



सी.के.मिश्रा
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सचिव
भारत सरकार
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
SECRETARY
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

D.O.No.2411/4/2018-GC

Dated: 9th April, 2018

Following are the highlights of the achievements and activities of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) for **March 2018**:

1 Rules/Notifications/Policy Decisions:

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

1.2 Powers to appraise and accord Environment Clearance for Category B violation proposals are delegated to concerned SEIAs and SEACs.

1.3 Draft National Forest Policy 2018 has been formulated and the same has been made available at the Ministry's Website on 14.3.2018 for stakeholder consultation.

1.4 Notification vide GSR. 207(E) dated 05/03/2018 regarding "**Regulation of Persistent Organic Pollutants Rule, 2018**" was published.

1.5 Notification vide GSR. 261(E) dated 22/03/2018 regarding "**E-waste (Management) Amendment Rules, 2018**" was published.

1.6 Notification vide GSR 234(E) dated 16/03/2018 regarding "**Bio-Medical Waste Management (Amendment) Rules 2018**" was published.

1.7 Notification vide GSR 320(E) dated 27/03/2018 regarding "**Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2018**" was published.

2. Conferences/Workshops/Seminars and other activities:

2.1 A Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) in the field of Environment was signed between India and France. The signatory from Indian side was Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Hon'ble Minister of State for Environment, Forest & Climate Change and from French side Ms. Brune Poirson, Hon'ble Minister of State attached to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition signed the MoC.

2.2 A bilateral Meeting was held between Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC India and H.E Brigadier David Granger President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana on 10th March, 2018 in New Delhi.

2.3 2nd Meeting of India-Sweden Joint Working Group on Environment (JWG-e) was held during 13-14 March, 2018 at Stockholm, Sweden.

2.4 A national workshop on Technology Needs Assessment was organized by the MoEF&CC in association with Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) at Indira Paryavaran Bhawan on 9th March, 2018.

2.5 On the occasion of "World Water Day" on 22nd March, 2018, inauguration of Exhibition on the theme – "Nature for Water" at National Zoological Park (Delhi Zoo) was organized by National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) in collaboration with National Zoological Park (NZN) for college students of Delhi.

2.6 On the occasion of "International Day of Forests" on 21st March, 2018 a Nature Interpretation tour and Plantation at National Zoological Park (Delhi Zoo) were organized by National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) in collaboration with National Zoological Park (NZN) for college students of Delhi.

2.7 India hosted the 3rd Global Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) conference in association with the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and the National Biodiversity Authority from 6th to 8th March, 2018 in Mamallapuram, Chennai. The conference was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change through a video message, addressed the participating Ministers and delegates from the 30 BIOFIN countries.

2.8 One member Indian delegation participated in the sixth session of Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Plenary organized by the IPBES Secretariat, held from 17-24 March, 2018 in Medellin, Colombia.

2.9 The Regional Level hand holding exercises were conducted covering the tiger reserve across the country for online submission of Annual Plan of Operations (APOs) for financial year 2018-19.

2.10 A validation workshop on Forest Landscape Restoration Project Report for Uttarakhand was organized in collaboration with IUCN India. Workshop was attended by HoDs and representative of State level officers.

2.11 Meeting of Scientific and Technical Advisory Group (STAG) and Steering Committee meeting under National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS) was held on 16.03.2018 and 22.03.2018 respectively at MoEF&CC, New Delhi.

2.12 International Day of Forest 2018 has been celebrated at Okhla Bird Sanctuary, Noida. This event has been celebrated by Ministry in coordination with the UP Forest Department.

2.13 The advanced 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-geographical regions. 152 trainees successfully completed the course of 3 months duration, qualifying as skilled Parataxonomists.

2.14 Eco Sensitive Zones

Of a total of **648 Protected Areas (PAs)** in the country, ESZ proposals for **459 PAs have been issued** by ESZ Division. Of the 459 proposals, Draft Notifications have been published for **180 PAs** and Final Notifications have been published for **279 PAs**.

2.15 Environmental Clearances

During the month, a total of **118 projects** pertaining to different sectors were appraised, **26 projects were accorded environmental clearance** and **15 projects were prescribed TORs**. So, a total of **41 proposals** were cleared during the month. The status of environmental clearance and TOR of Projects for the month of **March, 2018** is at **Annexure-I**.

2.16 Forest Clearances

During the month, **1061.17 ha of forest land** in **96 cases** were approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. **755.78 ha of non-forest land and 693.40 ha of degraded forest land** were earmarked for Compensatory Afforestation (C.A.).

2.17 Total Expenditure

An expenditure of **Rs 2645.57 Crores** has been incurred till **31st March, 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
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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
104814	77308

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
315	368

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.

2/10/18
(NIKUNJA K SUNDARAY)
Joint Secretary

Status of Environment Clearance and Terms of Reference of Projects for the month of March, 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	36	23	66	66	4	11	10	4	14	12	73	55	93	31	118	59	6	0	420	261
Projects received during the month/ reopened	6	6	37	46	0	2	1	1	3	0	12	29	21	22	15	8	0	2	95	116
Projects cleared during the month	2	2	9	2	0	1	0	0	3	1	3	0	4	6	4	1	1	2	26	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	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Projects closed during the month (due to non-submission of inf.)	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Projects withdrawn/ Transferred/Returned/Duplicate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	2	3
Projects kept in abeyance/delisted	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	6
Projects pending at the end of the month	36	26	68	61	4	7	11	4	11	7	130	75	102	41	126	62	5	2	493	285