Member.

(c) Matters related to Economic management and reforms

- Nodal Division for matters referred by the Department of Economic Affairs, including Notes
for Cabinet/ Cabinet Committee/ Committee of Secretaries.

- All matters having a bearing on internal and external economic management in the Ministry and reforms in the environment and forest sectors.
- Appraisal of environment friendly proposals related to fiscal incentives and recommending appropriate proposals for inclusion in the Union Budget.
- Providing inputs/ material for the Economic Survey.
- Nodal Division to monitor implementation of specific announcements in the Union Budget concerning Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- Parliament Questions on policy matters.

(d) Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)

Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) is a major reform initiative launched by the Government of India to re-engineer the existing cumbersome delivery processes using modern Information and Communication Technology (ICT). This programme aims to transfer benefits directly into the Aadhaar seeded bank/ postal accounts, of targeted beneficiaries. The DBT Mission, Cabinet Secretariat has launched a DBT Bharat Portal for overall monitoring of the progress of the schemes, on-boarded, Ministry-wise.

- The Division acts as the nodal point between the Ministry of EF&CC and the DBT Mission, Cabinet Secretariat.
- It spearheads the work of on-boarding various schemes on DBT Bharat Portal (www.dbtbharat.gov.in).
- It constantly engages with the DBT Mission, Cabinet Secretariat to ensure that the eligible schemes of the Ministry are DBT compliant.
- It is responsible for managing strict deadlines and coordinates with all Divisions in the Ministry for regular updation of progress on DBT Bharat Portal.
- Officers of the Division attend regular interactive sessions and review meetings with the DBT Mission on Aadhaar Act and DBT on-boarding. It also organizes interactive meetings in the Ministry with the members of the DBT Mission on reporting of progress, requirement of database of beneficiaries; IT related services required for linking with DBT Bharat portal etc. for officials in the Ministry handling Schemes on-boarded on the DBT Portal.
- The Division is responsible for ensuring the following for the DBT Applicable schemes of the Ministry:
  i. 100% Electronic transfer of benefits
  ii. 100% Aadhaar based transfers
  iii. Development and maintenance of MIS for all DBT schemes of the Ministry
  iv. Curbing pilferage and duplication of benefits, both cash and in kind.

(e) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

- Responsible for examining requests received regarding an increase/ decrease in applicable tax rates in the post-GST period, compared to the pre-GST tax regime and taking up the same with the GST Council.
- Consolidate comments on representations received from various Industrial Associations,
institutes, organizations and individual entities etc. The proposals are examined in consultation with the Divisions concerned and recommendations are forwarded to GST Council for their consideration.

- Offers support/ training material for GST that may be requested from time to time by various stakeholders and acts as a liaison between the Ministry and GST Council/ Department of Revenue.

Any other matters assigned to the Division.

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4.8 STATISTICS DIVISION

Official statistics provide an indispensable element in the information system of a democratic society, serving the Government, the economy and the public with data about the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation. To this end, official statistics that meet the test of practical utility are to be compiled and made available on an impartial basis by official statistical agencies to honour citizens’ entitlement to public information. To retain trust in official statistics, the statistical agencies need to decide according to strictly professional considerations, including scientific principles and professional ethics, on the methods and procedures for the collection, processing, storage and presentation of statistical data.

The statistical system is laterally decentralised among the Ministries of the Government of India (GOI). Each Ministry/Department inter alia should maintain relevant databases and also undertake monitoring and evaluation of all the concerned projects and programmes. Statistics Division in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change liaisons with all divisions of the Ministry and, where necessary, its subordinate offices and autonomous institution to strengthen the process of collection, validation processing and interpretation of statistical data. The Division coordinates with the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) and Central Statistics office to provide technical inputs on development of official Statistics in line with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. The Division supports MoSPI in publishing ENVISTATS which is a Compendium of Environment Statistics and published annually.

Environment statistics support evidence-based policy making by enabling the identification of environmental issues and the objective quantification of measures and impacts of policy initiatives. With countries now on the path of 2030 agenda for sustainable development, the ambit of environment statistics needs to cover all components of environmental issues. The scope of environment statistics covers biophysical aspects of the environment and those aspects of the socio-economic system that directly influence and interact with the environment. The main products of environment statistics are – (a) detailed environment statistics series; (b) environmental accounts; and (c) environmental indicators.

Statistics Division of the Ministry undertakes the following tasks:

- To liaise with all divisions of MoEF&CC and, where necessary, its subordinate offices and autonomous institution to strengthen the process of collection, validation processing and interpretation of statistical data.
• Coordinating preparation of State of Environment Report at National/State/District Level
• Statistics Division supports MoSPI for publication of ‘EnviStats’ - a publication by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), based on FDES Framework. Statistics Division provides inputs on behalf of the Ministry for the publication.
• Coordinate and represent the Ministry in UNSD/UNEP’s consultations on Global Environment Outlook, System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA), Ecosystem Accounting, FDES, SDG Global indicator development and data flow and other environment statistics related matters and surveys.

**Implementation of (Sustainable Development Goals) SDGs in the Ministry**

SDG Coordination Unit under Statistics Division coordinates the implementation of SDGs and related frameworks in the ministry. The following are the role of SDG Coordination unit.

• Overall coordination of SDG implementation in the Ministry.
• Coordination of metadata, baseline data and data flow with Divisions.
• Coordination with NITI Aayog, MoSPI and Custodian Agencies of SDG Global Indicators.
• Presenting Ministry’s consolidated proposals in High Level Committee of MoSPI for SDG indicator refinement.
• Capacity Development in respect of SDG implementation in the ministry
• Technical support for metadata and refinement of indicators.
• Publication of Ministry’s SDG reports.
• Parliament questions on SDGs

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**4.9 POLICY & LAW (PL) Division**

Policy and Law Division of the Ministry handles mainly the following subjects:-

• The PL Division allocates funds under “National Green Tribunal and Others” to the following three components:
  1. National Green Tribunal (NGT)
  2. Dahanu Taluka Environment Protection Authority (DTEPA)
• The establishment matters of the NGT are handled in PL Division. The establishment matters in respect of Dahanu Taluka Environment Protection Authority and Loss of Ecology Authority are handled in ESZ Division and CP Division respectively. The PL Division allocates Budget to these two authorities.

**National Green Tribunal (NGT)**

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was set up on 18th October, 2010 under the NGT Act, 2010 for the purpose of effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources including enforcement of any legal
right relating to environment and giving relief and compensation for damages to persons and property and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

NGT has five places of sitting i.e., the Principal Bench at New Delhi and Zonal Benches at Pune, Kolkata, Bhopal and Chennai.

The present Chairperson of the Tribunal, Hon’ble Justice Shri Adarsh Kumar Goel, Judge of the Supreme Court of India was appointed with effect from 06th July, 2018 for a period of five years, or till he attains the age of seventy years, whichever is earlier. Judicial Members of the Tribunal are drawn from Judiciary while Expert Members are experts in physical and life sciences, and engineering including persons having practical knowledge and administrative experience in the field of environmental policy and regulation. At present, the Chairperson, 4 Judicial and 2 Expert Members are working in the Tribunal. The process for appointment of seven (07) Expert Members against vacant posts is in progress, under the Interim Search-cum-Selection Committee constituted under chairmanship of a sitting Judge of Supreme Court of India, in NGT. An Advertisement has been published in the National Dailies for calling applications to fill up vacant posts of six (06) Judicial Members in the Tribunal.

Legal Monitoring Cell (LMC)

Policy and Law Division also monitors the Court cases pertaining to Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. For effective monitoring of Court cases in the Ministry a Legal Monitoring Cell was constituted under PL Division to monitor the progress of Court cases and also to act as an effective coordinator with various Divisions of the Ministry regarding Court cases. A centralized Legal Information Monitoring and Briefing System (LIMBS) was developed by Ministry of Law & Justice. Regular updation of the Status of all Court Cases is being carried out on this Portal.

India Code Portal (ICP)

Policy and Law Division also administers the uploading of all the Acts and Subordinate Legislation pertaining to MoEF&CC in the newly designed website India Code Portal (ICP) developed by Ministry of Law & Justice, in order to bring all the Acts, Rules, Notifications, Regulations, Circulars, Statutes, Ordinances, Orders etc. of the Government of India on a single platform for use and information of general public.

Eco Mark Scheme

It is a Scheme of Labelling of Environment Friendly Products and was launched in 1991 by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change vide Government of India Resolution dated 21.02.1991. A Steering Committee to be chaired by Secretary, MoEF&CC was constituted vide Ministry’s order dated 06.03.1991 to decide the products to be taken up for labelling as environmental-friendly and to formulate the strategies for the promotion and future development of the scheme.

The Eco-labelling Scheme, has been given an impetus to align it with emerging market demands and increased environmental awareness among the consumers and producers/ manufacturers. Self-Certification has been initially envisaged for enabling faster Eco-labelling process. The products
are required to adhere to compulsory quality standards specified by BIS, as a pre-requisite to Eco-labelling. The composition of the Steering Committee was substituted by Resolution dated 19.12.2016.

A Technical Committee to be chaired by Chairman, CPCB was also constituted vide Ministry’s order dated 06.03.1991 to identify the specific products to be selected and the individual criteria to be adopted. The Technical Committee was reconstituted vide Ministry’s order dated 17.01.2017. Ecomark Scheme is administered by BIS under the BIS Act, 1986 with support of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to assess and certify the products.

The main Objectives of the Ecomark Scheme/Criteria are:

- To provide an incentive for manufacturers to reduce adverse environmental impact of products.
- To reward genuine initiatives by companies to reduce adverse environmental impact of their products and processes.
- To assist consumers to become environmentally responsible by providing sufficient information to take account of environmental factors in their purchasing decisions.
- To encourage citizens to purchase products, which have less harmful environmental impact.

Ecomark Scheme initially launched the following 17 product categories:

i. Soaps and Detergents
ii. Paints
iii. Paper
iv. Plastic
v. Cosmetics
vi. Textiles
vii. Batteries
viii. Wood Substitutes
ix. Propellants and aerosols
x. Food items (edible oils- including Vanaspati, tea and coffee)
xi. Electrical and electronic goods
xii. Packing/packaging materials
xiii. Lubricating/speciality oils
xiv. Drugs
xv. Food preservatives and additives
xvi. Pesticides
xvii. Leather

The Notification for the revised Ecomark Criterion on Coir and Coir Products was published in the Gazette of India dated 18.09.2018.

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4.10 INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION (IC) DIVISION

The International Co-operation Division has two sections IC-I and IC-II.
4.10.1 International Cooperation I (IC-I)

- IC.I Section within the Ministry coordinates all issues related to multi-lateral international environment cooperation.
- IC Division is the Nodal Division for United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and regional bodies like Economic and Social Commission for Asia & Pacific (ESCAP), South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC), South Asia Cooperation Environment Programme (SACEP), Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Asian Development Bank (ADB), Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE).
- PAGE launched by UN in 2013 under Goal 8 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to support those countries wishing to embark on greener and more inclusive growth trajectories. India has joined PAGE in 2018.
- IC.I Section deals with International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- IC.I Section makes annual contribution to UNEP and IUCN.
- IC.I Section is associated with SWITCH-Asia. SWITCH-Asia is the largest Programme funded by the European Union (EU) to promote sustainable consumption and production (SCP) in Asia.

4.10.2 International Cooperation. II (IC-II)

- The primary function of IC.II section is to deal with bilateral, country to country cooperation in the areas of environment protection. This include: - Entering into Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs)/ Agreements for environment cooperation with different countries. – Constitutions of Joint Working Groups – Holding Joint Working Group Meetings – Dealing with other bilateral issues
- Handling budget matters for international level
- Processing matters of international conferences/ seminars on environment that are organized by various organizations and giving them NOC from environment angle for holding the event
- Procurement of Gift items to be exchanged with foreign delegations/ dignitaries by the Minister/Senior Officers of this Ministry.
- Project proposals to be posed to Government of Japan for JICA/JBIC assistance under ODA loan package (forwarded to Department of Economic Affairs) after examination and approval.
- Facilitation bilateral meetings between Hon’ble MEFCC and Ministers/ Ambassadors/Senior Officers of Foreign Governments
- Any other matters involving deliberation/examination at international level
- Handling matters pertaining to India-Canada Environment Fund (ICEF) Society.
- Supporting GEF Cell
- Supporting GIZ Cell
- A Resource Efficiency (RE) Cell is functional in order to streamline all RE related initiatives/activities under one umbrella. RE is a key element of sustainable development. National Resource Efficiency Policy is being formulated.

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4.11 CLEAN TECHNOLOGY (CT)

Introduction and objectives: A grant-in-aid scheme on Development and Promotion of Clean Technologies was initiated in 1994. Clean Technologies, are distinct from “end-of-pipe” abatement
technologies, minimizing the generation of waste streams in the production processes and utilize waste from other consumption goods and production processes, rather than treating the waste after generation. In general, clean technologies are less intensive in use of raw materials and energy, than conventional technologies, which rely on pollution abatement after generation. For this reason, they may also offer significant cost advantages to the producer.

The main objective of waste minimization is to optimize the consumption of raw materials and also reduce waste generation by adopting production techniques which are cleaner in nature and which can be adopted by the existing units without necessarily changing the production processes or unit operations. The approach to the problem is towards utilizing the existing production facilities in an optimal manner. The purpose of the scheme was to assist primarily the Small and Medium Scale units which do not have access to the requisite technical expertise.

The Ministry of Environment & Forests merged the abovementioned two sub-schemes on clean Technologies and waste minimization respectively and to streamline the process of project submission, appraisal, monitoring along with strengthening industry research linkage to ensure adoption of technologies/strategies developed, with a focus on small and medium sector.

The Objectives of the Scheme were:

I. Identification of priority areas and development of appropriate economically viable clean technologies and waste minimization strategies for small scale and medium scale industries through interface with industry, R&D establishments and academic institutions.

II. Promotion and adoption of clean technologies and waste minimization strategies by the industry/industrial clusters through setting up of pilot/demonstration projects on prototype development,

III. Absorption and up-gradation of imported clean technologies and their demonstration through pilot projects.

Activities undertaken since the inception of the scheme in 1994, important activities undertaken include;

   I. Demonstration projects for Development of Cleaner Technologies,
   II. Life Cycle Assessment,
   III. Carrying Capacity Studies,
   IV. Creation of database for Clean Technologies,
   V. Training programmes for Adoption of Clean Technologies etc.
   VI. Development of Clean Technology Park for showcasing important cleaner technologies.

The Scheme was reviewed by Evaluation Committee on Review of Plan Schemes implemented in XIIth Five Year Plan and has been discontinued by the Ministry on the basis of committee
recommendations and funding to only ongoing projects is to be provided. The emphasis of the Division is to complete the ongoing projects under the Scheme.

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4.12 CLIMATE CHANGE (CC)

MoEF&CC is the Nodal Ministry for Climate Change issues at national and international level. Climate Change Division is the focal point for formulation and implementation of all domestic and international actions relating to climate change in the country. The Division is responsible for scientific and technical assessment of climate change and related institutional and policy making efforts. Domestic response to the issues relating to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), its Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement including the international negotiations and interactions there under are coordinated by the Division. The Division prepares the national inventory of GHGs, makes assessment of the vulnerability impacts of climate change and monitors/reports them to UNFCCC through National Communication. The division is also complying with the decision relating to submission of Biennial Update Report (BUR). It acts as the host country authority for the international clean development mechanism set up under the Kyoto Protocol of the UNFCCC and monitors the CDM and clean energy related issues. It is also the NDA for Green Climate Fund.

- The Ministry is acting as the nodal/coordinating point for the NAPCC and implementation of the various Missions/ Initiatives envisaged in the NAPCC. “33 States / UTs have Submitted the State Action Plan on Climate Change in line with the objectives of the NAPCC to enhance the domestic action to combat the adverse impacts of Climate Change.

- Prime Minister Council on Climate Change (PMCCC) is chaired by Hon’ble Prime Minister which provides oversight for formulation of action plans in the area of assessment, adaptation and mitigation of Climate Change and periodically monitors key policy decisions.

