



आर पी गुप्ता
R P Gupta



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

D.O.No.2411/5/2021-GC

10th October, 2021

I am writing this letter indicating the highlights of the achievements and activities of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) during the month of September 2021:

2. The India–Japan High Level Policy Dialogue was held virtually on 7th September 2021 between Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Mr. KOIZUMI Shinjiro, Minister of the Environment of Japan, and discussed issues on Air Pollution, Sustainable Technologies and Transports, Climate Change, Marine Litter, Fluorocarbons, COP 26, etc.

3. A bilateral meeting was held between Hon'ble MEFCC and Mr Norbert Barthle and Dr. Maria Flachsbarth, Parliamentary State Secretariats, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) on 9th September 2021 at Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi. Both sides discussed on a wide range of environmental issues covering the following areas such as climate change, water scarcity, marine & air pollution, circular economy. In the meeting, Hon'ble MEFCC acknowledged the importance of Indo-German bilateral cooperation on environment and appreciated efforts made by Germany in bringing new technologies in India. He also highlighted the achievements India made in tackling climate change under the leadership of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

4. Scientists of BSI reported **three new species of plants viz. *Bambusa daoporijeana* (Poaceae), *Henckelia dasii* and *Henckelia lallanii* (Gesneriaceae)** from the Eastern Himalayan state of Arunachal Pradesh, India. Scientists of BSI conducted 5 field / local tours and collected 246 field numbers of plants. Besides, they also completed metadata of 710 herbarium specimens. Besides this During this month, 2 book and 8 research publications have been published by BSI scientists in various international and national research journals.

5. World Ozone Day was celebrated on 16th September, 2021 to spread awareness on the depletion of the ozone layer. This date has been chosen by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution to remember the signing of the Montreal Protocol in 1987. The ozone layer is a natural part of our atmosphere. A report was prepared on this occasion that includes the World Ozone Day activities conducted by ENVIS RPs/Hubs across pan India.

6. An MoU signed between Zoological Survey of India and Natural History Museum, London by Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director, Zoological Survey of India and Dr. Doug Gurr, Director, Natural History Museum on 24th September, 2021 at 3.45pm (India) & 11.30am (London), in the Bainiprasad Hall, HQ, ZSI. Further, One species of Hemiptera, *Pealius kufriensis* Dubey sp. nov. has been described as new to science while a phoretic mite, *Calvolia summersi* Mostafa, 1970 on large carpenter bee has reported for the first time from India.

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7. Two Guidelines (policy decisions) was issued under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 during the month of September, 2021 which are as follows:

- (i) Guidelines dated 21/09/2021: Clarification laying of petroleum and crude pipelines along the existing Right of Way (ROW).
- (ii) Guidelines dated 06/09/2021: Allowing reconstruction of Transmission Lines in Forest area which are constructed prior to Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 without insisting for obtaining fresh approval.

8. **Environmental Clearances: Number of projects appraised:** During the Expert Appraisal Committee meetings held in **September, 2021**, a total of **187 projects** pertaining to different sectors were appraised. **Number of projects cleared:** During the month, **26 projects** were accorded environmental clearance and **31 projects** were prescribed ToRs. Thus, a total of **57 proposals** were cleared during the month. The status of environmental clearance and TOR of Projects for the month is at **Annexure-I**. (*Number of projects appraised and number of projects cleared during the month are not correlated as the appraisal and grant of clearance of a project may not necessarily occur during the same month.)

9. **Forest Clearances:** During the month, **512.83 ha of forestland** in **130 cases** were approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for use for non-forest purposes and **783.14 ha of non-forest land and 2391.46 ha of degraded forestland** were earmarked for Compensatory Afforestation (C.A.).

10. **Total Expenditure:** An expenditure of **Rs. 714.12 Crores (Provisional)** has been incurred until **30th September, 2021** against the Net budget estimate of **Rs 3136.58 crores** for FY 2021-22.

11. **Eco sensitive Zone:** Total of 662 Protected Areas (PAs) in the country, ESZ Notifications for 574 PAs have been issued by the Ministry. This includes Draft Notifications for 127 PAs and Final Notifications for 447 PAs. Further, ESZ notifications for 11 PAs have been approved and are under process for publications.

12. **Public Grievances:** During the month **365 Public Grievances** were redressed and **164 Grievances** were pending.

Encl: as above

Yours sincerely,
sd/-

[R .P Gupta]

Shri Rajiv Gauba
Cabinet Secretary
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New Delhi-110001

Copy to: The Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, PMO, South Block, New Delhi.

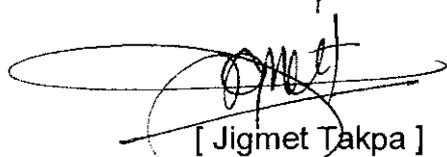
Sd/-

[R .P Gupta]

Copy also to:

- i) PS to Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC
- ii) PS to Hon'ble Minister of State, EF&CC
- iii) All Ministries of Govt. of India

consultant (IT)


[Jigmet Takpa]
Joint Secretary

Status of Environment Clearance and Terms of Reference of Projects for the month of September, 2021

	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		Industry-(III)		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 beginning of the month	13	15	46	5	1	3	12	5	9	9	27	26	16	8	19	9	16	19	159	99
Projects received during the month/ respond	15	27	66	10	0	0	0	1	2	7	7	13	5	4	6	7	20	3	121	72
Projects cleared during the month	3	6	15	10	0	1	0	0	0	4	1	3	1	1	0	3	6	3	26	31
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
Project rejected during the month (on merit)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Project closed during the month (due to non-submission of info.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Projects withdrawn/ returned/ transferred/ duplicate	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	1	1	4	4
Projects kept in abeyance/ delisted	5	2	14	0	1	0	3	0	2	0	10	4	12	3	2	0	5	2	54	11
EDS raised during the month *	1	8	27	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	7	8	37	23
Pending at PP due to Additional details sought *	0	0	6	0	0	1	3	1	4	0	12	15	7	1	6	2	2	3	40	20
Projects pending at the end of the month *	15	20	68	4	1	2	11	5	11	11	31	57	17	6	20	13	16	22	190	140

* The total pending projects does not include the projects which are pending due to EDS. However, the EDS proposals have been included in the projects received during the month.