



# TOWARDS TRANSPARENCY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE



Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
January 2015





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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

## Preface

Our motto is balancing development and environment protection. Growth and environmental protection should go hand in hand. This is not only desirable but perfectly possible. It is not of environment protection versus growth, but growth with environment protection. The collective partnership of all stakeholders is necessary to mainstream the essence of sustainable development and ensure the protection of environment. The Ministry's vision and new initiatives would amply address the concerns of all stakeholders. India's rich heritage and positive outlook towards environment gave a new vocabulary to the understanding of environmental issues. The Ministry's endeavour would be to mobilize people to ensure the promotion of more nature-friendly practices.

The term "Climate Change" has been added to Ministry by the new Government. The vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for changing the nomenclature of the Ministry to "Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change" is highly thoughtful. It takes into account the contemporary trends related to issues pertaining to climate change. The addition signifies India's commitment to challenge of 'Climate Change'. India is committed to present its case in international forums cogently. Preparations are already underway for the Conference of the Parties (CoP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which is expected to take place in November-December 2015, in Paris, France. India would also play a proactive role in the international arena related to environment and Climate Change in the days ahead.

The Ministry, which was riddled in policy paralyzes and was perceived as creating road blocks and bottlenecks, has now been transformed due to the team effort under the guidance

of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. We have brought in transparency in processes, changed many rules for protection of environment and we have started taking decisions that are based on policies. First we discuss the issues/cases, then arrive at a conclusion and take policy-based decision. The cases that fall within the policy framework are cleared. So, all the Public Sector Unit (PSU) projects and almost all projects of various ministries have been cleared; state governments' projects pending for long have also been cleared, irrespective of which party is ruling the State. So far 650 Public and Private Projects worth Rupees several thousand crores and with an employment potential of over one million have been cleared. We had appointed a High Level Committee to scrutinize existing laws as almost all decisions were being challenged in the courts. The courts intervened every other case due to infirmity in laws, non-clarity in rules and non-transparent processes. We have received the report of the Committee and now we are working on evolving clear laws, firm rules and transparent processes to ensure a policy-based predictable regime, which is not only transparent but avoids delays.

While more initiatives are in the pipeline to meet the sustainable development goals, this booklet captures some of the important recent initiatives taken by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

(Prakash Javadekar)





अशोक लवासा  
Ashok Lavasa, IAS



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

## Foreword

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is mandated to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forest and wildlife of the country under Article 48-A of the Constitution. Article 51-A (g) of the Constitution has also enshrined protection of natural environment as a fundamental duty of every citizen. The clause says that "It shall be the duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forest, lakes, rivers and wildlife and to have compassion for living creature. "The principle of sustainable development has been linked to 'right to life' under Article 21 of the Constitution.

The country's aim of economic prosperity, poverty alleviation, livelihood security, job creation, building infrastructure and development has to be achieved while dealing with environmental challenges. Progress is possible with protection, growth and greening can go hand

in hand. While economic development often depends on exploitation of natural resources, quality of life depends on preservation of nature and both are possible through a wise balance of the harmony of elements.

The Ministry's effort is to promote conservation of environment resources, inter and intra-generational equity, integration of environmental concerns in economic and social development, efficiency in use of natural resources, judicious environmental governance and commitment of all sections of society in respecting the resources of nature.

(Ashok Lavasa)





## SPEEDING UP PROJECTS IN BORDER STATES & SENSITIVE AREAS

### Issue

- Securing Borders and Infrastructure Development in Border States and Left Wing Extremist Districts: Secure Country – Secure Environment.

### Decision

- General Approval for Defence roads in 100 km from LAC to ensure development of required infrastructure in sensitive areas well in time.
- General Approval given for Forest Clearance in 117 Left Wing Extremist Districts to ensure speedy development of much needed infrastructure in LWE districts.
- Environment Clearance for long pending project of national importance: for example Karwar Naval Project.
- Expeditious development of linear projects in border areas by exempting them from scoping requirement (ToR and PH).