Further an Executive Committee on Climate Change (ECCC) under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary to the Hon’ble Prime Minister reviews and does regular monitoring of eight National Missions under NAPCC along with other initiatives on Climate Change.

Climate Change Action Programme comprises of the following activities: -

- Coordination of National Action Plan on Climate (NAPCC)
- Facilitation of State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC)
- National Carbonaceous Aerosols programme (NCAP) and Black Carbon
- Long term Ecological Observatories for Climate (LTEO)
- Coordinated Studies on Climate Change for North-Eastern Region (NER)
- Appraisal of Project proposal for Green Climate Fund
- National Adaptation Fund
- International negotiations and contributions under UNFCCC which includes ADP sessions, BASIC Ministerial Meetings, Conference of Parties, Green Climate Fund meetings, Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change meetings, like minded Developing Countries meetings, Major Economics Forum meetings, Petersberg Climate Dialogue, BASIC countries meetings, SAARC countries meetings, World Bank related issues including PMR meetings being some of the important ones.
- Capacity Building –comprising of Scientific and Legal studies, Low carbon growth issues, CDM and REDD+ matters, Matters related to Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate change,
Green Climate Fund, Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), National Clean Energy Fund etc.

- National Institute for Climate Change Studies and Action (NICCSA)
- Bilateral matters with countries like Australia, Brazil, Egypt, France, German, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Spain, United Kingdom, United States of America including European Union. Also bilateral and multilateral projects (GIZ, DFID, UNDP)
- Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- National Communication (NATCOM) to UNFCCC
- Biennial Update Report Meeting (BUR)

4.13 WETLANDS DIVISION

The Wetlands Division of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) aims to conserve the wetlands in the country which sustain rich biodiversity and provide wide ranging ecosystem services for societal wellbeing. The Ministry is currently implementing a Centrally sponsored scheme namely, National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic ecosystems (NPCA) for Conservation and Management of Wetlands in the country on cost sharing basis between Central Government and respective State Governments.

2. The scheme aims at holistic conservation and restoration of wetlands including lakes for achieving the desired water quality enhancement, besides improvement in biodiversity and covers various activities such as interception, diversion and treatment of wastewater, shoreline protection, lake front development, in-situ cleaning i.e. de-silting & de-weeding, storm water management, bioremediation, catchment area treatment, lake beautification, survey & demarcation, bio-fencing, fisheries development, weed control, biodiversity conservation, education and awareness creation and community participation.

3. The regulations, rules and guidelines for conserving the wetlands are also issued by the division. For effective conservation and management of wetlands in the country, MoEF&CC, Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules, 2017 have been notified, superseding the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010.

4. The division also looks after the Ramsar Conservation and other works associated with it. The ‘Convention on Wetlands’, signed in Ramsar, Iran in 1971 is an intergovernmental treaty which provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. The Convention’s mission is ‘the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards
achieving sustainable development throughout the world’. Under the “three pillars” of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to:

- work towards the wise use of all their wetlands;
- designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the “Ramsar List”) and ensure their effective management;
- co-operate internationally on trans-boundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species.

5. India became a party to the Convention on 01.02.1982 and has so far designated 37 wetlands covering an area of 10,67,939 hectares under the List of Wetlands of International Importance which include 10 new sites designated during CFY. The main advantages of joining Ramsar Convention are that it:

- Encourages international cooperation
- Brings access to expert advice and latest information
- Opportunity for getting internationally accepted standards such as guidelines on applications of wise use of wetlands and various wetland conservation themes
- Gains priority access to funding within international financing mechanism such as Global Environment Facility and Ramsar Small Grants Funds
- Presents an opportunity for a country to make its voice heard at the international and the Government level
- Recognizes the contribution of the Government to conservation of biodiversity if global significance

6. National level celebration of World Wetlands Day (WWD) is organized on 2\textsuperscript{nd} February of each year on selected wetlands to raise awareness among all sections of the society about values and functions of wetlands and utilization of their resources. This year, it was celebrated at Sur Sarovar Bird Sanctuary, also known as Keetham Wetland (Uttar Pradesh).

7. Besides the above, educational & awareness activities are also organised which includes Regional and National level workshops.

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4.14 DESERTIFICATION CELL

The Cell undertakes and coordinates activities of all matters relating to desertification and land degradation including U.N. Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).

Objectives:

a) Coordination with UNCCD for reporting desertification and land degradation (DLD) status and other related issue every four years.

b) Network and forge strategic partnerships for strengthening inter-ministerial coordination, build scientific and technical capacity and facilitating knowledge sharing by bringing diverse stakeholder groups viz. scientific organizations, Civil Service Organizations together for
carrying out activities for combating desertification, mitigating the effects of droughts and achieving LDN in India, by 2030 in line with Target 15.3 of SDGs.

c) Taking up demonstrative Pilot Projects on monitoring and measurement of relevant indicator referred by UNCCD of Land degradation neutrality assessment in partnership with line ministries, scientific organizations, Civil Service Organizations.

d) Training, Capacity Building and consultative workshops on sustainable practices on land-water-food-energy nexus for reducing and arresting land degradation.

e) Development of a desertification website for the country incorporating a GIS based monitoring and knowledge management system for facilitating regular monitoring, decision making and policy processes.

f) Awareness generation through conferences, workshops celebration of World Day to Combat Desertification (WDCD).

g) Documentation, Dissemination and promotion of case studies and best practices to expedite informed policy decisions related to Sustainable Land Ecosystem Management Projects and LDN 2030.

h) Developing India’s position on different issues related to UNCCD by participating in COP, scientific conference and other important events arranged by the Convention.

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4.15 OZONE CELL

- The Government of India has entrusted the work relating the Ozone layer protection and implementation of the Montreal Protocol to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.

- The Ministry has set up the Ozone Cell as a National Ozone Unit to look after and to render necessary services to implement the Protocol and its Ozone Depleting Substance (ODS) phase-out programme in India. The Ministry has also established an Empowered Steering Committee (ESC) Chaired by the Secretary (EF&CC) which is supported by two standing committees, Technology and Finance Standing Committee (TFSC) and Standing Committee on Monitoring. These Committees are responsible for implementation of the Montreal Protocol provisions, review of various policy and implementation options, project approvals and monitoring.

- Customs and Excise duty exemptions on goods required for ODS phase-out projects and new investment with non-ODS technology.

- Submission of data on production, consumption, export, import of ODSs, to the Ozone Secretariat.

- Organization of awareness activities at the national and state levels to sensitize the stakeholders to phase-out the ODS in various sectors.


- Preparation of projects for conversion to non-ODS technology in various sectors.

- Apart from monitoring, the Ozone Cell supports awareness programmes, training and capacity building exercise research studies on matters related to ODS phase out in India.

- India has taken new initiatives under the Montreal Protocol Framework. These comprise development of an India Cooling Action Plan to address the cooling requirement across sectors, while providing for ways and means to provide access to sustainable cooling to all the
citizens of the country over the period of next 20-years. The ICAP provides short, medium and long term recommendations across different sectors while providing linkages with various programmes of the Government aimed at providing sustainable cooling and thermal comfort for all. The thrust of the India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP) is to look for synergies in actions for securing both environmental and socio-economic benefits.

- A project to undertake upskilling and certification of 100,000 Refrigeration and Air-conditioning (RAC) service technicians on good servicing practices and knowledge of alternative refrigerants to ozone-depleting chemicals has been initiated, to be implemented jointly by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY).

- In association with the World Bank, UN Environment (UNEP), UNIDO, UNDP and Bilateral agencies, Ozone Cell is implementing the following project:
  - CFC Production Sector Phase-out project in India.
  - Halon Production Sector phase-out project in India.
  - Foam Sector Phase-out Project.
  - Commercial Refrigeration Sector (Manufacturing)
  - National CFC Consumption phase-out Plan (NCCoPP)
  - National CTC Phase-out Plan
  - Aerosol Sector Phase-out Project
  - HCFC Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) Stage-I
  - HPMP Stage-II

- The HCFC Phaseout Management Plan (HPMP) Stage II was launched to undertake technology conversion in foam manufacturing and air conditioning enterprises from HCFC to non-HCFC alternative technologies. India had secured 44.91 million USD from the Multilateral Fund for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol for undertaking enterprise level technology conversions in foam manufacturing and air conditioning sector. Under HPMP Stage II complete phase-out of HCFC 141 b will be achieved in foam manufacturing sector by 1.1.2020.

- A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) has been signed between Ozone Cell, MoEFCC with Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Technology (CIPET), Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Govt. of India for Competency Enhancement of System Houses and foam manufacturing enterprises especially MSMEs for the smooth and sustainable phase out of HCFC 141 b in the foam manufacturing sector of the country by 1.1.2020 in order to comply with Montreal Protocol.

- India was able to successfully negotiate the Kigali amendment to the Montreal Protocol for phasedown of Hydrofluorocarbons. The agreement provides adequate space for growth of our economy, while providing adequate time for industry to shift to sustainable alternatives in the interest of environment. The agreed arrangements will minimize the cost to consumers in transitioning away from HFCs and provide for domestic innovation to develop in the sector of new generation refrigerants and related technologies.

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4.16 NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION (NGO) CELL

NGO Cell is set up in the Ministry to handle various policy matters relating to NGOs working in diverse fields of environment. The basic function of the Cell is to handle various matters relating to NGOs and to liaison with various Ministries/Departments, NITI Aayog and other Government agencies on various issues, including to create a database relating to various NGOs working in the fields of environment and its associated areas.

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4.17 SWACHH AND SWASTH BHARAT (SSB) CELL

Swach Bharat Mission, in the Ministry was initiated on 25th July 2016 as per the directions received from Cabinet Secretary vide D.O. No. 56/2/2014-CA-IV dated 14.07.2016. Accordingly, a “Swachh Bharat Cell” was created in the Ministry during the year 2017 and on 1st Aug 2017 it was renamed Swachh and Swasth Bharat Cell (SSB Cell).

Since its inception SSB cell has been implementing Swachhta Action Plan (SAP) of this Ministry in States/UTs and reporting the same to Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, the nodal Ministry looking after SAP.

Beside implementing SAP activities, SSB cell also carries out subject specific awareness campaigns of environmental importance across the country. During 2018, the SSB cell organized “Clean Air For Delhi” campaign and also implemented riverfront and beach cleaning in 19 States during World Environment Day Celebration 2018.

SAP of the Ministry is mainly focused on awareness through IEC (information, education and communication) activities. It is aimed at raising awareness on the need of “Swachh Paryavaran” under the mandate of the Ministry to play a pivotal role in comprehensive realization of Swachh Bharat whose notion was conceived by the “Father of the Nation; Mahatma Gandhi”.

Under SAP, funds are provided to designated State Nodal Agencies to implement the Swachh Bharat activities by involving school students, volunteers and citizens.

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4.18 MEDIA CELL

Media Cell of the MoEF&CC is mandated with taking up awareness campaigns using print, electronic and other mass media to enhance awareness about various environmental issues which would in turn facilitate better compliance with environmental regulations.

Broad Objectives of Media, Publicity and Information:

i. Creation of Environment awareness at all levels.

ii. Information dissemination about all Environment and Forest programmes and Biodiversity conservation.
iii. People are made aware of their responsibilities towards environment.

3. Major Activities of Media Division:

(i) **World Environment Day**: The World Environment Day (WED) is celebrated globally on 5th June every year. During 2019, the theme of World Environment Day is ‘Air Pollution’. Various Programmes were organised on this occasion. On 5th June, 2019 saplings were planted and a campaign #SelfieWithSapling was launched with reward for best selfies. On 6th June, 2019 a function was organized at New Delhi. The event was graced by the Hon’ble Minister (EF&CC) and Hon’ble MoS(EF&CC). The programme on 6th June, 2019 inter alia, included release of theme song “Hawa Aane De’, launch of Short Film Competition and Festival, release of books of BSI, ZSI and NTCA, three thematic sessions were held on the themes: (a) Air Pollution (b) Waste Management (c) Forests: the Green Lungs of cities. Tripartite MoUs with identified academic institutions in the States, respective State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and MoEFCC were signed as part of National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) to control and abate air pollution.

(ii) Production of audio-video creatives to spread message on protection of environment. AudioVisual Creatives have been prepared by Media Cell and uploaded on MoEFCC’s website at link: [http://moef.gov.in/green-goods-deeds-videosaudio/](http://moef.gov.in/green-goods-deeds-videosaudio/)

(iii) Airing of audio-visual creatives: MoEFCC is running media campaign through various audio-visual creatives on topics like save water, no plastic, green good deeds on Lok Sabha TV, Prasar Bharti, Doordarshan, TV News Channels and on Digital Cinemas.

(iv) Media Division publishes advertisements in the print media also.

(v) Organise visits of students/professions of different educational institution to Indira Paryavaran Bhawan to explain its green features.

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5.0 FOREST AND WILDLIFE WING

The forest and wildlife Wing of the Ministry consists of the following Divisions:

1 Survey & Utilization (SU)
2 Forest Conservation (FC)
3 Forest Policy (FP)
4 Research and Training (RT)
5 Externally Aided Projects (EAP)
6 Wildlife Division (WL)
7 Project Elephant (PE)
8 Regional Offices Head Quarters (ROHQ)
9 Indian Forest Service (IFS)
10 Forest Establishment (FE)
11 Forest Protection (FPD)
12 Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ)
13 Green India Mission (GIM)

The main functions of these Divisions are as follows:

5.1 SURVEY AND UTILIZATION (SU)

1. Regulation of export and import of wood and wood products including Red Sanders and Sandalwood:- The SU Division deals with the formulation of guidelines and directions for domestic and international trade in forest produce and necessary regulation of export and import of forest produce as per the Foreign Trade Policy as well as the applied tariff rates. The Division also deals with the issue of NOC for grant of license for export of wood and wood products for the application received through Directorate General of Foreign Trade, New Delhi. This includes Sandalwood, Red Sanders and other wood products.

2. Regulation of Wood Based Industries in the country:- The SU Division prepared the Guidelines for Wood Based Industries (Establishment and Regulation) Guidelines, 2016 in compliance of order of Hon’ble Supreme Court dated 05.10.2105 in W.P. (C) No. 202/1995 in the matter of T.N. Godavarman Vs. Union of India and Ors. The Wood Based Industries (Establishment and Regulation) Guidelines, 2016 were subsequently modified as per the comments received from State/UT Forest Department and concerned stakeholders. The modified guidelines were published in the Gazette of India on 12th September, 2017. On the basis of these Guidelines, the State Level Committees for Wood Based Industries take decision on issue of new licenses/renewal of licenses for wood based industries.

3. State Forest Development Corporation:- The Ministry has shares in nine (9) State Forest Development Corporations. The issue of dividend, Annual General Meeting and other miscellaneous matters related to State Forest Development Corporation is being dealt with by the Ministry.
4. **Andaman & Nicobar Islands Forest and Plantation Development Corporation Ltd.** Andaman & Nicobar Islands Forest & Plantation Development Corporation Limited (ANIFPDCL), Port Blair is the only CPSE under the administrative control of the Ministry. It was created in 1977 with the broad objectives of development and managing forestry plantations on the islands. The Corporation is loss-making and as per the approved Cabinet Note, the Ministry is implementing the closure plan of the Corporation.

5. **International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)** India is a founder member of ITTO which aims for conserving tropical forest and assisting countries to develop economically in the field of forestry. ITTO has 74 members divided into two categories: Producer countries (36 members including India) and Consumer countries (38 members). The highest authority of the ITTO is the International Tropical Timber Council (ITTC), which governs the performance of all functions necessary to carry out the provisions of the International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA), 2006. An ITTO Task Force has also been created in SU Division under the Chairmanship of IGF(SU) to deal with all matters related to ITTO and to work on issues of sustainable Forest Development, Forest Certification and Timber Trade etc.

6. **Nodal Division for Bamboo related matter in the Ministry.** SU Division is the Nodal Division for bamboo related matters in the Ministry. The Ministry has also created a ‘Bamboo Cell’ in SU Division to deal with all matters related to Bamboo.

