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

D.O.No.2411/4/2018-GC
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Following are the highlights of the achievements and activities of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) for **February, 2018**:

1. Rules/Notifications/Policy Decisions:

1.1 One guideline issued for diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 during **February, 2018**.

1.2 Advisory dated 26.02.2018 has been issued to all States/UTs for issuing of instruction in their respective states on the line of instruction issued by Government of Himachal Pradesh for adoption of inter-state movement of commonly grown agro-forestry tree species.

2. Conferences/Workshops/Seminars and other activities:

2.1 "Clean Air for Delhi" Campaign was launched from 10th February, 2018 to 23rd February, 2018 to create awareness and induce remedial measures to mitigate the causes responsible for degradation of AQI in Delhi/NCR. During this Campaign, 66 Pollution Watch Control Groups (PWCG) were constituted wherein every PWGG comprise one official each from MoEF&CC, Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi Pollution Control Committee, Municipal Corporation of Delhi headed by Sub-Divisional Magistrates and Tehsildars of 33 Sub Divisions of Delhi respectively. During the campaign, these teams ensured ground level implementation of identified set of activities towards mitigating Air Pollution. This campaign witnessed an overwhelming success with active participation of all the stakeholders as well as wide publicity of this campaign among masses. It is worth mentioning that Air Quality Index in Delhi improved significantly after the campaign.

2.2 MoEF&CC attended the 16th Informal Meeting on further action against Climate Change held in Tokyo, Japan during 22-23 February, 2018. The conference was jointly hosted by Japan and Brazil.

2.3 An official announcement of India as global host of World Environment Day 2018 (WED 2018) was made on 19th February, 2018 following signing of a Letter of Intent (LoI) between Secretary (EF&CC) and Executive Director, UN Environment in the presence of Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Hon'ble Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Mr. Yuri

Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and Ms. DechenTsering, Regional Director, UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. The theme of the WED 2018 is “Plastic Pollution”.

2.4 The 1st India-Morocco Joint Working Group meeting was held on 22-23 February, 2018 in New Delhi, India. The JWG meeting served as a platform for both the countries to explore different areas in the field of Environment for cooperation. The delegation from both the countries shared and discussed the current situation/problems, strengths, best practices etc.

2.5 Science Exhibition was organized at 8, Tees January Marg, New Delhi by Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences to showcase the achievements of respective Government Departments for general public and by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change to create awareness among schools, colleges and general masses to promote environmental conservation from 29th January to 15th February, 2018.

2.6 Consultative Workshop on Preparation of India’s Sixth National Report to Convention on Biological Diversity and Progress Achieved on India’s National Biodiversity Target-6 (NBT 6) was held at Dehradun on 19th February, 2018.

2.7 A new Indo-German Technical Cooperation project on ‘Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India’ was conceptualized on 5th February, 2018 at New Delhi. The project is being commissioned by Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and is being implemented by MoEF&CC, State Forest Departments of Karnataka, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. The Project aims at providing technical support at the National level and in selected partner states of Karnataka, West Bengal and Uttarakhand for effective implementation of Human Wildlife Conflict mitigation measures.

2.8 In association with the Species360, USA organized three numbers of interactive sessions during the month of February, 2018 at Kamla Nehru Zoological Garden, Ahmadabad, Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park, Patna and Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Bareilly. The session is aimed to facilitate entry, update and completion of animal records of respective zoos in the Zoological Information management system software for Husbandry and Medical Management of the member zoos.

2.9 MoEF&CC in partnership with National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) have organized fifth Programme Steering Committee meeting of Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law (CEBPOL) set up with bilateral technical collaboration with Norway, on 01.2.2018 at MoEF&CC, to review the overall functioning and working progress of the project. The Annual meeting for institutional and technical assistance to NBA for CEBPOL was also organized on 2nd February, 2018 at Royal Norwegian Embassy, New Delhi, in partnership with MoEF&CC and NBA to discuss the progress of work for the period 2017, and the Work Plan and budget for the period 2018.

2.10 MoEF&CC has organized two Consultation Workshops in partnership with the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on 19.2.2018 and 27.2.2018 at Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, and India International Centre, Delhi, on National Biodiversity Targets 6 and 1 respectively, with the concerned organizations for seeking inputs for preparing India's Sixth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

2.11 Scientific and Technical Advisory Group (STAG), chaired by Additional Secretary, MoEF&CC was held on 13.2.2018 followed by the Steering Committee chaired by Secretary, EF&CC held on 19.2.2018 for approval on recommended projects for sustainable development across several states on Indian Himalayan Region (IHR).

2.12 Eco Sensitive Zones

Of a total of **648 Protected Areas (PAs)** in the country, ESZ proposals for **449 PAs have been issued** by ESZ Division. Of the 449 proposals, Draft Notifications have been published for **170 PAs** and Final Notifications have been published for **279 PAs**.

2.13 Environmental Clearances

During the month, a total of **120 projects** pertaining to different sectors were appraised, **33 projects were accorded environmental clearance** and **15 projects were prescribed TORs**. So, a total of **48 proposals** were cleared during the month. The status of environmental clearance and TOR of Projects for the month of February, 2018 is at **Annexure-I**.

2.14 Forest Clearances

During the month, **4937.85 ha of forest land** in **89 cases** were approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. **1837.39 ha of non-forest land and 7335.95 ha of degraded forest land** were earmarked for Compensatory Afforestation (C.A.).

2.15 Total Expenditure

An expenditure of **Rs 2298.62 Crores** (Provisional) has been incurred till **28th February, 2018** against the Net budget estimate of **Rs 2675.42 crores** for FY 2017-18.

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

4. Compliance of CoS decisions:

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
103174	76901

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
298	281

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/-
(C K Mishra)

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

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

Sd/-
(C K Mishra)

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

Consultant (17)


(Manju Pandey)
Joint Secretary

Status of Environment Clearance and Terms of Reference of Projects for the month of February, 2018

	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	31	21	73	67	3	8	9	2	17	13	67	54	85	25	113	51	6	0	404	241
Projects received during the month/ reopened	15	10	33	39	2	3	1	2	6	3	11	21	11	12	11	10	0	0	90	100
Projects cleared during the month	5	7	14	3	0	0	0	0	5	3	3	1	2	0	4	1	0	0	33	15
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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Projects closed during the month (due to non-submission of inf.)	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Projects withdrawn/ Transferred/Returned/Duplicate	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Projects kept in abeyance/delisted	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Projects pending at the end of the month	36	23	66	66	4	11	10	4	14	12	73	55	93	31	118	59	6	0	420	261