



**D.O.No.2411/6/2017-GC (part-1)**

**September 6, 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 August, 2017:

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

- 1.1 The Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) in its 44<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2017 considered the National Wildlife Action Plan (2017-31) and approved the plan for the next 15 years. The National Wildlife Action Plan envisages action points and priority projects for wildlife conservation to be implemented in the next 15 years.
- 1.2 A gazette on draft notification on Regulation of Persistent Organic Pollutants Rules, 2017 has been published vide G.S.R no 1120E) dated 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 for objections or suggestions. The purpose of the draft notification is to regulate the manufacture, trade, use, import and export of the seven chemicals listed under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollution.
- 1.3 Three Guidelines have been issued for diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 during August, 2017. The Guidelines are regularly updated on the following web-site link: [<http://forestsclearance.nic.in/Guidelines.aspx>].

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

- 2.1 Training Workshop for Strengthening Capacities of Enforcement Agencies (Plant Quarantine and Customs Officials) for Transboundary Movement of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) under UNEP-GEF Phase II Capacity building Project on Biosafety was held on August 21-22, 2017.
- 2.2 World Elephant Day was celebrated on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, Teen Murti Bhawan, New Delhi.
- 2.3 A GST Facilitation Cell has been created and made functional. A dedicated telephone/ helpline number has been installed to address the queries/ problems from different sectors with respect to GST.



- 2.4 The Ministry has recently launched the Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP) under ENVIS Scheme in 10 districts spread over 9 biographic regions for skilling Biodiversity Conservationists (Foundation Course) and Parataxonomists (Advanced Course).
- 2.5 The meeting of the Steering Committee of revamped ENVIS Scheme was convened under the Chairmanship of Secretary, EF&CC on 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2017.
- 2.6 A delegation of DGF&SS, IGF(WL) and Addl. PCCF Government of Uttarakhand attended the International Snow Leopard Conservation Forum from 24-25 August 2017 at Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic.
- 2.7 An Inception Workshop for the MoEF&CC –GEF-UNDP project ‘Improve mercury management in India’ was held on 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2017 at The Claridges, New Delhi.
- 2.8 A meeting was held between Hon’ble Minister, EF&CC and UNEP Team led by Mr. Erik Solheim, Executive Director, UN Environment on 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2017.
- 2.9 A bilateral meeting between Hon’ble MEFCC and UAE Minister Dr. Al Zeyoudi was held on 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 wherein both sides discussed the Research and Development related issues of solar cell/panel and agreed to work further on research on solar cell which are suitable for UAE and India’s Climatic conditions.
- 2.10 The Ministry launched an awareness campaign on ‘Harit Diwali-Swasth Diwali’ on 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2017. The campaign was launched by Hon’ble Minister, EF&CC in a public function organized in the Atrium of IPB, MoEF&CC. The campaign will continue till 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.
- 2.11 RMNH, Bhopal organized three days’ Workshop on Biological Preservation Technique and Taxidermy during 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, August 2017.

#### 2.12 **Eco Sensitive Zones**

Of a total of **648 Protected Areas (PAs)** in the country, ESZ proposals for **415 PAs have been issued** by ESZ Division. Of the 415 proposals, Draft Notifications have been published for 171 PAs and Final Notifications have been published for 244 PAs.

#### 2.13 **Environmental Clearances**

During the month, a total of **215 projects** pertaining to different sectors were appraised, **60 projects were accorded environmental clearance** and **94 projects were prescribed TORs**. So, a total of **154 proposals** were cleared during the month. The status of

environmental clearance and TOR of Projects for the month of July, 2017 is at **Annexure-I**.

**2.14 Forest Clearances**

During the month, diversion of **1407.81 ha** of forest land in **90** cases were approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. **489.4558** ha of non-forest land and **1650.2494** ha of degraded forest land were earmarked for Compensatory Afforestation (C.A.).

**2.15 Total Expenditure**

An expenditure of **Rs 566.10 Crores** (Provisional) has been incurred till **31<sup>st</sup> August, 2017** against the gross budget estimate of **Rs 2931.42 crores** for FY 2017-18.

3. Important policy matters held up on account of prolonged inter-ministerial consultations: **NIL**

4. Compliance of COS decisions: **NIL**

No. of CoS decisions pending for compliance	Proposed action plan/time lines for compliance of CoS decisions	Remarks

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
2585	923

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

Sl. No.	Case	Remarks
<b>NIL</b>		

**9. Status of Public Grievances:**

No. of Public Grievances redressed during the month	No. of Public Grievances pending at the end of the month
<b>492</b>	<b>531</b>

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/-*

(A N Jha)

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/-*

(A N Jha)

Copy also to:

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

*✓ Consultant (IT)*

*nil*  
(Ritesh Kumar Singh)  
Joint Secretary

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

	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	35	31	147	196	7	4	23	12	6	11	136	93	174	45	193	36	10	3	731	430
Projects received during the month/ reopened	8	13	37	37	0	2	2	6	2	4	28	31	28	6	37	9	1	0	143	108
Projects cleared during the month	1	6	6	64	1	0	0	7	0	2	1	0	16	7	35	8	0	0	60	94
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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	1
Projects closed during the month (due to non-submission of inf.)	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10
Projects withdrawn/ Transferred/Returned/Duplicate	0	2	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	9	0	9	2	0	0	21	8
Projects kept in abeyance/delisted	0	0	4	5	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	1	1	1	26	6
Projects pending at the end of the month	31	27	139	78	6	5	9	10	10	13	134	110	155	36	165	20	10	2	659	304