7. **International Network of Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR):-** India is a member of INBAR since 1998. The South Asia office of the organization is in New Delhi. INBAR, an intergovernmental organization established in 1997, is dedicated to improving the social, economic, and environmental benefits of bamboo and rattan. The organisation plays a unique role in finding and demonstrating innovative ways of using bamboo and rattan to protect the environment and biodiversity, alleviate poverty, and facilitates fairer pro-poor trade. The organisations also connects a global network of partners from the government, private, and non-for-profit sectors in over 50 countries to define and implement a global agenda for sustainable development through bamboo and rattan.

8. **All matter (except Establishment matter) related to Forest Survey of India, Dehradun:-** SU Division deals with all matters related to Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun. The matters dealt with by SU Division relate to publication of India State of forest Report, Budget matters of Forest Survey of India, Parliament Questions related to forest cover assessment, technical comments, issue related to assessment of forest and tree cover, method of assessment, approval of foreign tours of officers/staff of FSI, condemnation and purchase of vehicles for FSI and other miscellaneous matters.

9. **SU Division also deals with matters related to Minor Forest Produce, movement of timber from North Eastern Region of country to other parts of the country, Forest Certification, Timber Trade and Sustainable Forest Management.**

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5.2  FOREST CONSERVATION (FC)

- All matters, including policy and legal matters, connected to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and ancilliary thereto.
- Processing of all proposals, involving forest area of more than 40 ha, received for diversion of forest land for non-forestry use from States/UTs Governments, seeking prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for grant of Stage-I and Stage-II approvals.
- Carrying out need based inspections of the specific proposals/issues where such inspection is desired by the FAC/MoEF&CC, New Delhi
- Organization of monthly meetings of Forest Advisory Committee and processing of the recommendations of the FAC for the approval of the competent authority of the Ministry.
- Correspondence with the Regional Offices of MoEF&CC and State/UT Governments related to the diversion proposals and matters connected thereof.
- Management and implementation of the Decision Support System (DSS) in consultation with the Forest Survey of India by generating detailed DSS reports on forest cover, biodiversity, hydrology, wildlife, compensatory afforestation lands, etc. in respect of diversion proposals received in the Ministry.
- Management of Monitoring Cell for the maintenance of database on the diversion of forest land and generating real time monitoring reports in respect of diversion of forest lands
- Parliamentary Matters pertaining to Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Questions, Assurances and preparation of materials for Standing Committee meetings and visits.
- Public grievances/ Petitions received from public/voluntary organizations and miscellaneous organizations pertaining to Forest Conservation Act, 1980.
- PMO/ VIP/Miscellaneous references.
- RTI applications received under the Right to Information Act, 2005
- Meetings/co-ordination with other Divisions/Ministries/Departments on the issues related to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- Other assignments related to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as per the instructions of competent authority in the ministry.

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5.3  FOREST POLICY (FP)

Forest Policy Division acts as a Think Tank on forest policy and forest related legislation matters and works for their integration with other Natural Resources Management Sectors. It provides inputs on forestry matters to the policies of other relevant sectors. The Division examines and provides comments on the State/Central Bills related with the forestry matters. The Division works on global forest policy processes and International Arrangement on Forests. The Division acts as Nodal Point for various bilateral and multilateral international cooperations on forestry related matters and engages with United Nations Forum on Forests, Committee on Forestry of FAO of United Nations and its Regional Commission of Asia Pacific Forestry Commission on forestry matters.
MANDATE

- National Forest Policy, 1988 and its amendment, State Forest Policies
- Harmonization of Indian Forest Act with Forest Rights Act, 2006 and the PESA, 1996 in coordination with Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- Formulation of Policies and Guidelines on various forestry related matters.
- Nodal Division for forest related Climate Change, REDD+ and Biodiversity matters in the Ministry and coordinates implementation of REDD+ in the country. Provides inputs on forest policy related issues to other Divisions of the Ministry
- Nodal Division for coordination of the implementation of USAID Forest PLUS Program.
- Forest Ministers’ Conference, National Consultation Meeting of PCCF&HoFF’s of all States/UTs.
- Policy aspects of Joint Forest Management.
- National Forest Commission.
- Celebration of International Day on Forests.
- Nodal Division formatter related to World Forestry Congress.
- International Cooperation on Forestry Matters: Forest Policy Division is the Nodal Division for Forest International Cooperation (FIC) on various multilateral and bilateral cooperation on forestry matters, which mainly includes the following:
  (i) United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)
  (ii) Committee on Forestry (COFO) of Food & Agriculture organization (FAO) of the United Nations
  (iii) Asia Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) of FAO
  (iv) Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)
  (v) Asia Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN)
  (vi) International Poplar Commission of FAO
  (vii) UN-REDD of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- IGF (Forest Policy) acts as National Focal Point for UNFF, COFO, APFC, UN-REDD and International Poplar Commission.
- Sensitization and creating awareness of the State Forest Departments and Central Forestry Institutions on the international forest policy matters, International Arrangement on Forests, of Forest Instrument or the Non-Legally Binding Instruments (NLBI) on all types of forests, UN Strategies Plan on Forests for 2015-30, Global Objectives on Forests (GoF) and Forest Principles, etc. in India.
- Convener of Consultative Group Meeting for International negotiations on forestry matters.

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5.4 RESEARCH AND TRAINING (RT)

It deals with the administrative, financial and other matters of the following:

(i) Autonomous Organizations of the Ministry-
• Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (ICFRE), Dehradun (except establishment matters) (Website:icfre.gov.in)
• Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal (including establishment matters) (Website: www.iifm.ac.in)
• Indian Plywood Industries Research & Training Institute (IPIRTI), Bangalore (including establishment matters) (Website: www.ipirti.gov.in)

(ii) Subordinate Offices

• Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA), Dehradun (except establishment matters)(Website: ignfa.gov.in)
• Directorate of Forest Education (DFE), Dehradun (except establishment matters) (Website: dfe.org.in)

(iii) Capacity Building Programmes

• Training of IFS Officers
• Training of personnel of other Services
• Training of other stakeholders
• Foreign Training of Forestry Personnel
• Capacity Development for Forest Management and Training of Personnel (JICA Funded Project)

Administrative set-up

The work of Research and Training (RT) Division is handled by Deputy Inspector General of Forests (RT) supported by Technical Officers and other staff. The DIGF (RT) reports to Addl. Director General of Forests (FC).

Training of IFS Officers

The Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change Government of India have been organizing In-service training courses of one week for IFS Officers in various disciplines in various institutions in the country. The basic aim of the in-service training courses is to upgrade their managerial skills in the changing socio-economic scenario of the country as also expose them to the recent developments in the field of forestry and allied subjects to enable them to handle their present duties and future needs in a better way. The training courses also provide a forum to the IFS officers serving in different regions of the country for sharing of experiences for efficient discharge of Government duty. Officers are also sponsored for long-term training courses. In addition to sponsoring short-term refresher courses, the MoEF&CC would continue to sponsor 1-3 day training workshops and seminars on emerging topics of regional, national and international importance.
Training of Personnel of Other Services

The component provides awareness programs through short-term trainings, workshops, and study tours for the personnel of various Departments such as Police, Revenue, Customs, etc. The main objectives of the scheme are to create awareness & garner support for policy maker on imperative of NRM to help create massive conservation moment for greening India etc.

Training of Other Stakeholders

The component provides awareness programme through study tours, workshops and seminars for stakeholders i.e. Panchayat members, elected representatives, teachers, nature clubs/eco-clubs and social activists, NGOs, and media persons. The main objectives of the schemes are to create awareness on forestry & Wildlife issues and to bring attitudinal change and amongst masses.

Foreign Training of Forestry Personnel (FTFP)

The component is aimed at encouraging specialization amongst the forestry personnel by sponsoring them for various short-term and long-term training courses at various Overseas Institutions. The programme aims at enabling officers to acquire knowledge and skills in a number of areas and also provide a forum for exchange of experiences and administrative practices required to handle the day-to-day problems. This training includes one-week domestic module and two-week international module. IFS Officers upto the rank of CCF, SFS Officers, RFO and Technical Staff of this Ministry are eligible to undergo training under the scheme.

Capacity Development for Forest Management and Training of Personnel

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India has implemented a Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) aided project “Capacity Development for Forest Management and Training of Personnel”. The Project has been implemented in 26 SFTIs in 13 States, namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Uttarakhand and West Bengal and 4 Central Academies for State Forest Service (CASFoS) located at Dehradun, Burnihat, Coimbatore and Kurseong. The total cost of the project is Rs. 225 Crores, out of which loan component is Rs. 206.30 Crores (5241 million JPY) and rest are administrative costs and taxes borne by the Central Government and the respective State Governments.

Ministry has successfully completed JICA Aided project by 31st March, 2019 with the major objective of strengthening human resource development (HRD) for sustainable forest management. This project has largely been achieved through improving training environment for the frontline staff by way of rehabilitation of State Forest Training Institutes (SFTIs) and Central Academy for State Forest Service (CASFoS). The Ministry has also submitted a fresh proposal for Phase-2 to the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance and it has been included by the DEA in JICA Rolling Plan and the project is under active consideration of JICA. JICA Contact Mission have also visited India in order to initiate the process of 2nd phase of the project during October, 2019.
5.5 EXTERNALLY AIDED PROJECT (EAP)

Externally Aided Projects Division of the Ministry deals with Forestry related Externally Aided Projects and coordinates with the State Governments and donor agencies (JICA, French Development Agency, GIZ, Kfw, World Bank etc.) along with other line ministries in the Government of India such as Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, NITI Aayog, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, etc. The EAP division provides technical inputs on the projects submitted by the State Government for financial assistance from the donor agencies.

Objectives of the project under implementation include promoting Afforestation, Biodiversity conservation, Rehabilitation of degraded forest areas, Water and soil moisture conservation, farm forestry, agro forestry, community development and institutional capacity development, increasing availability of fuel wood and fodder, improvement of livelihood opportunities of the villagers adjoining forests and strengthening Joint Forest Management (JFM) institutions.

The mandates of the division are:-

- Scrutiny of the projects submitted by State government for external assistance.
- To provide technical inputs on the projects submitted by State government for external assistance.
- Co-ordination with Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Niti Aayog, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Ministry of DONER.
- Processing of cases for clearances to foreign visiting missions, volunteers/consultants of donor agencies, Joint consultation with donor agencies, Joint project appraisal and follow up action.
- Monitoring of on-going externally aided projects. Quarterly, half-yearly and mid-term review of projects in co-ordination with State Governments, other Central Ministries and donor agencies for resolving various issues arising from time to time.
- Monitoring of aid/credit utilization.

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5.6 WILDLIFE (WL)

Wildlife Division of the Ministry is the nodal Division which deals with the matters related to conservation and protection of Wildlife and Protected Area Network in the Country. The Division is responsible for works related to Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, its amendment, permission/recommendations under the Act for various activities.

The following are the important activities/matters taken up by the Wildlife Division for conservation of Wildlife in the Country:

- Providing financial and technical assistance to States/UTs for conservation of wildlife and their habitats under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme- Development of Wildlife
Habitats (CSS-DWH) with all components and related budgetary matters/ strengthening of Wildlife Division and Consultancies for Special tasks

- Convening meetings of National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) and its Standing Committee and related court cases
- Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 – amendment of Wildlife Protection Act and enforcement related matters including enquiries, reports, data collection, reporting etc.
- Implementation of the National Wild Life Action Plan (2017 -2031)
- Matters related to Eco-Sensitive Zones
- EXIM Policy related to wildlife issues
- Trans Boundary issues
- Issues related to Human Wildlife Conflict Management
- Wildlife Conservation policies and planning related actions including formulation of annual plans, reports, replies to the audit/CAG/PAC
- Implementation of the conservation breeding and recovery projects for species.
- Dealing of administrative and functional issues related to Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB), New Delhi
- Dealing of administrative and functional issues related to Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi
- Dealing of administrative and functional issues related to Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun
- Administrative approval for the utilization of funds to National Zoological Park
- Parliamentary and other consultative committees of the Ministry –matters related to Wildlife conservation
- Wildlife Awards, Celebration of Wildlife week for wider publicity and awareness generation on wildlife conservation
- Providing Grants-in aid to institutions/organizations for carrying out research in the field of Wildlife Conservation
- Organizing meetings, conferences, workshops etc. on matters related to wildlife conservation and protection
- Matters related to Eco tourism

- The Division also carries out the works related to International conventions/ Agreements/ Organizations:-

- Conventional on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild flora and fauna (CITES)
- International Whaling Commission (IWC)
- International Union of Conservation Nature (IUCN)
- World Heritage Convention under the aegis of UNESCO
- Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)
- Central Asian Flyway
- Signing of MoUs with range Countries for conservation of species such as Dugong, Indian Ocean Marine Turtle, Siberian Cranes etc.
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
- Implementation of Externally aided projects (GEF, UNDP)
5.7 PROJECT ELEPHANT (PE)

India has about 60% of the world’s Asian elephant population with an estimated figure of 29964 elephants in wild & 2675 reported (as per information provided by states) in Captivity. Elephant is a National Heritage animals and has protected under Schedule I species of Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. In order to protect and conserve the elephants, Project Elephant (PE) was launched by the Government of India in the year 1991-92 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with following objectives:

- To protect elephants, their habitat and corridors –
- To address issues of man-animal conflict –
- Welfare of domesticated elephants

The major activities of the Project Elephant Division are:
- Addressing the Human-Elephant Conflict issues
- Strengthening of Elephant Reserves/Corridors
- Preparation of National Action Plan for elephant conservation
- Compilation of Human-Elephant conflict (HEC) data
- Transboundary issues on elephant conservation
- Welfare and management of Captive elephant
- Elephant Cell at the Wildlife Institute of India (WII)
- Conducting elephant census in every five years

The implementation of Project Elephant is through the C.S.S. Plan Scheme with the grant to State Governments on items of recurring expenditure on operational costs under Project Elephant at the rate of 100% of approved cost up to October 2015 after that funding pattern changed to the ratio of Central: State share to 60:40 and 90:10 for North East and Himalayan states.

Committees
- Steering Committee of Project Elephant
- Central Project Elephant Monitoring Committee (CPEMC).

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5.8 REGIONAL OFFICES HEAD QUARTERS (ROHQ) DIVISION

The Government of India had set up ten Regional Offices at Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Lucknow, Shillong, Chandigarh, Chennai, Dehradun, Nagpur and Ranchi with a headquarter unit at New Delhi with the following detailed mandate as under –

A. The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (FCA) related functions:

(i) To assist the State Govts/UTs in preparation of the proposals involving diversion of forests land for non-forestry purposes under the provisions of FCA for expeditious processing and disposal of such cases;
(ii) To undertake physical inspection of sites in cases of diversion of forestland involving an area of more than 100 hectares and in other cases as may be required;
(iii) To monitor the implementation of conditions and safeguards stipulated by Central Government in the proposal approved under FCA.

(iv) The Ministry on 10th October, 2014 has notified the Forest (Conservation) Second Amendment Rules, 2014 to provide for inter-alia constitution of Regional Empowered Committee (REC) at each of its Regional Office and delegation of power to these RECs to finally dispose of proposals, other than those related to mining, regularization of encroachment and hydel projects, involving diversion of upto 40 hectares of forest land, and all proposals related to linear projects such as roads, railway lines etc. irrespective of the area of forest land;

(v) Uploading on the websites the Stage-I (In-principle), Stage-II (Final) approvals, the site inspection/monitoring reports, Agenda and Minutes of the REC meetings held.

B. Working Plan related functions:-

(i) To assist the State/UTGovts in the preparation of Management/Working Plans for working of forest under their control within the framework of guidelines issued by Central Government from time to time;

(ii) Monitoring the implementation of the Management/Working Plans.

C. Monitoring and evaluation of ongoing forestry development projects and scheme with specific emphasis on conservation of forests; schemes under CAMPA funds; centrally sponsored schemes.

