



*Chapter – 3*

*Environmental  
Impact  
Assessment*



## Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

### Introduction and objectives

Environmental Impact Assessment is a process by which the developmental activities are appraised by the Ministry. This is to ensure that environmental concerns are integrated in the developmental activities in order to achieve sustainable development. The process of EIA which was started in 1978-79 with river valley projects has now extended to about 39 activities. The major statutory regulations

governing EIA are EIA Notification of 2006 and Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991.

### Progress of Activities Undertaken

- The EIA notification of 2006 has been in operation during the year along with the EIA notification of 1994. The details of the projects processed during the year 2007-2008 (April, 2007 – December, 2007) is given in Table-9.

Year	No. of proposals pending at the beginning	No. of proposals received during the year	No. of proposals accorded environment clearance	No. of proposals awarded Terms of Reference	No. of proposals – rejected, cleared, exempted, withdrawn etc.
2007-2008 (April-December)	1836	3533	1412	880	579

- Sectorwise clearance accorded during April – December, 2007 is given in Table-10.

S. No.	Activity	No. of proposals Accorded Environment Clearance	No. of proposals awarded Terms of Reference
1.	Industry	371	316
2.	Thermal Power	77	130
3.	River Valley and Hydroelectric	22	26
4.	Mining	335	398
5.	Infrastructure and Miscellaneous	107	-
6.	Construction Projects	500	10
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>1412</b>	<b>880</b>

### Coastal Regulation Zone Notification

- Taking into consideration the various issues pertaining to implementation of the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 the Government had constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan to review the existing Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 in June, 2004. The Committee submitted its report alongwith its recommendations, which were accepted by the Ministry in April, 2005.
- Based on the recommendations of the Committee the Ministry has formulated a draft CMZ Notification. This draft has been discussed with various stakeholders prior to the issue of the draft notification. Based on the suggestions received the draft notification is under finalization.
- Further, the Ministry has sought assistance from the World Bank for implementation of

Integrated Coastal Zone Management which includes vulnerability line mapping all along the coast, mapping of coastal ecological sensitive areas, institutional strengthening and capacity building etc. For demarcation of vulnerability line on pilot scale six sites have been identified and the work is under progress.

### Monitoring

For ensuring compliances to the environmental clearances in various sectors, monitoring is undertaken by the six Regional Offices alongwith the State/UT and Central Pollution Control Board. Based on the monitoring reports suggestions are made for improvement in environmental management practices. In addition, interactive meetings were also organized during the year with proponents at Bhubaneswar, Lucknow, Mumbai, Jaipur etc., to facilitate understanding of cross sectoral issues related to implementation of environmental project.



Fig.33 Prevention of coastal erosion at Kanya Kumari