



D.O.No.2411/6/2017-GC (part-1)

October 10, 2017

Dear

Following are the highlights of the achievements and activities of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) for the month of **September, 2017:**

1. Rules/Notifications/Policy Decisions:

- 1.1** Ministry vide Gazette Notification dated 11th September, 2017 has notified the Amendments to the Wood Based Industries (Establishment and Regulation) Guidelines 2016.
- 1.2** A cabinet note for ratification of Minamata Convention on Mercury was moved to the Cabinet Secretariat on 18th September, 2017.
- 1.3** Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest Conservation Act 1980 have been issued.

2. Conferences/Workshops/Seminars and other activities

- 2.1** MoEF&CC participated in the first Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury held during 24-29 September 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland. India was able to negotiate and protect its interest in the CoP-1 meeting.
- 2.2** MoEF&CC launched an online environmental quiz namely, "Prakriti Khoj-Environment Quiz" for Eco-Club schools on 5th September, 2017. The online Quiz was launched by Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Hon'ble Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- 2.3** A training workshop on "Capacity Building of Indian Zoo Veterinarians on Animal Health Management in Captivity" was held at National Zoological Park, New Delhi from 11th to 19th September, 2017.
- 2.4** Workshop-cum-training Programme on GIS/Geo-Mapping was organized in Gandhinagar for all ENVIS Centers from 21st to 23rd September, 2017.



- 2.5** The second meeting of the Committee for framing of draft National Action Plan on Forest Fire was held on 18th September, 2017 under the Chairmanship of Inspector General Forest.
- 2.6** Meeting on SFC on Central Sector Schemes titled "Creation of Management Structure for Hazardous Substances" was held on 1st September, 2017 in Delhi under the Chairmanship of Secretary (EF&CC).
- 2.7** The Foundation Course of the Pilot Programme of the Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP) under the ENVIS Scheme was successfully completed in 10 districts spread over 9 Bio-geographic regions. 94 trainees successfully completed the course qualifying as skilled Biodiversity Conservationist.
- 2.8** "Swachhta hi Sewa Campaign" was observed by this Ministry from 15th September to 2nd October 2017. The subordinate offices/ attached and autonomous bodies carried out Swachhta related activities.
- 2.9** Science Express Climate Action (SECAS) train which was flagged off on 17th Feb, 2017 has completed its journey of this phase on 8th September, 2017. The total distance covered by the train is approximately 19500km, with a total footfall of 24.71 lakhs which is the maximum in all phases.
- 2.10** MoEF&CC launched an awareness campaign on 'Harit Diwali-Swasth Diwali' on 17th August, 2017. The campaign was launched by Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC in a public function organized in the Atrium of IPB, MoEF&CC. The campaign will continue till 17th October, 2017.
- 2.11** Officials of MoEF&CC were assigned different states to oversee the implementation of Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan across the country.
- 2.12** The Standing Finance Committee (SFC) chaired by Secretary, EF&CC in meeting held on 18.08.2017 recommended extension of ongoing Central Sector Schemes namely the 'Climate Change Action Programme' for three years (2017-2020) at a cost of Rs 132.40 crores and the National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change for three year (2017-2020) at a total cost of Rs 364 crores.

2.13 Eco Sensitive Zones

Of a total of **648 Protected Areas (PAs)** in the country, ESZ proposals for **419 PAs have been issued** by ESZ Division. Of the 419 proposals, Draft Notifications have been published for **154 PAs** and Final Notifications have been published for **265 PAs**.

2.14 Environmental Clearances

During the month, a total of **167 projects** pertaining to different sectors were appraised, **53 projects were accorded environmental clearance** and **47 projects were prescribed TORs**. So, a total of 100 **proposals** were cleared during the month. The status of environmental clearance and TOR of Projects for the month of September, 2017 is at **Annexure-I**.

2.15 Forest Clearances

During the month, diversion of **7852.25 ha** of forest land in **100 cases** were approved under the **Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980**. **4989.269 ha** of non-forest land and **4520.561 ha** of degraded forest land were earmarked for **Compensatory Afforestation (C.A.)**.

2.16 Total Expenditure

An expenditure of **Rs 1266.63 Crores** (Provisional) has been incurred till **30th September, 2017** against the gross budget estimate of **Rs 2931.42 crores** for FY 2017-18.

3. Important policy matters held up on account of prolonged inter-ministerial consultations: **NIL**
4. Compliance of COS decisions: **NIL**

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

5. Number of cases of 'sanction for prosecution' pending for more than three months: **NIL**
6. Particulars of cases in which there has been a departure from the Transaction of Business Rules or established policy of the Government: **NIL**
7. **Status of implementation of e-Governance:**

Total No. of Files	Total No. E-files
2550	1020

8. Details of cases in which ACC directions have not been complied with:

Sl. No.	Case	Remarks
NIL		

9. **Status of Public Grievances:**

No. of Public Grievances redressed during the month	No. of Public Grievances pending at the end of the month
390	552

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Encl: as above

Sd/-

(A.N. Jha)


Shri P.K. Sinha,
Cabinet Secretary,
Cabinet Secretariat,
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Copy to: The Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, PMO, South Block, New Delhi.

Sd/-

(A.N. Jha)

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


(Ritesh Kumar Singh)
Joint Secretary

Status of Environment Clearance and Terms of Reference of Projects for the month of August, 2017

	Industry-(I)		Industry-(II)		Thermal		River Valley & Hydro-Electric		Mining (Coal)		Mining (Non- Coal)		Infrastructure and Miscellaneous Projects + CRZ		New Construction Projects and Industrial Estates		Nuclear, Defence & Others		Total	
	EC	ToR	EC	TOR	EC	TOR	EC	TOR	EC	TOR	EC	ToR	EC	TOR	EC	TOR	EC	TOR	EC	TOR
No. of projects at the beginning month	35	31	147	196	7	4	23	12	6	11	136	93	174	45	193	36	10	3	731	430
Projects received during the month/ reopened	8	13	37	37	0	2	2	6	2	4	28	31	28	6	37	9	1	0	143	108
Projects cleared during the month	1	6	6	64	1	0	0	7	0	2	1	0	16	7	35	8	0	0	60	94
Projects converted from EC to ToR due change of scope	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Projects exempted during the month	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Projects rejected during the month (on merit)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	1
Projects closed during the month (due to non-submission of inf.)	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10
Projects withdrawn/ Transferred/Returned/Duplicate	0	2	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	9	0	9	2	0	0	21	8
Projects kept in abeyance/delisted	0	0	4	5	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	1	1	1	26	6
Projects pending at the end of the month	31	27	139	78	6	5	9	10	10	13	134	110	155	36	165	20	10	2	659	300