D. Environmental Management and Pollution Control functions:-

(i) To follow up implementation of conditions and safeguards laid down for projects/activities when environmental clearance is given;

(ii) To examine and analyse the Six-Monthly Progress reports from the Project Proponents vis-à-vis conditionalities in the Environmental Clearance (EC) and take further necessary action;

(iii) To do surprise and random checks/verifications of EC conditions of various projects by site visits;

(iv) To conduct enquiries as may be directed by the Ministry;

(v) To follow up pollution control measures taken by industries, local bodies, Government (State/Centre);

(vi) To collect and furnish information relating to environmental impact assessment of projects, Pollution control measures, methodology and status, legal and enforcement measures, environmental protection for special conservation areas like wetlands, mangroves and biosphere reserves;

(vii) To maintain liaison and provide linkage with the concerned State Government, with Central Government Agencies (including Regional Offices of BSI, FSI & ZSI) with project authorities, with the Regional Offices of the Central Pollution Control Board; with State Pollution Control Boards and with non-Government Organisation involved in implementation of programmes relating to environment;

(viii) To organize workshops for State Pollution Control Board and State Environment Department to acquaint with the application of Hazardous Management Rules and Public Liability Act;
(ix) Uploading on their website the Six Monthly Progress reports of compliance and site visit reports.

E. Miscellaneous functions of ROHQ:-

(i) To service the Standing Site Inspection Committee in the matter of ascertaining the position of the forest or non-forest land.
(ii) To render assistance in preparation of the National Forestry Action Plan.
(iii) Regional level technical and scientific consultation on biological diversity
(iv) To assist the State Govts. / UTs in streamlining collection, collation, storage and retrieval of data/ covering all forestry activities and to transmit such data to the Central Government/ Central Data Processing Centre.
(v) Verification of nominees for Indira Gandhi Paryavaran Puruskar and other Awards of the Ministry;
(vi) Attending to Court Cases pertaining to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change;
(vii) Attend to RTI applications, Parliament Questions, VIP References, Audit Paras and general complaints pertaining to environment and forest issues;
(viii) Such other work as assigned from time to time.

The Regional Offices Headquarters in the Ministry at New Delhi is responsible for supervision and coordination of all the activities related to the functions assigned to the Regional Offices as enumerated above under the overall control of the Secretary, Government of India in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi.

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5.9 INDIAN FOREST SERVICE (IFS) DIVISION

- **Establishment matters of IFS Officers** – Direct Recruitment through UPSC, Vacancy determination and cadre allocation, Policy matters related to IFS Rules & Regulations, Induction of SFS to IFS Officers through UPSC, empanelment at JS & above levels, Inter-cadre transfers, Inter-cadre deputations, Selection on Central Deputation under CSS-MoEFCC, Deputation (outside the cadre) in Central Government, Foreign Bodies, Corporations etc., Maintenance of PAR, Cadre clearance, RTI & Court Cases, Parliament matters etc.

- **Overall management of AGMUT Cadre** – Cadre review, Appointment of SFS into IFS, Confirmation of RR/Inducted Officer, all establishment related issues.

- **New Proposals** – Changes in Probation and Seniority Rules, allocation of cadres along with appointment letter, merger of IFS Exam with Civil Services Exams and review of syllabus for the same, Changes in Regulations for induction from SFS to IFS.

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5.10 FOREST ESTABLISHMENT (FE)

Forest Establishment (FE) Division is handling the establishment matters relating to the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), (an autonomous organisation under this Ministry) including its Institutes/Education Centres; Forest Survey of India (FSI) and its Regional Centers; National Zoological Park (NZP); Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) and its Regional Offices; Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA); Directorate of Forest Education (DFE) and Andaman & Nicobar Forest Department. The work involves:

- Framing and amendment of Recruitment Rules in respect of Group 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' posts;
- Relaxation in Recruitment Rules in respect of Group 'C' and 'D' posts.
- Representations of Staff/Officers on service matters.
- Voluntary retirement and transfer of pensionary benefits in respect of employees of above organizations absorbed in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs)/autonomous organizations etc.
- Court cases pertaining to establishment matters filed in CAT, High Court or Supreme Court of India.
- All matters pertaining to absorption of Officers/Staff in the service of Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education Society, Dehra Dun.
- Appointment/recruitment to Group 'A' posts under the Flexible Complementing Scheme and through the UPSC.
- Examination of Agenda items pertaining to the establishment matters of ICFRE in respect of Board of Governors' Meetings.
- Representations received from the employees of State Forest Departments and Other individuals (in relation to the functioning of State Forest Departments) in States.
- Forestry establishment matters relating to Forest Departments in all the Union Territories (except Andaman & Nicobar Forest Plantation Development Corporation).
- Representations received from the employees of State/Union Territories Forest Departments and other individuals in relation to the functioning of State/Union Territories Forest Departments.
- All matters regarding above mentioned organizations/UTs which require approval/advice of the Government of India
- Constitution of Search-cum-Selection Committee with the approval of DoPT for appointment of J.S. and above level post in ICFRE.
- Proposals relating to creation/revival of posts.
- ACC approval for appointment of Director General, ICFRE, Dehradun.
- Nodal Division for reporting vacancies to Staff Selection Commission for filling up the posts under Direct Recruitment quota in r/o Subordinate Offices under this Ministry.
- Nodal Division for coordinating matters received from Ministry of Labour & Employment.
- Public Grievances, RTI applications, MP/VIP references.

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5.11 FOREST PROTECTION (FPD)

The Forest Protection Division deals with forest protection related issues like illegal felling of trees, deforestation, encroachment of forest land, invasive weeds, forest fires etc. Forest Protection Division is the nodal division for disaster management related matters. This division administers Forest Fire Prevention & Management Scheme which is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

The Division is headed by Inspector General of Forests who is assisted by Assistant Inspector General of Forests and Technical Officer (Forestry).

Mandate/ Subject matters of the Forest Protection Division
- Nodal division for forest fires matters
- Implementation of Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme (FPMS) and National Action Plan on Forest Fire.
- Issues relating to forests protection including control of illicit felling of trees, deforestation, and encroachment of forest land
- Application of space technology for forest fire management which includes dissemination of forest fire alerts, pre-fire warning and assessment of burnt area by FSI.
- Miscellaneous issues relating to forest protection, parliament matters, etc.
- Nodal division for Disaster management related matters
- Engagement with fire-prone countries such as Canada, New Zealand and Australia to understand how to deal with forest-fires and study the use of other systems for fighting forest fires

- **Centrally Sponsored Scheme: Forest Fire Prevention & Management Scheme**
  The scheme supports the efforts of State/UTs Governments in prevention and control of forest fire by providing financial assistance for various forest fire prevention and management measures. The scheme has long term objectives viz. minimizing forest fire incidences and restoration of forest productivity, institutionalizing the partnership with forest fringe communities for forest protection, preparation of fire danger rating system and devise forest fire forecasting system, utilization of modern technology (such as Remote Sensing, GPS and GIS) in planning, developing and operationalizing Fire prevention and management system; and short term objectives viz. awareness campaign for prevention of forest fire, prevent and control forest fires by improving the traditional practices and employing available modern methods, imparting suitable training to the field staff and forest fringe communities on fire fighting and community participation in prevention and control of forest fire and strengthening of Forestry Infrastructure of the States and UTs effective prevention and management of Forest fire

The Ministry also involves the Central Institutions like Forest Survey of India, Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education Dehradun, Indian Institute of Forest Management Bhopal, National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting and others, wherever necessary, for achieving the scheme objectives. The scheme is implemented by the Forest Departments of the concerned State Governments and UTs.
Important Link: -

a) Guidelines of Centrally Sponsored Intensification of Forest Management Scheme (6.12 MB)

b) Monitoring and Evaluation Report of Intensification of Forest Management Scheme

c) Operational Guidelines for the CSS: Forest Fire Prevention & Management Scheme (FPM) – Request for Submission of APO for the year 2017-2018 (2.54 MB)

d) National Action Plan on Forest Fire (NAPFF)(874.34 KB).

Achievements of the Division:

1. National Action Plan on Forest Fire has been formulated for effective prevention and management of forest fire.

2. ‘Strengthening Forest Fire Management in India’ was published in collaboration with World Bank based on the findings of a study on Situation Analysis of Forest Fire in 2018.

3. Fire Alert System (FAST) Ver. 3.0 was launched on 16-17 January, 2019 by Forest Survey of India. It is faster, quicker and more robust forest fire detection and real time information dissemination system.

4. Crisis Management Group under the chairmanship of Secretary (EF&CC) has been constituted to deal with crises arising due to forest fires.

5. Organization of side-event in 7th International Wildlife Fire Conference held in Campo Grande, Brazil in October, 2019

5.12 ECO-SENSITIVE ZONE (ESZ)

Ecologically Sensitive areas are "areas with identified environmental resources having incomparable values which require special attention for their conservation.” The ecologically sensitive areas notified by the Ministry includes Dahanu Taluka, Mahableshwar-Panchgani, Matheran, Mt. Abu, Bhagirathi, Doon Valley and Western Ghats etc.

Notifying Eco-Sensitive Zones around the Protected Areas is an important objective of MoEF&CC for sustainable development and for conservation of Wildlife and Biodiversity around Protected Areas. As part of Wildlife Conservation Strategy, in the year 2002 it was decided that an area around each Protected Area (National Park, Biosphere Reserve, Wildlife Sanctuary, Tiger Reserve etc), requires to be notified as Eco-Sensitive Zone for creating a buffer as further protection around Protected Areas (PAs).

The statutory provisions for declaring ESA/ESZ include- (i) Section 5 C (1) of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 (ii) Section 3 (2) (V) of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 and (iii) Section 5 (1) of the environment Protection Rules, 1986. Considering the above provision, the ESA/ESZ Notifications are published by the ESZ Division of this Ministry.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change receive two types of proposal for declaring ESZ/ESA; namely (i) the proposal around Protected Areas and (ii) the proposal
falling in non-Protected Areas, but require special attention and protection. The former is received from the State Govt. through Wildlife Division as per the extant Wildlife Division guidelines and later directly from the State Govt.

In 2011, the Wildlife Division has prepared the Guidelines for preparation of ESZ proposals to support the State Governments. The Guidelines include an indicative list of activities that are Prohibited/Regulated and Promoted. Later on 1st August, 2012, an Expert Committee was constituted with tenure of five years which was Re-constituted in the year 2017 under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary /Additional Secretary of this Ministry for approving the ESZ Proposals.

Presently, the division notifies ecologically sensitive areas based upon specific recommendations of the state government and also around the National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries based upon the recommendation of the Wildlife Division of the Ministry.

The following are the important activities taken up by the ESZ division:

- Screening and technical evaluation of proposals received from the concerned State Governments and/or Wildlife division regarding declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zone around protected areas.
- Preparation of Draft and Final Eco-Sensitive Zone Notifications around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- For the protection of Western Ghats a draft Eco-Sensitive Area (ESA) was declared on 03.10.2018 around Western Ghats covering an area of 56825 sq km in the State of Goa, Maharasahtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Kerala.
- Convining the Eco-Sensitive Zone Expert Committee meetings from time to time for appraisal of proposals received from the State Governments.
- Correspondence with the State/UT Governments related to the ESZ proposals and matters connected thereof.
- Organizing meetings/workshops etc. on the matters related to Eco-Sensitive Zones/Areas.
- Providing Grants-in aid to Dahanu Taluka Environment Protection Authority, Mumbai through PL Division for protection and conservation of Dahanu Taluka
- Parliamentary Matter pertaining to Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Questions, Assurances etc.
- Handling the Court matters pertaining to Eco-Sensitive Zones/Areas.
- Public grievances/Petitions received from public/voluntary organizations and miscellaneous organizations pertaining to Eco-Sensitive Zones/Areas.
- PMO/VIP/Miscellaneous references.
- RTI applications received under the Right to Information Act, 2005.
- Meetings/co-ordination with other Divisions/Ministries/Departments on the issues related to the Notifying Eco-Sensitive Zones around the Protected Areas.
5.13 GREEN INDIA MISSION (GIM)

The National Mission for Green India (GIM) is one of the eight Missions outlined under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). It aims at protecting; restoring and enhancing India’s diminishing forest cover and responding to climate change by a combination of adaptation and mitigation measures. It envisages a holistic view of greening and focuses on multiple ecosystem services, especially, biodiversity, water, biomass, preserving mangroves, wetlands, critical habitats etc. along with carbon sequestration as a co-benefit. This mission has adopted an integrated cross-sectoral approach as it will be implemented on both public as well as private lands with a key role of the local communities in planning, decision making, implementation and monitoring.

Mission Goals

- To increase forest/tree cover to the extent of 5 million hectares (mha) and improve quality of forest/tree cover on another 5 mha of forest/non-forest lands;
- To improve/enhance eco-system services like carbon sequestration and storage (in forests and other ecosystems), hydrological services and biodiversity; along with provisioning services like fuel, fodder, and timber and non-timber forest produces (NTFPs); and
- To increase forest based livelihood income of about 3 million households.

Projects

Ecosystems Service Improvement Project

Green India Mission Division is implementing a World Bank aided “Ecosystem Services Improvement Project” (ESIP) in selected landscapes of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh States which has been designed to enhance the outcomes of the GIM. The project proposes to improve forest quality and productivity along with interventions aimed at reforestation, reducing land degradation, institutional capacities building and enhancing NTFP trade and improve the livelihoods of forest dependent communities in Central Indian Highlands.

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6.0 SERVICE DIVISIONS

The service functions including administration and budget work of the Ministry as a whole are being carried out by the following Divisions:

1. General Coordination (GC)
2. General Administration (GA)
3. Public Grievances (PG) Cell
4. Personnel-I (P-I)
5. Personnel-II (P-II)
6. Personnel-III (P-III)
7. Cash
8. Budget Division
9. Integrated Finance Division (IFD)
10. Right To Information (RTI) Cell
11. Internal Work Study Unit (IWSU)
12. Protocol
13. Parliament
14. Vigilance
15. Development Monitoring & Evaluation Division (DMED)
16. Central Registry (CR)
17. Information Technology (IT) Cell
18. National Museum of Natural History (NMNH)
19. Library
20. Information Facilitation Centre (IFC)
21. Civil Construction Unit (CCU)
22. Pay & Accounts Office (PAO)
23. Official Language (OL)

6.1 GENERAL CO-ORDINATION (GC)

- Organisation, preparation of Agenda and Minutes of Joint Consultative Committee meeting
- Collection, compilation and preparation of various information pertaining to various issues of the Cabinet Secretariat and other Authorities.
- Recognition of Service Association, circulation of Rules & Regulation received from DoPT, PMO and other Ministries.
- Response to other Ministries regarding nomination of various awards
- Circulation of references received from Cabinet Committee on Appointment & relinquishment of charge by various officers of the Ministry.
- Circulation of orders Instructions of general nature received from various Ministry and its attached & Sub-ordinate offices
- Furnishing of information to Cabinet Secretariat regarding major development/ Monthly D.O Letter every month.
- Appointment of Nodal Division/officers for dealing with receipts received from various Ministries
• Observation of Important days and making arrangement to collect contribution on different occasion
• Coordinating with Audit parties and circulation of paras
• Preparation of Citizen Client Charter
• Matters relating to welfare activities like farewell, condolence, meetings etc
• Matters relating to Deptt Canteen etc.

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6.2 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (GA)

• Cleanliness of the premises of Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
• Cleanliness of the premises occupied by MOEF&CC (other than NAEB) eg CBI Building in CGO complex.
• Co-ordination with other user departments of Paryavaran Bhawan Building,
• Purchase, Replacement and maintenance of computers and related equipment in MOEF&CC (Except NAEB)
• Procurement and maintenance of heating/ cooling equipment in the MOEF&CC (Except NAEB)
• Procurement and supply of other stores and equipment including furniture, stationery, photocopies etc., needed for the MOEF&CC (Except NAEB)
• Liaison with CPWD for maintenance of Civil and electrical works in the premises Indira Paryavaran Bhawan and space occupied by the MOEF&CC in CGO Complex (Except NAEB)
• Liaison with MTNL for provision and maintenance of telephones, fax services to Indira Paryavaran Bhawan.
• Procurement and supply of uniforms to staff excluding NAEB who are required to wear uniforms.
• Disposal of obsolete/ unserviceable stores and their replacement and loss of stores reported by any office/ section/ division of MOEF&CC (Except NAEB)
• Modernization of various Divisions/ Sections under the ‘Scheme for modernization of Govt. offices (Except NAEB)
• Purchase of staff cars and other vehicles and maintenance thereof (Except NAEB).
• Providing and maintenance of air-conditioners (Except NAEB) – Installation operation & maintenance of Internal Telephone exchange.
• Operation, Maintenance & supervision of Duplicating Unit (Except NAEB)
General housekeeping activities
• Maintenance of garden around the office and the potted plants (except NAEB)
• Internet installation and maintenance
• Hiring of vehicles
• Van Vigyan Sadan Transit Hostel - all matter relating to cleanliness and maintenance allotment caretaking/ Framing of rules there under
• Hiring of office accommodation
• Provisions of cable / dish TV in office rooms
• Issue of postage stamps/ Franking Machine services.
• Supply of drinking water
- Tea / Coffee vending machines (other than canteen)
- Nodal Section for references received from Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Internal Security.

