



सत्यमेव जयते

D.O.No.2411/6/2017-GC

February 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 January, 2017:

1. Rules/Notifications/Policy Decisions

1.1 Guideline dated 19.1.2017 on diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose with respect to provision of transferring equivalent non-forest land by Government Departments for compensatory afforestation under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been issued during the month of January, 2017.

2. Conferences/Workshops/Seminars and other activities

2.1 The Cabinet in its meeting held on 24th January, 2017 decided to ratify the Second Commitment Period of Kyoto Protocol. Given the critical role that India played in securing international consensus on climate change issues, this decision further underlines India's leadership in the comity of nations committed to global cause of environment protection and climate justice.

2.2 "Graded Response Action Plan" based on Air Quality Index (AQI) for combating Air Pollution in Delhi and NCR recommended by Central Pollution Control Board was notified as per directions of the Supreme Court.

2.3 The 40th meeting of Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) was held on 3.1.2017 at Indira Parayavaran Bhawan, MoEF&CC under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

2.4 During the month, Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) organized and coordinated an enforcement operation named "Operation Save Kurma" to protect the turtles/tortoises and apprehend the criminals involved in poaching and smuggling of these species.

2.5 Two-week Special Course on Wildlife Protection, Law & Forensic Science for Officer Trainees of 67th Batch of Indian Revenue Service (Custom & Central Excise) Group 'A' was conducted at Wildlife Institute of India (WII) Dehradun from 2-13 January, 2017 and 16-27 January, 2017.



2.6 On the occasion of Braille Day (4th January) a Braille Essay Writing Competition was conducted by National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) New Delhi to commemorate the birthday of Sir Louis Braille on 20th January, 2017 for visually challenged Students at Indira Parayavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi.

2.7 M-STrIPES capacity building-cum-training workshops were held on 17th to 20th January, 2017 at Kanha Tiger Reserve, MP for the forest officials of Tiger reserves of MP, Maharashtra and Chattisgarh. The training provided /exposure to the field forest officials on the use of mobile application - M-STrIPES for patrols.

2.8 Eco Sensitive Zones

Of a total of 648 Protected Areas (PAs) in the country, ESZ proposals for 452 PAs have been received in ESZ Division. Of the 452 proposals, Draft Notifications have been published for 229 PAs and Final Notifications have been published for 176 PAs. ESZ proposals of 14 PAs are under various stages of notification and proposals of 29 PAs are under examination.

2.9 Environmental Clearances

During the month, a total of **338 projects** pertaining to different sectors were appraised, out of which **29 projects were accorded environmental clearance** and **56 projects were prescribed ToRs** in various meetings of Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC). So, a total of **85 proposals** were cleared during the month. The status of adequate environmental safeguards of various projects is at *Annexure-I*.

2.10 Forest Clearances

During the month, 1581.07 ha of forest land in 55 cases were approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. 173.80 ha of non-forest land and 1660.59 ha of degraded forest land were earmarked for Compensatory Afforestation (C.A.).

2.11 Plan Expenditure

The Plan Expenditure incurred against the 9 Umbrella Schemes being administered by the Ministry till 31st January, 2017 was Rs.1365.99 crore against the Budget Estimates for 2016-17 of Rs.2000.00 crore.

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
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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
50,000 approx	42,494

7.1 In January, 2017 a web based **Online Stationary Request Management System (OSRMS)** has been implemented.

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

Sl. No.	Case	Remarks
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9. **Status of Public Grievances:**

No. of Public Grievances redressed during the month	No. of Public Grievances pending at the end of the month
714	967

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,

Sd/-

(A N Jha)

Encl: as above

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.

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

Sd/-

(A N Jha)

(Anil Sant)

Joint Secretary

ANNEXURE - I

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

	Industry-(I)		Industry-(II)		Thermal		River Valley & Hydro-Electric		Mining (Coal)		Mining (Non-Coal)		Infrastructure-I		Infrastructure-II		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 of the beginning of the month	30	40	110	74	06	08	23	19	30	16	243	113	55	9	98	32	14	03	609	314
Projects received during the month/ reopened	01	01	18	16	03	01	-	1	01	01	9	8	2	-	36	23	00	00	70	51
Projects cleared during the month	00	17	13	15	-	01	-	4	00	00	9	8	-	-	5	10	02	01	29	56
Projects converted from EC to ToR due change of scope					-	-	-		-	-							-02	+02	-2	2
Projects exempted during the month					-	-	-	--	-	-			-	-			-	01	0	1
Projects rejected during the month (on merit)					-	-	--	--	-	-			-	1			-	-	0	1
Projects closed during the month (due to non-submission of inf.)					-	01	--	--	-	-			-	-			-	-	0	1
Projects withdrawn/ Transferred/Returned/Duplicate					-	-	--	--	-	-	10	9	-	-					10	9
Projects kept in abeyance/delisted			5		-	-	--	--			60	50	-	-					65	50
Projects pending at the end of the month	31	24	110	75	09	07	23	16	31	17	173	54	57	8	129	45	10	03	573	249