OFFICE MEMORANDUM


Reference is invited to D.O. letter No. 502/1/2014-CA-V dated 5th August, 2014 from Cabinet Secretary addressed to Secretary (EF&CC) regarding furnishing of information on important issues in the prescribed format.

2. In so far as this Ministry is concerned, the requisite information has been filled in the monthly report format and is sent herewith. Information has also been e-mailed at cabinetsy@nic.in and also at subhag@nic.in.

Encl: As above

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel. No.011-2469 5129
FAX: 011-2469 5271

To

Cabinet Secretary
(Kind attn: Shri P.K. Sinha)
Rashtrapati Bhawan,
New Delhi – 110 001
Important policy decisions taken and major achievements during the month:

Following are the highlights of the achievements and activities of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) for the month of June, 2016:

1. **Rules/Notifications/Policy Decisions**

1.1 A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Govt. of India and the Govt. of the United States of America was approved by Cabinet Committee on 1st June, 2016 and signed by the Indian Ambassador to United States of America, Washington on 2nd June, 2016 at Washington D.C. The MoU seeks to enhance co-operation on Wildlife Conservation and Combating Wildlife Trafficking.

2. **Conferences/Workshops/Seminars**

2.1 The first in a series of five awareness workshops on Guidelines for Access to Biological Resources under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 was organized on 13 June 2016 by the National Biodiversity Authority in cooperation with the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), with the objective of creating awareness regarding the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act (BDA) 2002 in respect of the recently notified Guidelines 2014.

2.2 An interactive media workshop on 'Biodiversity connect media workshop' was also organized on 7 June 2016 by the Centre for Environmental Communication, which was supported by the National Biodiversity Authority. The workshop was organised to engage the media on discourses on National Biodiversity Targets and Biological Diversity Act.

2.3 In the occasion of World Environment Day (5th June 2016), an On-the-spot Painting Competition for children was organized by the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH), New Delhi on the theme **“Go Wild for Life – Zero Tolerance for the Illegal Wildlife Trade”**. NMNH also organized Summer Vacation Programme-2016 for Green Teens (SVP GT) -2016 for children from 6th to 17th July, 2016 in New Delhi. World Environment Day was also organized by G. B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment & Sustainable Development (GBPNIHESD), Almora.

2.4 International Yoga Day was celebrated by MoEF&CC on 21-23 June, 2016. Special Yoga Session was conducted for women employees in MoEF&CC.

2.5 A meeting to discuss ‘Preparation of Regional Action Plan for Management and Conservation of Elephants in East-Central Region, with special emphasis to Human Elephant Conflicts’ was held on 6th June, 2016 in New Delhi.

2.6 Workshops for ‘Knowledge of official language Act, 1963 and other rules and their implementation’ and ‘Bilingualism of Computer System’ were organised by MoEF&CC.
2.7 A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) was signed on 29.06.2016 between National Institute of Animal Welfare (NIAW), Faridabad and Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi to conduct academic programme that will focus on development of Animal Welfare Sciences.

2.8 A three-day workshop for the officials and veterinarians of the Goa Forest Department was organized by the Wildlife Institute of India at Bondla Zoo, Goa on 13-15th June, 2016 with the objectives of providing an exposure on various aspects of wild animal capture and restraint and enhancing the skills of forest officials in efficient rescue and rehabilitation of wild animals.

2.9 World Day to Combat Desertification (WDCD) was celebrated on 17th June 2016 by Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun, Arid Forest Research Institute (AFRI), Jodhpur and GBPNIHESD, Almora. This year’s theme for WDCD was ‘Inclusive cooperation for achieving Land Degradation Neutrality’ with the slogan ‘Protect Earth. Restore Land. Engage People.’ Land degradation neutrality is also one of the 17 targets of the Sustainable Development Goals.

2.10 Landscape Yatra (Journey through landscape) was conducted in Kailash Sacred landscape part of India on June 11-16, 2016 by GBPNIHESD, Almora.

2.11 A follow up meeting on abatement of pollution, conservation and restoration of lakes in Bengaluru was held on 14.06.2016 in New Delhi with representatives of Government of Karnataka.

3 Swachhata Pakhwada

MoEF&CC organized Swachhata Pakhwada from 01.06.2016 to 15.06.2016 which was extended upto 19.06.2016. During the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (SBA), all the PCCFs, Chief Wildlife Wardens, Director of Delhi Zoo, Central Zoo Authority, Wildlife Institute of India, National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) and other agencies associated with the Wildlife Division, MoEF&CC were involved in the campaign. In order to extend the scope of Swachhata Abhiyan to include waste management concepts and recent regulations, special drives were launched in 10 selected Protected Areas to sensitize the visitors on the regulatory regime for waste management. A press conference on the subject was jointly addressed by Secretary, Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation and Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on 23rd June, 2016.

4. Eco Sensitive Zones

A total of 290 complete proposals have been received so far for notifying 424 Protected Areas (PAs) of a total 646 Pas in the country. Of these, 275 ESZ proposals have been notified/approved consisting of a total of 404 Protected Areas.

5. Environment Clearance

During the month, a total of 179 projects pertaining to different sectors were appraised, out of which 34 projects were accorded environmental clearance and 45 projects were prescribed TORs in various meetings of Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC). The status of adequate environment safeguards of various projects is at Annexure-I.
7. **Forest Clearances**

During the month, **51** cases were approved for reforestation of **295.03** ha of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. **171.85** ha of non-forest and **311.15** ha of degraded forest land were earmarked for compensatory afforestation (C.A.).

7. **Plan Expenditure**

The Plan Expenditure against the 9 Umbrella Schemes being administered by the Ministry incurred till **30th June, 2016** was **Rs.312.85 crore** against the budget estimates (2016-17) of **Rs.2000.00 crore**.

2. Important policy matters held up on account of prolonged inter-ministerial consultations : **NIL**

3. Compliance of COS decisions : **NIL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. Of CoS decisions pending for compliance</th>
<th>Proposed action plan/time lines for compliance of CoS decisions</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Number of cases of ‘sanction for prosecution’ pending for more than three months : **NIL**

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

6. Status of implementation of e-Governance :

As per given mandate for “Minimum Government and Maximum Governance”, the IA division of the Ministry has mandated online submission of proposals seeking ToR / EC w.e.f. 1st July, 2014.

7. Status of Public Grievances :

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of Public Grievances redressed during the month</th>
<th>No. of Public Grievances pending at the end of the month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>423</td>
<td>1378</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. 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.

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## ANNEXURE - 1

**Status of Environment Clearance and Terms of Reference of Projects for the month of June, 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry-(I)</th>
<th>Industry-(II)</th>
<th>Thermal</th>
<th>River Valley &amp; Hydro-Electric</th>
<th>Mining (Coal)</th>
<th>Mining (Non-Coal)</th>
<th>Infrastructure-I</th>
<th>Infrastructure-II</th>
<th>Nuclear, Defence &amp; Others</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EC</td>
<td>ToR</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>TOR</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>TOR</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>TOR</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>TOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of projects at beginning of the month</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects received during the month/reopened</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects cleared during the month</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects converted from EC to ToR due change of scope</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Projects exempted during the month</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Projects rejected during the month (on merit)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects closed during the month (due to non-submission of int.)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects withdrawn/Transferred/Returned/Duplicate</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects kept in abeyance</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects pending at the end of the month</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>09</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>