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6.3 PUBLIC GRIEVANCES (PG) Cell

- PG cell is the nodal point for this Ministry to monitor the disposal of grievances / suggestions received from public through post, by hand and also online. The grievances are forwarded by the PMO, President Secretariat, Ministries, Departments and other authorities for redressal.
- Once the grievances are received in the PG cell, the same are being forwarded to concerned Divisions / Sections and organization for disposed after taking appropriate action.
- Monitoring the disposal and bring down the pending cases to minimum.
- Various reminders to all the concerned are sent regularly with proper entry in the pgportal, as and when received, to monitor the work flow, as well as to bring down the pendency level in the Ministry.
- As a central Monitoring unit, all online/offline grievances are monitored regularly as a central unit for grievance in MoEF&CC & co-ordinate / monitored through software/portal.
- The overall percentage of disposal has been steadily improving on the grievances received which has created a lot of awareness amongst the several public for the resolvement of environmental issues being faced by thereon and for their mitigation.
- The motto of the PG Cell is to maintain 100% disposal of Public Grievances and to have zero PG at the Ministerial level.

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6.4 PERSONNEL-I (P-I)

- Cadre Management of Scientific posts of the Ministry (Main), Creation and continuation of scientific posts of Ministry. Establishment/service matters of all scientific posts (other than NRCD) viz. appointment, promotion, work allocation, review cases, leave cases, retirement benefits (only of those posted in Ministry Proper). Disciplinary proceedings and court cases of Group ‘A’ ‘B’ & ‘C’ officials of MoEF&CC other than IFS officers under Central Staffing Scheme of the Ministry.
- Cadre Management of Technical posts of the Ministry viz. creation, appointment, promotion, work allocation, establishment/service matters, Recruitment Rules, leave cases, retirement benefits, court cases etc.
- Cadre Management of Canteen staff of the Ministry viz. creation, appointment, promotion, establishment/service matters Recruitment Rules, leave cases, retirement benefits, court cases etc.
- Maintenance of ACRs/APARs of Group ‘A’ ‘B’ & ‘C’ officials of MoEF&CC other than IFS officers of the Ministry.
- Processing of LTC, GPF, House Building Advance, Computer Advances of all personnel of the Ministry.
- Issue of Foreign Deputation orders in respect of Environment wing of the Ministry.
- Processing of medical advance and reimbursement cases of Scientific, Technical and Canteen staff.
- Processing and finalization of complaints, suspension cases and disciplinary proceedings having administrative angle.
- Internship Scheme.
- Conducting of review of services under FR 56(j).
- Budget matters relating to Secretariat Proper.

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6.5 PERSONNEL - II (P-II)

- Cadre management of CSSS/CSS/CSCS, Central Staffing Scheme, IES and ISS officers
- Establishment/services matters of Secretariat Group ‘A’, ‘B’ & ‘C’ posts (except officers working at the strength of IFS and NAEB) viz. appointment, review cases, leave cases, retirement and retirement benefits, medical claims, tuition fee reimbursement, leave encashment, children education allowance, court cases etc.
- Work allocation among all officers/staff other than scientific/technical officers
- Matters relating to Minister’s staff
- Election Work
- Training programme of AIS and all Secretariat officers
- Recruitment & Framing of Recruitment Rules of non-technical ex-cadre posts of the Ministry who are under control of this section.
- Outsourcing deployment and policy matters
- Policy matters relating to outsourcing
- Nodal Division within the Ministry to deal with all references received from the DoPT.
- Nodal Division within the Ministry to deal with references relating to Pension received from the DoP&PW.
- Nodal Division within the Ministry to deal with all references relating to administrative reforms received from the DoARPG.

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6.6 PERSONNEL -III (P-III)

- Recruitment of Group’ A’ Scientific Posts of the Ministry (Proper) including its Attached and Subordinate Offices on Direct Recruitment basis.
- Review/ Assessment of Group ‘A’ Scientists for in situ promotion under Flexible Complementing Scheme in the Ministry (Proper) including its Attached and Subordinate Offices.
- Amendments in the Department of Environment, Forests and Wildlife Scientific

- Extension of services of Scientists beyond the age of superannuation up to 62 years and from 62 years to 64 years.

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6.7 CASH SECTION

- Drawl of Bills of Pay & Allowances, D.A.& Bonus.
- Preparation of medical and tuition fee claims after receipt of sanctions.
- Preparation of T.A & L.T.C. claims of officials & non-officials members, Non-Government Organizations (N.G.O.s) and carrying out their adjustments.
- Drawl of bills of long term & short term advances (Festival, Cycle, Fan, House Building Advance (H.B.A.), Motor Car Advance (MCA) & Scooter).
- Assessment of Income-Tax of officers of the Ministry (Proper) and submission of Income-Tax Return to I.T.O.
- Preparation of contingent bills.
- Maintenance and updating of General Provident Fund (G.P.F.) accounts.
- Preparation of bills of G.P.F. Advance, withdrawal of the staff.
- Taking out periodical expenditure statement.
- Submission of bills to the Pay & Accounts Office (P.A.O).
- Preparation of bills relating to Grants-in-aid etc.
- Disbursement of salary and other Allowances.

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6.8 BUDGET DIVISION

- Preparation of Statement of Budget Estimates (SBE), Revised Estimates (RE), Supplementary and Re-appropriation proposals
- Preparation of Detailed Demands for Grants (DDG)
- Planning and coordination of all Schemes and Non-schemes of the Ministry of Environment
- Nodal Division for issues and matters related to Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs’ Budget Division and the Department of Expenditure).
- Monitoring of the progress in utilization of allocated funds released for implementation of various Schemes
- Preparation of Saving Note
- Coordination with Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee
- Compliance of Cash Management (MEP/QEP)
- Monitoring of Expenditure
- Processing of re-appropriation proposals
- Preparation of Outcome-Output Framework for Schemes
Monitoring and reporting to nodal Ministries/NITI Aayog on Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP), Tribal Sub Plan (TSP), North Eastern Region (NER), Gender and Child Budgeting

- Allocation of funds under Advances to Government Servants
- Monitoring of Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on Comptroller & Auditor Generals (CAGs) paras/ Drafts Audit paras to Audit/ Monitoring Cell of the Ministry of Finance/ Public Accounts Committee (PAC) on APMS Portal.
- Other Budget related miscellaneous matters.

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6.9 INTEGRATED FINANCE DIVISION (IFD)

(A) IFD

(i) IFD was introduced in 1975 clubbing Internal Financial Adviser and Associate Financial Adviser to be consulted in the matter relating outside delegated financial powers.

(ii) Objectives was to enable IFA to play more collaborative and constructive role in planning, programming, evaluation function of the Ministry.

(iii) Financial Adviser is responsible both to the Administrative Ministry and to the Ministry of Finance. Free to exercise delegated powers but to be responsible to MoF on powers outside the delegated financial powers. He will also assist budget formulation, scrutiny of projects and programmes for approval of Ministry of Finance.

(iv) Appropriate system of networking with autonomous authorities within respective sectors receiving budgetary support to ensure optimum utilisation of their resources.

(B) Role of Financial Adviser:

Financial Adviser is now conceived to be akin to the role of the Chief Financial Officer in a corporate structure, with specific responsibilities for ensuring fiscal prudence and sound financial management. They would bring requisite financial expertise, and overall perspective of financial management of the Government, as enunciated by the Ministry of Finance, in rendering professional advice to the Secretaries of the Administrative Ministries on all matters which have financial implications.

Financial Advisers will be crucial for successful planning, implementation and monitoring of various schemes and projects. Value for money will be the most important parameter in evaluating such schemes and projects. Therefore, it is imperative that outlay for a scheme is intrinsically linked with the Outcome Budget and Performance Budget.

In rendering his advice, the Financial Adviser, would be expected to accord priority to macro management with a view to help in achieving the outcomes set by the Ministry as goals for itself. These macro issues could include schematic appraisal concept functions, revenue management, subsidy management fiscal resource transfer issues, defining and evaluating outcomes besides maintaining and safeguarding the budgetary integrity, etc. FA
would also be expected to look at the total picture of resource for the sectors in which they are functioning, and assist the Secretary of the Administrative Ministry in moving towards greater resource mobilization, including in terms of enabling policy and regulatory framework to attract private sector funds.

Financial Adviser would continue to be responsible for Budget formulation, Outcome Budget, Performance Budget, Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM), Expenditure and Cash involving financial implications, Leveraging of non-budgetary resources for sectoral development. He would also monitor Non-Tax Receipts, Tax Expenditure, Assets and Liabilities and Review the Financial Management System of various programmes/projects of the Ministry.

(C) Examine all proposals from financial angle and render financial advice on the:

(i) Creation, continuation, revival and conversion of posts;
(ii) Formulation of new schemes, projects and evaluation thereof;
(iii) Processing of cases for clearance
(iv) Processing SFC/EFC/Cabinet Note etc.
(v) Release of grants to various organisations, institutes NGOs, Subordinate/autonomous authorities;
(vi) Re-delegation of powers to subordinate authorities;
(vii) Deputation/delegation abroad;
(viii) Interaction with the Departments of Expenditure/Personnel & Training, and other Central Government Ministries;
(ix) To watch and vetting of the replies on audit/PAC paras and other Committee.
(x) To screen all expenditure proposals requiring to be referred to DoE/DP&AR.

(D) Capacity Building;

IFD may require strengthening for assisting the FA in his redefined role. Such strengthening may include use of Information Technology, Setting up of knowledge management structure, building requisite data base, networking with relevant institutions/expert bodies. The staff/officers would also require specialized training for rendering better professional service.

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6.10 RIGHT TO INFORMATION (RTI) Cell

- Receipt of application through Post/IFC Counter.
- Diarize the RTI Application/Appeals and sending them to concerned officers for taking necessary action.
- Remove the IPOs/DDs take necessary action to encash and deposit the amount in the Ministry Account.
- Deal with RTI applications which are of general nature not pertaining to only officer/section/division in the Ministry.
Collect information for Annual RTI return from various sections/divisions in the Ministry through RTI MIS Portal and also from organizations/offices under Ministry and send the return to CIC by the due date.

Any other matter pertaining to RTI Act with which a particular division/section in the Ministry is not concerned.

Updation of List of CPIOs/FAAs in the Ministry on transfer/posting.

Compliance of CIC orders.

6.11 INTERNAL WORK STUDY UNIT (IWSU)

A. Organisation & Method (O&M Unit)/IWS Unit O&M Work

i. Updation of Induction Material.

ii. Preparation of Organisational Charts of the Ministry.

iii. Advice on disputed receipts received from various sections/divisions.

iv. Annual programme of O & M inspection of various sections/divisions and other offices under the Ministry.

v. Scrutinisation of the Inspection Reports and follow up action thereon.

vi. Collection of various O & M returns relating to Record Management, Checks on delays etc. as prescribed in the Manual of Office Procedure.

vii. Preparation of the compendium on the ‘Channel of Submission and Level of Final Disposal of Cases’.

viii. Preparation and review of record retention schedules concerning substantive function of the Ministry in consultation with the National Archives of India (NAI).

ix. Coordination with Deptt. of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) in connection with matters relating to O & M activities.

x. Responsibilities relating to Departmental Record Room of this Ministry.

B. Method Study

i. Work Study for assessing manpower requirement including Method Studies.

6.12 PROTOCOL SECTION

- Providing comprehensive protocol arrangement for the Minister/Minister of State of Environment and Forests and Secretary (E&F) of this Ministry. This includes booking of passage, baggage handling, customs/immigration/security checks both at the time of Departure/Arrival of Minister/Secretary and Security Passes for Airport and Reserved/Ceremonial Lounge for MEF.

- To receive and see off foreign delegations VIPs who visit Paryavaran Bhavan to meet Minister/Minister of State/Secretary.

- To handle issue/revalidation of Diplomatic/Official Passports and getting note verbal and arranging visas from Embassies.
• To arrange passes for Independence Day/ Republic Day for under Secretary and above officers of this Ministry,
• To arrange Domestic/ International ticketing of Minister/ Secretary (E&F)/ Spl. Secretary/DGF and various officers of the Ministry and payment of Bills thereof.
• Examining/Passing of Air Travels Bills received from M/s Ashok Travels & Tours and Balmer Lawrie & Co Ltd.
• To provide Air tickets for domestic & International Sectors and arranged visas & visa notes for various countries during the period.
• Examining /Passing of Departmental Canteen Bills on hospitality of US & above officers, ITDC, Ashoka at IGI Airport, Parliament House (N.Rly Catering), Tea Board/Coffee Board and VIP Guests of Hon'ble Minister/Minister of State/ Secretary.

6.13 PARLIAMENT

• Collection/Distribution/forwarding of all the relevant and important Parliament Papers viz. Parliament Questions/ Bills/ Resolutions/ Matters raised under Rule 377 in Lok Sabha and by way of Special Mention in Rajya Sabha/ Assurances/Short Notices Questions/Calling Attention Notices etc. received from Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariat and Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to the concerned for further necessary action.
• Issuing Calendar of Sittings of Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha/General Instructions for Parliament Session.
• Arrangement of Official Gallery Cards/Passes, General Entry Passes and Car Park Labels for entry into the Parliament House/ Annexe during the Session period.
• Liaison with Lok Sabha Sectt./ Rajya Sabha Sectt./Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in respect of Parliament Questions and other Parliament Matters.
• Monitoring of movement of files of Parliament Questions.
• Arranging Briefing Meeting for Starred Questions/Collection of relevant papers for Ministers/Senior Officers and preparation of pad in respect of Starred Questions and other Business in Parliament.
• E-mailing of replies to Parliament Questions to LSS/RSS.
• Maintaining/Consolidating Statistical Data of Pending Parliament Assurances in LS/RS.
• Organizing Meetings of Consultative Committee attached to Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, arrangement and circulation of notices, agenda and minutes etc.
• Forwarding observations/ recommendations of the Committees on Subordinate Legislation/ Government Assurances & Papers Laid, etc.
• To forward all other Parliamentary Matters received from other Ministries/ Departments to Sections. Coordination work for Legislative proposals of the Ministry.
• Co-ordination to assist the Officers during the various Parliamentary Committees attached to MoEF & CC during their Study visits to various parts of the country.
• Nodal Division within the Ministry to deal with all references received from Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs/ Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

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6.14 VIGILANCE

- The Vigilance Division interact with Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in various matters and facilitate CBI for obtaining the information/documents from various Divisions of the Ministry.
- Vigilance complaints regarding misconduct of Officers and officials (including all IFS officers) under MoEF&CC received from the General Public/Organisations/Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)/PMO’s office etc.
- Conducting and appointing of Inquiry Officer (I.O.) and Presenting Officer (P.O.) for Preliminary Information and Inquiry.
- Identification of Sensitive Posts and to ensure periodical rotation of staff holding such sensitive posts.
- Disciplinary proceedings (involving vigilance angle) against all retired Officers and officials under the MoEF&CC including all IFS officers.
- Disciplinary proceedings (involving vigilance angle) against all IFS officers of AGMUT Cadre and other Officers and officials under the MoEF&CC.
- Examination of cases of imposition of major penalties of dismissal/compulsory removal etc. (involving vigilance angle) on IFS officers referred to by State Governments.
- Appeals (including appeals against suspension) Review preferred by officers/officials under the MoEF&CC including all IFS officers.
- All Court cases having vigilance angle.
- Sanction of Prosecution including those under the Prevention of Corruption Act (PC Act), 1988 against IFS Officers and Officers/officials serving/retired from service under the MoEF&CC.
- According clearance from vigilance angle in respect of officers and officials of the Ministry.
- Receipt and Scrutiny of Annual Immovable Property Returns (AIPRs) of All Officers and officials (including IFS officers) of MoEF&CC.
- Permission/Intimation of Movable/Immovable property under Conduct Rules, 1964 and All India Service (Conduct) Rules, 1968.
- Prevention Measures to check corruption.
- Organizing Vigilance Awareness Week as per CVC directions.

