

अजय नारायण झा  
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सचिव  
भारत सरकार  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
Secretary  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
October 10, 2016

D.O.No.24011/9/2016-GC (Vol.II)

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 September, 2016:

**1. Rules/Notifications/Policy Decisions**

1.1 Two Guidelines on diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 during the month of August, 2016 has been issued.

**2. Conferences/Workshops/Seminars and other activities**

2.1 Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) hosted the second BRICS Environment Ministers meeting at Goa on 15-16th September, 2016. The Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Cooperation was agreed upon. The Ministers announced the setting up of a Joint Working Group while adopting the Ministerial Declaration. The areas agreed for mutual cooperation are abatement and control of air and water pollution, efficient management of liquid and solid waste, climate change and biodiversity conservation.

2.2 National Workshop on Environmental Dimension of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was organized by the Ministry in New Delhi on 30th September, 2016 to discuss the ways, means, roadmap and measurable indicators for achieving 41 SDG environment-related targets assigned by NITI Aayog to the Ministry

2.3 A WB/ GEF project on "India: Program to Establish Pilots for Access through Renewable Energy" worth USD 12.844 million of GEF grant was approved. The project aims to provide enhanced energy access to villages in Uttar Pradesh and other states through solar mini-grids following VGF based bidding model for domestic as well as commercial use

2.4 The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change celebrated the International Ozone Day on September 16, 2016. It has initiated an ambitious collaborative R&D programme to develop next generation, sustainable refrigerant technologies as alternatives to HydroFluroCarbons (HFCs). The R&D initiative brings together Government, research institutes, industry and civil society to develop long term technology solutions to mitigate impact to the ozone layer and climate issues.

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