OFFICE MEMORANDUM


The Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 mandates the requirement of prior environmental clearance to the projects/activities listed in the schedule to the said Notification. These projects/activities have been categorized under category ‘A’ or ‘B’ and require appraisal and approval by the respective regulatory authorities at the Central/State level.

2. The Ministry has issued a Notification number S.O.804(E) dated 14th March, 2017 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to appraise and regularize the projects, already taken up or under implementation without obtaining the prior environmental clearance in terms of the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 and thus identified to be in violation of the same. The Notification enables consideration of such proposals at Central level by providing one-time opportunity to submit the request in this regard within 6 months.

3. In order to streamline and expedite consideration of proposals, it has now been decided that the projects/activities covered under category ‘B’, shall be considered by the SEAC/SEIAAs in the respective States/UTs. The Ministry has issued another Notification number S.O.1030 (E) dated 8th March, 2018, amending the Notification dated 14th March, 2017 to that extent.

4. In order to operationalize the Notification number S.O.1030 (E) dated 8th March, 2018, following directions are being issued for compliance with immediate effect:

   i. The proposals received up to 13th September, 2017 on the Ministry’s portal, shall be considered by the EAC or the SEAC/SEIAA in the respective States/UTs, as the case may be, in order of their submission.

   ii. All the proposals of category ‘B’ projects/activities pertaining to different sectors, received within six months only i.e. up to 13th September, 2017 on the Ministry’s portal, but yet not considered by the EAC in the Ministry, shall be transferred online to the SEAC/SEIAAs in the respective States/UTs.

   iii. The proposals submitted directly for consideration of EC (in place of ToR), shall also be considered on the same lines, in order of their submission on the Ministry’s portal.

   iv. All the projects of category ‘B’ pertaining to different sectors, although considered by the EAC in the Ministry and accorded ToR, shall be appraised for grant of EC by the SEAC/SEIAAs in the respective States/UTs.
v. All projects/activities of all sectors, shall be required to adhere to the directions of Hon’ble Madras High Court vide order dated 13th October, 2017 while upholding the Ministry’s Notification dated 14th March, 2017.

(Sharath Kumar Pallerla)
Scientist “F” / Director

To,

1. The Chairman of all the SEAC/SEIAA of States/UTs
2. The Member Secretary of all the SEAC/SEIAA of States/UTs

Copy for information to:

1. PS to Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change
2. PS to MoS for Environment, Forest and Climate Change
3. PPS to Secretary (EF&CC)
4. PPS to AS (AKJ)/AS (AKM)
5. PS to JS (GB)/JS (JT)
6. All officers in IA Division
7. Website, MoEF&CC
8. Guard File