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6.15 DEVELOPMENT MONITORING & EVALUATION DIVISION (DMED)

Erstwhile Plan Coordination (PC) Division was entrusted with the coordination of all Plan Schemes and Programme of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change. It functioned as the nodal Division for issue and matters related to the Erstwhile Planning Commission and also the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs’ Budget Division and the Department of Expenditure). The work handled in the Division covered preparation, monitoring and review of the Ministry’s Five Year Plans, Annual Plans and Annual Action Plans and it also performed the tasks associated with the Union Budget and the Outcome Budget of the Ministry. However, with restructuring of Planning Commission
by Government of India and evolution of NITI Aayog, on a similar direction; Plan Coordination Division was also restructured and henceforth the work relating to Budget allocation/ Outcome Budget is now being looked after by Budget Section of the Ministry.

2. PC Division has been renamed as ‘Development Monitoring & Evaluation Division’ (DMED) functioning under the supervision of Sr. Economic Advisor.

3. The work of DMED is linked with the Development, Monitoring, Evaluation Office (DMEO) in NITI Aayog. DMED would also function towards convergence of efforts through Government Funded Programmes to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The work of DMED is detailed as under:

   i. To carry out monitoring and impact Evaluation of the Ministry’s funded programmes.
   ii. To focus on outcomes and take it into account during appraisal for continuation of the ongoing schemes.
   iii. To constitute Evaluation Monitoring Committee (EMC).
   iv. To prepare TOR for Evaluation Monitoring Committee (EMC).
   v. To get TOR vetted by Inter Ministerial Group (IMG).
   vi. Coordination with NITI Aayog.
   vii. Nodal Division for coordination with NITI Aayog in the matter of monitoring and evaluation of programmes of the Ministry.
   viii. Any other matter as assigned by the competent authority in the Ministry.

4. DMED is in the process of preparing the road map and strategy to create a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the Government funded schemes of the Ministry. The Division is also examining the evaluation method opted in the Ministry’s schemes as per their SFC/EFC memos, finalised for continuation of the Schemes beyond the 12th Five Year Plan Period, i.e. from 2017-18 to 2019-20 so as to align it with the ongoing Fourteenth Finance Commission cycle (2015-16 to 2019-20).

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6.16 CENTRAL REGISTRY (CR)

- To receive the files, dak sent by other Ministry/ Departments.
- To receive the dak, sent by Postal Department or by any other office, individual etc and to distribute the files, dak received in the Central Registry Section to the sections, desks, units, Divisions, Officers concerned.
- To place ordinary dak and dak by name of officer, in the separate box kept in the Central Registry Section for the officer/sections of this Ministry.
- To receive and dispatch of all the outgoing dak, files through post office.

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6.17 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

Government working is based on intensive knowledge and information sharing. Effective communication and sound Information and Communication Technology (ICT) go hand in hand. For speedy implementation and monitoring of various programmes / schemes and to make most of ICT to secure efficiency in working, Ministry has embarked up on a comprehensive exercise to implement various e-Governance activities / projects.

2. The broad areas of activities:
   (i) Transformation of the process of governance, introduction of e-governance and reinforcing of business process to have intensive and extensive systemic reforms
   (ii) Digitization of records of the Ministry and its attached offices
   (iii) Establishment of LAN / WAN in the Ministry and its attached offices
   (iv) Introduction of the concept of e-Governance throughout the Ministry and its associated offices
   (v) Development of MIS and Decision Support System
   (vi) Training of officers/staff
   (vii) Strengthening IT infrastructure of the Ministry and its associated offices.

3. Major Activities of Information Technology:
   (i) Equipping Ganga Auditorium with Video Wall
   (ii) Implementation of eOffice in the associated offices.
   (iii) Manage email, Wi-Fi, DC&DR, BAS, VC, LAN & Networking, Internet and other IT related services in the Ministry.
   (iv) Assist Administration for implementation of SPARROW for all CSS, CSCS and CSSS Officers.

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6.18 NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY (NMNH)

The National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) was established in 1978 to promote non-formal environmental education and to create conservation among the people. The vision of the NMNH is to develop scientific temper in society on environment and natural heritage of the country for education, training and creating awareness by a network of Natural History Museums. The NMNH conducts a number of educational programmes/competitions on environment related days all the year round including the organization of temporary exhibitions on themes related to Environment, Ecology and Conservation. In order to expand the geographical coverage of its activities, the NMNH has established many Regional Museums of Natural History (RMNH) in different regions of India at Mysore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, and Sawai Madhopur. Another RMNH in North-Eastern Region is being established at Gangtok.

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6.19 INFORMATION REPOSITORY (LIBRARY)

A Digital Library page [http://envfor.nic.in/division/library](http://envfor.nic.in/division/library) has been created on Ministry’s Web. The following information are available:

- Online Journals
- Online Indian Newspapers
- Online Financial Times(UK)
- Online Catalogue of Library(OPAC) with 15 Libraries of other Ministries.
- Issue/Return by computerized process.

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6.20 INFORMATION FACILITATION CENTRE (IFC)

- To receive the RTI applications
- To receive the NGT court cases
- Deposit the amount received from RTI applicant
- To provide the information to the visitors about the Ministry
- To provide the Ministry printed material to the visitors which have been provided by the concerned sections/divisions/cell of the Ministry to Information Facilitation Centre

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6.21 CIVIL CONSTRUCTION UNIT (CCU) : Undertakes planning and construction of residential and non-residential buildings of the Ministry. It also deals with management and control of budget for capital works.

- Planning and construction of office buildings, Laboratory buildings, residential quarters, Herbarium, Museums, including Landscaping of offices of the Ministry, its attached and subordinate offices.
- Monitoring of all the works undertaken by its field Divisions and sub-divisions as well as those being done by various PWOs on behalf of the Ministry, where Civil Construction Unit does not have its field units.
- Maintenance of National Zoological Park at New Delhi.
- Compilation of comments on Cabinet Committee Notes and EFC Memo pertaining to Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- Adoption of alternative materials to avoid use of timber in buildings including utilizing the same in the various buildings, being constructed by it.
- Promotion of innovative technologies in construction and development of green and sustainable built up areas without disturbing natural balance.
- Sensitising various departments and institutes under the Ministry to minimise energy consumption by using energy efficient fitting and fixtures, in order to reduce carbon emission.
- Harnessing of renewable energy like solar power by efficient use of areas exposed to sun to the maximum possible extent.
• Introduction of energy efficient fixtures with photo voltaic cells in street lights.

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6.22  PAY & ACCOUNTS OFFICE (PAO)

Departmentalization of Accounts Division
(Principal Accounts Office/Pay & Accounts Office)

Principal Accounts Office is entrusted with the following works:

• Payment of loans and grants to State Governments through Reserve Bank of India, and wherever it has a drawing account, payment from it to Union Territory Governments/ Administrations & Consolidation of the accounts of the Ministry/Department in the manner prescribed by CGA.

• Preparation of Annual Appropriation Accounts of the Demands for Grants controlled by that Ministry/ Department.

• Submission of Statement of Central Transactions and material for the Finance Account of the Union Government (Civil) to be sent to the Controller General of Accounts.

• Authorization of CDDO/NCDDO through O/o CGA

• Internal Audits of subordinate offices, Govt. Agencies, Autonomous bodies etc. are conducted by the Internal Audit Wing (IAW).

• Status of expenditure incurred of ministry is reported by the Principal Accounts Office.

Pay & Accounts Office is entrusted with the following works:

• Bill passing of the personal claims like TA/DA/Medical reimbursement/LTC/Salaries/GPF advances/withdrawals etc. of the Officers/Officials of the Ministry and other contingent bills.

• Maintenance of GPF of employees of ministry & Payment of final payment of GPF/CGEGIS to the employees on superannuation. Settlement of Outward/Inwards claims between Govt. and Govt.

• Support of PFMS multiple modules like EIS,CDDO,GPF, Pension etc. is provided to the Ministry by the Master trainers of Pay and Accounts Offices.

• Entry of Budget in PFMS is made by the Pay & Accounts Office in the beginning of the financial years.

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6.23  OFFICIAL LANGUAGE (OL)

In order to ensure compliance of the Official Language Policy of the Union, the following areas of work in Official Language Division of the Ministry are performed :-

• Compliance of the Presidential Orders on the recommendations of the Committee of Parliament on Official Language constituted under Chairmanship of Hon’ble Minister for Home Affairs, comprising 20 Hon’ble Members of Parliament from Lok Sabha
and 10 Hon’ble Members of Parliament from Rajya Sabha;

- Compliance of the decisions taken in the meeting of Kendriya Hindi Samiti constituted under the Chairmanship of The Hon’ble Prime Minister;
- Compliance of the decisions taken in the meeting of Hindi Salahkar Samiti constituted under the chairmanship of Hon’ble Minister/ MOS(IC)/MOS of the Ministry;
- Compliance of the decisions taken in the meeting of Kendriya Rajbhasha Karyavayan Samiti constituted under the chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary/Secretary (OL);
- Compliance of the decisions taken in the meeting of Official Language Implementation Committee of the Ministry constituted under the chairmanship of Scientist ‘G’/Advisor (O.L. Incharge);
- Time bound compliance of the assurances given to the Hon’ble Committee of Parliament on Official Language during inspections made from time to time;
- Arranging translation of documents coming under purview of Sec. 3(3) of the O.L. Act; (e.g. Resolutions, General Orders, Rules, Notifications, Administrative or others reports or Press communiques, and official papers laid before a House or the Houses of Parliament; Contracts and Agreements executed, and licences, permits, Notices and Forms of tender etc.); the works related to translation of all statutes, statutory rules, regulations and ordinances including forms connected with them fall under jurisdiction of Legislative Department of the Ministry of Law & Justice and hence this work is vetted by the Official Language Wing of that Department;
- Ensuring training in Hindi Language (Praboth, Praveen & Pragya standard), Hindi Typing, Hindi Stenography and translation from English to Hindi and vice-versa;
- Preparing periodical reports (e.g. quarterly, six monthly and Annual Report) with regard to implementation of Official Language Policy of the Union and Progressive use of Hindi in official transactions, based on the information gathered from the Divisions/Sections in the Ministry and its Allied/Subordinate offices, PSUs, Autonomous Bodies, Authorities and Boards etc;
- Organising Hindi workshops/Seminars/symposia;
- Organising Hindi Fortnight;
- Encouraging officials to write articles etc. in Hindi for publishing the same in the “Paryavaran” magazine of the Ministry;
- Inspection of Section/Division/Subordinate Offices of the ministry regarding use of Official Language.

*****
Role and Functions etc. of the National Afforestation and Eco- Development Board (NAEB).

7.1 The NAEB was set up in August 1992 for promoting afforestation, tree planting, ecological restoration and eco-development activities in country. Special attentions is being given to the regeneration of degraded forest areas and land adjoining forest areas, national parks, sanctuaries and other protected areas as well as the ecologically fragile areas like the Western Himalayas, Aravallis, Western Ghats, etc.

The main role & functions of the NAEB are given as follows:

- Evolve mechanisms for ecological restoration of degraded forest areas and adjoining lands through systematic planning and implementations, in a cost effective manner;
- Restore through natural regeneration or appropriate intervention the forest cover in the country for ecological security and to meet the fuel-wood, fodder and other needs of the rural communities;
- Restore fuel-wood, fodder timber and other forest produce on the degraded forest and adjoining lands in order to meet the demands for these items;
- Sponsor research and extension of research findings to disseminate new and proper technologies for the regeneration and development of degraded forest areas and adjoining lands;
- Create general awareness and help foster a people’s movement for promoting afforestation and Eco-development with the assistance of voluntary agencies, non-government organizations, Panchayati Raj institutions and others and promote participatory and sustainable management of degraded forest areas and adjoining lands;
- Coordinate and monitor the Action Plans for tree planting, ecological restoration and Eco development; and
- Undertake all other measures necessary for promoting afforestation, tree planting, ecological restoration and Eco development activities in the country.
- National Afforestation Programme (NAP)
- Joint Forest Management (JFM), Forest Development Agencies
- Eco-Development Forces Scheme
- 20- Point Programme-
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Catchment Area Treatment Plan
- Bonn Challenge Commitment
- Nodal Division of the Ministry for Agro forestry/ Farm Forestry/ Social Forestry
- Biofuels
- Miscellaneous issues on afforestation, biofuels, 20 Point Programme, Parliament matters, etc.
7.2 Constitution of NAEB

The following is the constitution of N.A.E.B. as per resolution no. 163 dated 28th August, 1992 as amended till date:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Ex-officio Members</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Minister for Environment, Forest &amp; Climate Change (Independent Charge)</td>
<td>Chairman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>To be nominated by the Chairman</td>
<td>Vice Chairman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Member, Planning Commission in charge of Environment</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Secretaries to the Government of India in the Departments of</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Rural Development</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Agricultural Research and Education</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Expenditure (Finance)</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Science &amp; Technology</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Agriculture &amp; Cooperation</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Animal Husbandry &amp; Dairying</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Wastelands Development(Land Resources)</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Water Resources</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Defence</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Member Secretary, National Land use and Conservator Board</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Director General of Forests &amp; Special Secretary, (MoEF&amp;CC)</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Chairman, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Nominated members</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-17</td>
<td>Members of Parliament (one each from the LokSabha and the RajyaSabha)</td>
<td>Members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>Representatives (not exceeding seven) of Voluntary Agencies, Cooperative Institution, Tribals, etc. connected with afforestation and Eco development activities</td>
<td>Members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>Representatives of State Government (not exceeding five) not below the level of Secretary of State Government</td>
<td>Members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-34</td>
<td>Five Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Ex-officio Members one from each zone on rotational basis for a period of two years.</td>
<td>Members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Secretary (Environment Forest&amp;Climate Change)</td>
<td>Member Secretary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7.3 To undertake the above items of work, the Board has the different divisions and the Board also has separate Administration and Cash section.
8 Brief write-up on Subordinate offices under the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change: The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has the following subordinate offices:

1. Forest Survey of India (FSI)
2. Botanical Survey of India (BSI)
3. Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)
4. Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA)
5. Directorate of Forest Education (DFE) (State Forest Colleges & Rangers Colleges)
6. National Museum of Natural History (NMNH)
7. National Zoological Park (NZP)

8.1 FOREST SURVEY OF INDIA (FSI)
Forest Survey of India (FSI), a premier national level organization under Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India is engaged in the assessment of the country’s Forest resources on a regular basis. Establishment on 1st June, 1981, the FSI succeeded the “Pre investment Survey of Forest Resources” (PISFR), a project initiated in 1965 by Government of India with the sponsorship of FAO and UNDP. The main objective of PISFR was to ascertain the availability of raw material for establishment of wood based industries in selected areas of the country. The National Commission on Agriculture (NCA), in its report in 1976, recommended the creation of a National Forest Survey Organization for collection of reliable data through countrywide comprehensive forest resources survey at regular intervals. Consequently, PISFR was reorganized into FSI in June 1981. After a critical review of activities, the mandate of FSI was refined in 1986 in order to make it more relevant to the rapidly changing needs and aspirations of the country.

Objectives of FSI
- To assess the forest cover of the country through Remote Sensing technology, analyze the changes and prepare State of Forest Report biennially.
- To conduct inventory in forests and non-forest areas at national level and develop database on wood volume and also estimate tree cover.
- To function as a nodal agency for collection, compilation, storage and dissemination of spatial database on forest resources.
- To conduct training of forestry personnel in application of technologies related to resources survey, remote sensing, GIS, etc.
- To strengthen research & development infrastructure in FSI and to conduct research on applied forest survey techniques.
- To Support State/UT Forest Departments (SFD) in forest resources survey, mapping and inventory.
- To undertake forestry related special studies/consultancies and custom made training courses for SFD’s and other organizations on project basis.
Organizational Set-up

The FSI has headquarters at Dehradun and its four zonal offices are located at Shimla, Kolkata, Nagpur and Bangalore. Recently, a sub-center of Eastern Zone has been established and made operational in Burnihat, Guwahati. FSI is headed by a Director General who is assisted by two Joint Directors at headquarters, looking after the Forest Geoinformatics and Forest Inventory & Training Divisions.

They are supported by Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors and other technical staff. Each zonal office is headed by a Regional Director supported by Sr. Deputy Directors and other field staff. The Headquarters as well as the Zonal offices work in close coordination to carry out the various activities of FSI.

The activities at the headquarters includes forest cover assessment, producing maps, designing methodology for national inventory, data processing, producing State of Forest Reports and other reports, conducting training coordination and monitoring the activities of Zonal offices. On the other hand, activities of Zonal offices concentrate mainly on field inventory. Recently forest cover mapping work of some states has also been given to Zonal offices.

8.2 BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA (BSI)

The Botanical Survey of India (BSI) is a premier research organisation under the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India for carrying out taxonomic and floristic studies on wild plant resources of the country. It was established on 13th February, 1890 with the basic objective to explore the plant resources of the country and to identify the plants species with economic virtues. The BSI has eleven (11) Regional Centres situated in different geographic locations of the country. In addition, it has 4 units, viz. Central National Herbarium, Central Botanical Laboratory, AJCB Indian Botanic Garden in Howrah and Industrial Section Indian Museum in Kolkata. The aims and objective of the department were redefined, reviewed during the year 1987 and survey and exploration of plant resources and inventorisation of threatened species, publication of National and State Floras and development of National database were given top priority. The main objectives of the BSI are as follows:

- Exploration, inventoring and documentation of phytodiversity (including non-flowering plants) in general and protected areas, hotspots, fragile ecosystems and sacred groves in particular; publication of National, State and District Floras.
- Identification of Red list species and species rich areas needing conservation; ex situ conservation of critically threatened taxa in botanical gardens.
- Survey and documentation of traditional knowledge (ethno-botany) associated with plants.
- Develop a National database of Indian plants, including herbarium specimens, live specimens, botanical paintings illustrations etc.

8.3 ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA (ZSI)

The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) is the premier research organization under the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India involved in the study of all kinds of animals from Protozoa to Mammalia. It was established on 1st July, 1916 with focus on baseline surveys, inventorisation, identification, indexing, catallogging, maintenance, upkeep of fauna and publication of faunal resources of the country, environmental impact assessments,
habitata explorations, conservation and to promote awareness issues through participation in national and international advisory programmes and to build regional capacity projects. The headquarter of the organization is located at Kolkatta with 16 Regional Centres in different geographical locations of the country. The main objectives and activities of ZSI are as follows:

- Study of the fauna of States
- Fauna of conservation areas
- Fauna of important ecosystems
- Status survey of endangered species
- Fauna of India and
- Ecological Studies & Environmental impact assessments
- Identification & Advisory Services,
- Training & Extension Services in the field of animal taxonomy and faunistic surveys,
- Library facilities and
- Presentation & Publication of Research work in journals and books.

8.4 **INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL FOREST ACADEMY (IGNFA)**

Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy was created on 25th May 1987 by upgrading the Indian Forest College at Dehradun and de-linking it from the Forest Research Institute. The Academy is responsible for Training of Indian Forest Service Probationers. The Training is spread over a period 3 years. Besides the said training courses for IFS probationers, the Academy also conducts various short duration courses for IFS Officers and research scientists.

8.5 **DIRECTORATE OF FOREST EDUCATION (State Forest Colleges & Rangers Colleges)**. DFE runs the following courses:

- Two years Diploma course in Forestry for SFS Officers to be continued.
- Two week General Refresher Course for in Service ACF/SFS Officers to be continued.
- Theme Based Course Two weeks duration for in- service ACF/SFS Officers to be continued
  - Computer Applications in Forestry(Basic)
  - Computer Applications in Forestry(Advance)
  - Joint Forest Management & Sustainable Rural Development
  - Project Formulation & Evaluation
    - Training –cum-Workshop (5 days duration) to be continued.
  - Policy Legal Issues and International Conventions
  - Biodiversity Conservation
  - Climate Change
  - Training of Trainers
- Eighteen Months Certificate Course in Forestry for Range Officers to be continued
- Two weeks General Refresher Course for in-service Forest Range Officers.
- Short-term Refresher Course for frontline staff of the State of the State Forest Departments (for UT of Delhi and ICFRE) to be continued.
Six weeks promotion Linked course for SFS Officers promoted from Range Officers( At SFS College, Dehradun and Coimbatore. Short term Refresher Course for the Frontline Staff of the State Forest Department at FTI’s run by State Govt

8.6 NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY (NMNH)

The National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) was established in 1978 to promote non-formal environmental education and to create conservation among the people. The vision of the NMNH is to develop scientific temper in society on environment and natural heritage of the country for education, training and creating awareness by a network of Natural History Museums. The NMNH conducts a number of educational programmes/competitions on environment related days all the year round including the organization of temporary exhibitions on themes related to Environment, Ecology and Conservation. In order to expand the geographical coverage of its activities, the NMNH has established many Regional Museums of Natural History (RMNH) in different regions of India at Mysore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, and Sawai Madhopur. Another RMNH in North-Eastern Region is being established at Gangtok.

The objectives of NMNH are: to develop the NMNH in the country's Capital to achieve the highest level of quality to promote environmental education on a national level; to develop Regional offices (regional museum of natural history)in various regions of the country in order to extend its activities at the regional/local levels; to develop museum-based educational projects at the level so as to help school curriculum on environmental education (EE); to develop EE resource materials (such as audio-visual aids, low-cost teaching aids, school loan kits, etc.) to promote environmental education (EE); to undertake research (museological and collection based) consonant with the scope and resources of the museum; to extend professional help to other agencies/organizations regarding natural history collections/museums; to develop national and international cooperation/collaboration with other organizations/professional bodies/museums related to natural history/EE.

8.7 NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK (NZP)

The National Zoological Park, New Delhi presently displays about 1374 animals comprising 47 species of mammals, 69 species of Birds and 13 species of reptiles. On an average 16 to 17 lakhs people visit the Zoo annually. The main thrust of the management of the Zoo is to create awareness amongst the visitors regarding nature conservation. The Zoo continued to contribute in conservation of rare and endangered species by successful captive breeding of Brow antlered deer, swamp deer, Himalayan blackbear, tiger, Giraffe, Hippopotamus, Indian Rhinoceros and White Tiger. The Zoo also attracted about 400-500 Painted Storks from nearby areas for nesting and breeding. In addition to local migrants the zoo also attracted migratory birds namely Shovelers, Pin tail Duck, Common Teal, and Coot from Russia, Siberia and South East Asia. Thus zoo ponds have become bird sanctuary.

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9. **Autonomous Organizations under the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.**

There are the following Autonomous Organizations under this Ministry. The brief background of this organization is as under:

9.1 **GOVIND BALLABH PANT INSTITUTE OF HIMALAYAN ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, (GBPIHED) Almora (UP).**

9.1.1 G. B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development (GBPIHED), is an autonomous Research and Development Institute of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi. The institute is named after Bharat Ratna, Late Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant, who was a great freedom fighter, statesman and an eminent scholar. It was established in 1988, the birth centenary year of Pt. Pant, at Kosi-Katarmal, which is a small settlement in close proximity to his birth place – village Khoont, in Almora, Uttaranchal. The inception of the institute is also an acknowledgement to the uniqueness and diversity of Himalaya, its environments, and the developmental needs of its people. Some of the major objectives of the institute are:

1. To undertake in-depth Research & Development Studies on environment problems of Himalayan Region and Shivalik Ranges.

2. To evolve and demonstrate suitable technology packages and delivery systems for integrated development of the Himalayan & Shivalik Ranges.

3. To collaborate and co-operate with Educational, NGO’s and other Institutions and Organisation in any part of the World, having object wholly or partly similar to these of the institute, by exchange of faculty and generally in such manner as may be conducive to their common objectives.

4. To ensure the entire Himalayan Region is taken care of the research and Environment development work.

9.1.2 The institute has a strong commitment for sustainable development of Indian Himalayan Region (IHR). It has headquarters at Kosi-Katarmal, Almora (Uttarakhand) and four regional units; namely, Himachal Unit at Mohal (Kullu, HP), Garhwal Unit at Srinagar (Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand), Sikkim Unit at Panthang (Tadong, Sikkim), and NE Unit at Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh). Its area of operation is the entire Indian Himalaya covering nearly 5,91,000 sq km of geographical regime including eleven hill states, viz. Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mijoram, Tripura, Meghalaya, Assam, and the West Bengal hills.

9.1.3 The R&D mandate of the Institute is broad and covers all the facets of development and environment. The seven major thematic areas of Institute’s R&D include: (i) Land and water resource management (LWRM); Sustainable development of rural ecosystems (SDRE); Conservation of biological diversity (CBD); Ecological economics and environmental impact assessment (EE & EIA); Environmental physiology & biotechnology (EPB); Institutional
networking & human investment (INHI); Indigenous knowledge systems (IKS). The Institute has been collaborating with various National and International institutions / agencies for research on issues of relevance. Through IERP (Integrated Eco-development Programme of MoEF&CC), it also provides extra-mural fund support in IHR for promotion of science and researches of regional importance.

9.1.4 The Institute disseminates its R&D findings through publications in National and International journals and its in-house publications. The regular in-house publications of the Institute are - Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant Memorial Lectures by eminent personalities, Himalayan Newsletter, ENVIS Bulletin on Himalayan Ecology, Himalayan Biosphere Reserve Bulletin, and Institute Annual Reports. The participatory capacity building programmes of the Institute on simple technologies, and bio-diversity conservation are very popular. Some state-of-the-art approaches of ecological restoration of waste lands and degraded systems, developed by the Institute, have gained widespread acceptance in the region.

9.2 INDIAN INSTITUTE OF FOREST MANAGEMENT (IIFM), Bhopal

9.2.1 In pursuance of the management policy, in 1974, Government of India accepted the recommendations of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) Forestry Preparatory Mission to India for the establishment of an Institute to provide skill to forestry sector in the fields of business management technique, applied economics, feasibility studies, cost control, economics of timber harvesting, etc., and requested SIDA to support a Business Administration Training Project. Therefore, in 1979, the Government of India entered into an agreement with the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmadabad (IIMA) for building the proposed Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM). The impetus generated by these recommendations culminated in the establishment of Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), which came into existence in 1982 as an autonomous Institution of the Ministry of Environment & forest, Government of India.

9.2.2 The Institute, as a sectoral management institute, imparts education in forest management, which is a judicious combination of management, social and forestry sciences. The Institute constantly endeavours to keep in touch with the problems of people, especially the forest dwellers and undertakes need-based research. The major objectives of the Institute are:

• to provide training in management and related subjects to persons from forest services, forest departments, forest development corporations and forest related industries.
• to select and prepare outstanding and talented young persons for careers leading to management responsibilities in forest and forest related system; and
• to meet the need of Indian forestry and forest related industry and commerce with respect to updating information on forestry management through research, consultancy and publications.

9.2.3 The Institute has two streams of personnel, viz., faculty members and academic/administrative support staff. The Director of the Institute, as its executive head, supervises the activities of both the streams. The faculty is a mix of academicians, management experts and forestry practitioners.
(I) Education

The Institute offers two academic programmes of varying duration.
- Post Graduate Diploma in Forestry Management (equivalent to MBA)
- Post Master’s Course in Natural Resource Management (Equivalent to M.Phil.)
- Nodal Centre for Doctoral Programme of Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun

(II) Research

Research is one of the main activities of IIFM. As a sectoral management Institute in forestry, environment and allied sectors, the institute mainly focuses on research activities that are applied in nature. Various national and international organizations, like Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Department of Science and Technology, State Forest Departments, International Tropical Timber Organizations, Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations, International Development Ford Foundation, World Bank, DFID, IDREC, GTZ, etc.

(III) Training

Management Development Programme (MDP) is one of the pioneer activities of the Institute. The Institute has been conducting short-term training courses, seminars and workshops to transfer technical and managerial skills being generated by faculty areas of the Institute. The Institute with an objective to fulfill the growing need of managerial human power and development of managerial capacity in the forest and allied sectors provides an excellent forum to serve the needs of in-service managers and administrators.

(IV) Consultancy

The multi-disciplinary nature of IIFM’s faculty makes IIFM ideally suited to offer consultancy services in the areas of forestry, environment and natural resource management. The subject areas in which IIFM has been providing consultancy support include, agro-forestry, farm forestry, non-timber forest produce, livelihood and conservation, grassland management, marketing, micro credit, joint forest management, eco-development, urban forestry and forestry and forestry planning and management, and environmental impact assessment.

9.3 INDIAN PLYWOOD INDUSTRIES RESEARCH & TRAINING INSTITUTE (IPIRTI), BENGALURU

The Institute was established in 1963 jointly by the Plywood Industry and the Government of India. It was under the administrative control of CSIR till March, 1978 and subsequently under the Ministry of Industry till April, 1990. Thereafter with effect 1.5.90, it has come under the administrative control of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change. The Institute undertakes research to enlarge service life of wood and wood products, economise wood volume in and use and reduce wastage in conversion and application. The focus of research is basically on reduction of pressure on natural forests.

9.4 WILDLIFE INSTITUTE OF INDIA (WII), Dehradun

The scheme regarding strengthening Wildlife Management and Eco-development Planning capabilities was launched in the year 1993-94. This is being implemented through Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun by providing financial support through UNDP. Government of India
Officers in different states are being trained by Wildlife Institute of India for preparation of Management Plans for 20 identified protected areas, officers from Wildlife Institute of India and various other States are also being trained in Wildlife Management and Eco-development planning capabilities as a part of the UNDP/FAO Project. It also covers a wide range of ecological, biological, management and socio-economic aspect of Wildlife conservation, aims to strengthen the conservation efforts.

9.5 INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY, RESEARCH AND EDUCATION (ICFRE), Dehradun.

The ICFRE was established on 31st December, 1986 by restructuring of Forest Research Institute and Colleges to oversee the activities relating to Forestry Research and Education in the country and coordinate the efforts of all concerned Institutes and Organizations. With effect from 1.6.1991 the ICFRE was converted into an autonomous body. Various Institutes and Centres under ICFRE are as:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institutes</th>
<th>Centres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forest Research Institute, Dehradun</td>
<td>Forest Research Centre for Skill Development, Chhindwara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur</td>
<td>Forest Research Centre for Bamboo &amp; Rattan, Aizawl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur</td>
<td>Forest Research Centre for Eco-Rehabilitation, Prayagraj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla</td>
<td>Forest Research Center for Livelihood Extension, Agartala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi</td>
<td>Forest Research Centre for Coastal Eco-System, Visakhapatnam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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10. The following are the Authorities of the Ministry

10.1 CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY (CZA)

10.1.1 The Central Zoo Authority is a statutory autonomous body under the administrative control of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change. The Authority was established in the year 1992 under the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act to support, oversee, monitor and coordinate the management of the Zoos in the country. The Authority is a 12-Member body headed by Minister for Environment & forest as Chairperson and with a Member Secretary as Chief Executive Officer of the Authority. The statutory functions of the Authority under the Act are:

- To specify the minimum standards for housing, upkeep and veterinary care of the animals kept in zoos;
- To evaluate and assess the functioning of the zoos with respect to the prescribed standards or norms;
- To recognize or derecognize zoos;
- To identify endangered species of wild animals for purposes of captive breeding and assigning responsibility in this regard to a zoo;
- To coordinate the acquisition, exchange and loaning of animals for breeding purpose;
- To ensure maintenance of studbooks of endangered species of wild animals bred in captivity;
- To identify priorities and themes with regard to display of captive animals in zoos;
- To coordinate training of zoo personnel in India and outside India;
- To coordinate research in captive breeding and educational programmes for the purposes of zoos;
- To provide technical and other assistance to zoos for their proper management and development on scientific lines;
- To perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act with regard to zoos.

10.1.2 No new zoo can be created in India without prior permission of the Central Zoo Authority and no Zoo in the country can function without recognition form the Central Zoo Authority. For assessing Zoos, the Recognition of Zoo Rules were framed in the year 1992. This is a set of 51 standards and norms for compliance by the Zoos. The National Zoo Policy was adopted by the Government of India in the year 1998 to give direction to the Zoos.

10.1.3 The Central Zoo Authority provide financial assistance for the improvement of recognized public sector Zoos for creation of better animal housing, veterinary care facilities, research and training on 100% basis whereas expenditure on infrastructural development is shared with the Zoo operators on 50:50 basis. The Central Zoo Authority has also established seven rescue centres at Bhopal, Chennai, Bangalore, Vishakhapatnam, Tirupati, Jaipur and South Khairbari (West Bengal) for rehabilitation of lions, tigers, leopards, bears and monkeys whose performance has been banned in the Circuses by Government of India. The Central Zoo Authority has signed MOU with some national institutes dealing with wildlife conservation related activities to research on zoo related issues. The Authority also organized short-term training programmes for in service Zoo personnel in India and abroad.
10.2 NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY (NBA), Chennai

The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) was established in 2003 to implement India’s Biological Diversity Act (2002). The NBA is an autonomous body and performs facilitative, regulatory, and advisory functions for the Government of India on issues of conservation, sustainable use of biological resources, and fair equitable sharing of benefits of use.

The Biological Diversity Act (2002) mandates implementation of the Act through a decentralized system with the NBA focusing on advice to the Central Government on matters relating to the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of biological resources; advice to the State Government in the selection of areas of biodiversity importance to be notified under sub-section (1) of section 37 as heritage sites and measures for the management of such heritage sites.

The State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) focusing on advice to the State Government, subject to any guidelines issued by the Central Government, on matters relating to the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of biological resources. Regulate by granting of approvals or otherwise request for commercial utilization or bio-survey and bio-utilization of any biological resource by Indians; and local level Biodiversity Management committees (BMCs) responsible for promoting conservation, sustainable use and documentation of biological diversity including preservation of habitats, conservation of land races, folk varieties and cultivators, domesticated stocks and breeds of animals and microorganisms and chronicling of knowledge relating to biological diversity.

The NBA with its Headquarters in Chennai, India delivers its mandate through a structure that comprises of the Authority, secretariat, SBBs, BMCs and Expert Committees. Since its establishment, NBA has supported creation of SBBs in 29 States, facilitated establishment of around 37,769 BMCs, advised notification.

The main objectives of NBA are:
- To regulate access to biological resources of the country to conserve and sustainable use of biological diversity
- To respect and protect the knowledge of local communities related to biodiversity
- To secure sharing of benefits with the local people as conservers of biological resources and holders of knowledge and information relating to the use of biological resources
- Conservation and development of area of importance from the view point of biological diversity by declaring them as biological diversity heritage sites
- Protection and rehabilitation of threatened species; involvement of institutions of state government in the broad scheme of implementation of the Biological Diversity Act through constitution of committees

10.3 NATIONAL TIGER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (NTCA)

10.3.1 The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) working under the Control of Additional Director General (Project Tiger) & Member Secretary (NTCA), Ministry of
Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The Authority combines Biodiversity Conservation and Rural Livelihood Improvement Project (BCRLIP). The main objectives and activities are as under:

- Providing statutory authority to Project Tiger so that compliance of its directives becomes legal.
- Forest ring accountability of Center-State in management of Tiger Reserves, by providing a basis for MoU with States within our federal structure.
- Providing for an oversight by Parliament. Addressing livelihood interests of local people in areas surrounding Tiger Reserves.
- Project Tiger Administration (Processing of proposals from Tiger Reserves areas and release of funds to the State Governments Concerned) of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme ‘Project Tiger’.
- Administration matters (including policy) concerning Tiger Reserves in the country. It also includes the consideration of the proposals from the State Governments for inclusion of new areas. Dealing with cases of non Tiger Project, Prime Tiger habitats.
- Providing technical guidelines and funding support to States for tiger conservation.
- Constitution and convening of the meetings of the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the implementation of recommendations thereof.
- Periodical meetings of the Field Directors of the Tiger Reserve areas and of the Chief Wildlife Wardens of Tiger Reserve States.
- Periodical field visits by officials of Project Tiger Directorate (now the National Tiger Conservation Authority) for monitoring and evaluation.
- Management / Tiger Conservation Plans, research, census, filming proposal relating to the Tiger Reserve areas.
- Eco-tourism initiatives and management.
- Tiger poaching and offences in the country including the Tiger Reserve.
- Annual Report of the Tiger Reserve areas.
- Bi-annual review of the Tiger Reserve.
- Interaction with experts, NGO's and scientific institutions on matters of Project Tiger.
- Protection and conservation of Bio-diversity in Tiger Reserve and to facilitate implementation of National and International legal instruments.
- Coordination of Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora & Fauna CITES

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11 The following are the Board under the Ministry:

1 Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)
2 Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB)

11.1 CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, Delhi.

11.1.1 The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) was constituted under section (3) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. CPCB earlier known as “Central Board for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution” (CBPCWP) was mandated with the function to restore wholesomeness water quality (ground water and surface water). In 1981, the Board was entrusted with the responsibilities to implement the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 also with an objective to maintain and preserve ambient air quality.

Since, issues relating to prevention and control of pollution are linked with overall maintenance of environmental quality, CPCB has been further mandated to perform, execute and co-ordinate relevant provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules framed thereunder.

11.1.2 ACTS AND RULES

The Acts and Rules brought-in for implementation are:

(i) The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
(ii) The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Cess, Act, 1977
(iii) The Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
(iv) The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
(vii) Solid Wastes Management Rules, 2016
(viii) The Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000
(ix) The Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001

11.1.3 Functions of CPCB:

The functions of CPCB are prescribed under Section (16) of the Water and Air Acts. The functions and achievements are illustrated below:

- Advise the Central Government on any matter concerning prevention and control of water and air pollution;
- Plan and execute nation-wide pollution control programmes;
- Co-ordinate the activities of State Boards and Pollution Control Committees;
- Provide technical assistance and guidance to the State, Boards and PCCs;
- Carryout and sponsor investigation and research related to pollution control;
- Plan and organize training programmes;
- Organize mass awareness programmes;
• Collect, compile and publish technical and statistical data relating to water and air pollution;
• Prepare manuals, codes and guidelines relating to treatment and disposal of wastes;
• Disseminate information in respect of matters relating to water and air pollution;
• Lay down, modify, water and air quality standards;
  Perform such other functions as and when prescribed by the Government of India-powers delegated under Section 5 of EPA and Implementation of EPA rules.

11.1.4 ROLE OF CPCB
CPCB has been performing the functions as per the given mandate. Role of CPCB has been legal/statutory, Advisory and R & D.

11.1.5 ACTIVITIES OF CPCB
The major sectoral issues are summarized as under:

a. Water Quality Management including Initiatives for Ganga Rejuvenation
b. Soil and Ground Water Management
c. Air Quality Management including Air Quality Index (AQI)
d. Noise Monitoring
e. Industrial Pollution Control including:
   i. 17 categories of highly Polluting Industries
   ii. Water Polluting Industries
   iii. Air Polluting Industries
   iv. Development of Standards
   v. Critically Polluted Industrial Clusters/ Revision of CEPI
   vi. Re-categorization of industries
   vii. Online monitoring for self-regulation
   viii. CEMS Installation
f. Waste Management including:
   i. Hazardous Waste
   ii. Bio-medical Waste
   iii. Electronic Waste
   iv. Municipal Solid Waste
   v. Plastic Waste
   vi. Construction and Demolition (C&D) Wastes

11.1.6 FUTURE PLANS
• Establishment of R & D Institute
• Certification of new monitoring instrument/ technologies
• To create forum for knowledge sharing & innovative solutions amongst various agencies to forge convergence.
• To share, showcase & scale up best practices achieved in environment including climate related initiatives of various stakeholders.
• Assessment of environmental status for air, water, noise
• Identification of micro pollutants & their toxic effects
• Protocol for Real Time Monitoring
• Protocol for Certification of instruments
• Compliance in Mines
• Development of Soil Standards
• Implementation of 06 Rules on Waste Management Notified in 2016.
• Standardization of monitoring technologies for criteria/ secondary pollutants
• Development of standards for new industrial sectors, additional pollutants & standardization of methodology for sampling & analysis.
• Identification of new pollutants & assess their impact on environment including human health.
• Assessment of impact of Transboundary moment of air pollutants & their contribution to air quality of cities.

11.2 WILDLIFE CRIME CONTROL BUREAU (WCCB)

11.2.1 To combat the organized illegal trade in wildlife and their derivatives, the Central Government vide its Gazette Notification No.683 dated 6th June, 2007 has constituted Tiger and other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau to be known as the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau. The Bureau will exercise such powers as may be delegated to it under sub-section (I) of section 5, sub sections(I) and (8) of section 50 and section 55 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act,1972 and such other powers as may be prescribed. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau functions under the Scheme of “Strengthening of Wildlife Division and Consultancies for Special Tasks”.

11.1.2 All the existing posts of Wildlife Regional Offices and Sub Regional Offices stand transferred to the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau henceforth. The functions of the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau are as follows:

• Collect and collate intelligence related to organized wildlife crime activities and to disseminate the same to State and other enforcement agencies for immediate action so as to apprehend the criminals and to establish a centralized wildlife crime data bank;
• Coordination of actions by various officers, State Governments and other authorities in connection with the enforcement of the provisions of this Act, either directly or through regional and border units set up by the Bureau
• Implementation of obligations under the various international conventions and protocols that are in force at present or which may be ratified or acceded to by India in future;
• Assistance to concerned authorities in foreign countries and concerned international organizations to facilitate coordination and universal action for wildlife crime control;
• Develop infrastructure and capacity building for scientific and professional investigation into wildlife crimes and assist State Governments to ensure success in prosecutions related to wildlife crimes;.
Advise the Government of India on issues relating to wildlife crimes having national and international ramifications, and suggest changes required in relevant policy and laws from time to time.

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12 Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change:

The National Commission on Agriculture in its Report on "Productivity Forestry Man-made Forests" (1972) suggested that the forestry sector should contribute to the GNP of the country to the extent of its potentiality, and recommended the establishment of Forest Development Corporations. Based on these recommendations, the Andaman Forest Department prepared a Project Report in 1976 for the establishment of a Forest Development Corporation in the Union Territory. After the Project Report was sanctioned by Govt. on 17th Jan., 1977, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Forests & Plantation Development Corporation was set up on 21.1.1977 at Port Blair.

Due to ban on felling of naturally grown trees in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, by Hon’ble Supreme Court in 2001 and 2002 (except in the areas with reworked and approved working plans), the Corporation had become an overall loss making venture since 2001 onwards. Since, the continuation of the activities by the Corporation was a financially non-viable option, the Ministry moved a Cabinet Note for closure of Corporation by offering Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS)/Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS) for their employees and auction of movable/immovable assets of the Corporation to the Cabinet. The proposal was approved by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting dated 16th August, 2017. As per the approved Cabinet Note, all the employees of the Corporation were given VRS/VSS on 30.11.2017. The Ministry is implementing closure plan of the Corporation as per approval of CCEA.

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13. There are Centers of Excellence under the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

The scheme of Centers of Excellence was started in 1983 by the Ministry to strengthen awareness, research and training in priority areas of Environmental Science and management.

The following Centres of Excellence in specific areas have been setup so far by the Ministry:

1. Centre for Environment Education (CEE), Ahmedabad on ‘Environmental Education’
2. CPR Environment Education Centre(CPREEC), Chennai on ‘Environmental Awareness’ –
3. Centre for Ecological Sciences (CES), Bangalore on Ecology of Western Ghats and Research
4. Centre for Mining Environment(CME), Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad on ‘Mining Environment’
5. Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History(SACON), Coimbatore on ‘Avian Ecology,’
6. Centre for Environmental Management of Degraded Ecosystem(CEMDE), Delhi University, Delhi on Management of ‘Degraded Ecosystem’
7. Foundation for Revitalization of local health traditions (FRLHT), Bangalore on ‘Medicinal Plants & Traditional knowledge’
8. Madras School of Economics(MSE), Chennai on ‘Environmental Economics’
9. Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (TBGRI), Thiruvananthapuram on ‘Conservation of Tropical Plants,

The back-ground and objectives of above centers of excellence are as under:

13.1 CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION, Ahmedabad.

The CEE was established in 1984 as a Centre of Excellence on Environmental education, supported by the Ministry. CEE’s primary objective is to improve public awareness and understanding of the environment with a view to promoting the conservation and sustainable use of nature and natural resources, leading to a better environment and a better quality of life. To this end, it develops innovative programmes and educational material, builds capacity in the field of education for sustainable development, and undertakes demonstration projects in education, communication and development that endorse attitudes, strategies and technologies which are environmentally sustainable.

13.2 CPR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE, Chennai.

C.P.R Environmental Education Centre (CPREEC) was established in 1989 to increase consciousness and knowledge about the environment and the major environmental problems facing India Today, and to spread the message of conservation of the environmental through education in both the formal and non-formal sectors.
CPREEC has been conducting a variety of programme to spread awareness and interest among all sections of the public, by organizing training programmes, workshops, courses, surveys, exhibitions, and by raising awareness through action.

13.3 CENTRE FOR ECOLOGICAL SCIENCES (CES), INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE (IISC), Bengaluru.

The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change recognized the Centre of Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore as a Centre of Excellence in the year 1983. The Centre carried out research on 30 projects in the fields of ecology of tropical forests, climate change, community ecology, behavioral ecology and evolutionary biology.

13.4 CENTRE FOR MINING ENVIRONMENT, Dhanbad

To augment research and generate scientific data for sustainable development and mining, the Ministry established a Centre of Excellence known as Centre for Mining Environment in the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, in 1987. Indian School of Mines being the nodal institution in the mining research was identified by the Ministry of setting up this centre of excellence.

The Centre, since its inception continued its training programmes on environmental monitoring and impact assessment of mining areas for various professions.

13.5 SALIM ALI CENTRE FOR ORNITHOLOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY, Coimbatore (Linked with Bombay Natural History Society Bombay)

This centre was set up in 1990. The proposal for it was initially drawn by the Bombay natural History Society following the suggestions of late Dr. Salim Ali, the BNHD has maintained close links with SACON, the President of BNHS being President of SACON also and Chairman of Government Council being nominated by President BNHS.

The following six areas have been identified by SACON.

- Avian Ecology and Economic Ornithology
- Terrestrial Ecology
- Wetland Ecology
- Eco-toxicology
- Conservation Biology and
- Environmental Impact Assessment.

13.6 CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF DEGRADED ECOSYSTEM, Delhi

The Centre for Environmental Management of Degraded Ecosystem (CEMDE), under the aegis of School of Environmental Studies, Delhi University has been functioning as Centres of Excellence of the Ministry since 1997.
13.7 FOUNDATION FOR REVITALISATION OF LOCAL HEALTH TRADITIONS (FRLHT), Bangalore

Medicinal plants being recognized as an important national resource of economic and cultural value, which needed to be conserved and sustainably used. The Ministry setup a Centres of Excellence on ‘Medicinal Plants & Traditional Knowledge’ at FRLHT, Bangalore in October, 2002 to undertake six major activities viz.:

- Creation of a Bio-cultural repository of Medicinal plants of India
- Development of Educational Materials (on the rich traditional knowledge of the Medicinal Plants of India)
- Training to Village Botanists in identification and monitoring of Medicinal Plants
- Establishment of an ethno-medicinal demonstration garden in Bangalore
- Pharmacognostic studies on prioritized medicinal plants
- Preparation of Medicinal Plants Distribution Maps using GIS

13.8 MADRAS SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, Chennai

The Ministry set up the Centre of Excellence on “Environmental Economics” at Madras School of Economics, Chennai on March 31, 2002. The research areas of the Centre include: Economic Instruments, Trade and Environment and Cost Benefit Analysis. The Centre is also responsible for the development and Maintenance of a website on environmental economics.

13.9 TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE, Thiruvananthapuram

The Union Ministry of Environment & forest recognized the TBGRI in March, 1997 as a Center of Excellence in ex-situ conservation of tropical plants. The Institute has introduced over 130 accessions of different rare plants including database.

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