### Impact

- With this, around 6000 km border roads can be cleared at the State level. This will help in expeditious clearance of strategic projects in border areas which in turn will ensure establishment of much needed infrastructure in these areas. Besides, it will cut down delays and avoid time and cost overruns.





# LINEAR PROJECTS FAST TRACKED TO BOOST CONNECTIVITY

## Issue

- Expeditious grant of Environmental clearance (EC) and Forest Clearance (FC) for Linear Projects.

## Decision

- Amended the relevant guidelines for linear projects allowing the user agency to start work after in-principle approval subject to payment of compensatory levies.
- Power to accord FC to linear projects delegated to Regional Empowered Committees (RECs) irrespective of area of forest land involved.
- For speedy laying of transmission line projects, the general dispensation available for transmission lines upto 220 kv extended to all transmission lines which will facilitate speedy creation of infrastructure for evacuation of power.

## Impact

- The linear projects which do not have very significant impact on forest and environment can begin their work immediately after obtaining Stage-I FC. This will bring in expeditious implementation and execution of linear projects of public utility, such as Roads, Railways lines, Transmission Lines, Pipelines.





# IMPROVING GOVERNANCE FOR FASTER GROWTH

## Issue

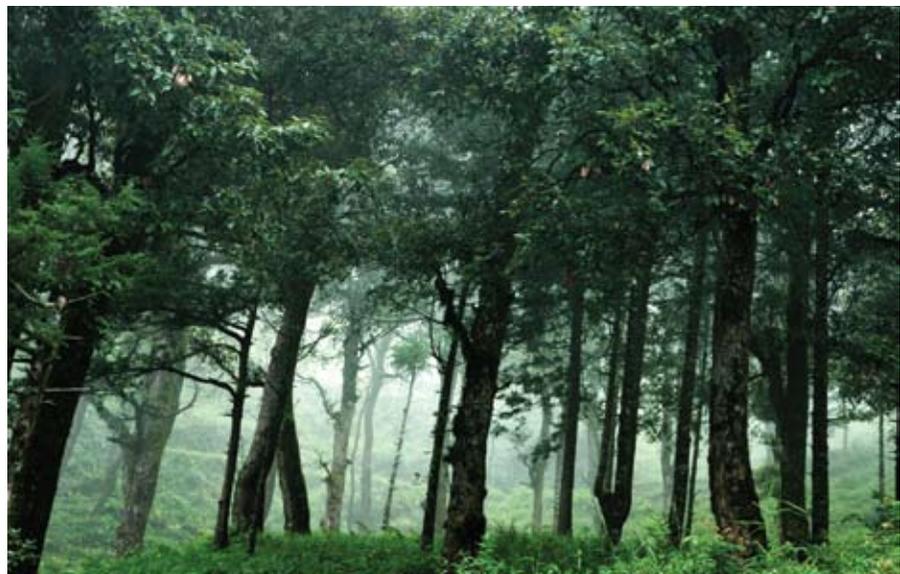
- Lack of clarity in approach hampered growth.

## Decision

- Construction activity for industrial sheds which houses plant and machinery, educational institutions and hostels don't require EC now, and they have to follow self-regulation in implementing best environmental practices.
- The Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife considered 165 matters. Decisions were taken on 133 proposals which included 73 proposals pending for more than one year. The decisions included about 48 infrastructure development proposals, 13 proposals of strategic importance and 33 other proposals of public interest.
- EC given for important projects such as Shivaji Statue at Mumbai and Pedar Road Projects.

## Impact

- This will streamline and expedite investment in important sectors like industry and educational institutions. The clearances of National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) will ensure implementation of long pending important projects.



# TRANSPARENCY IN DECISION MAKING

## Issue

- Lack of transparency in decision making led to unpredictably and rent seeking.

## Decision

- Online submission with facilities for tracking application status for EC, FC and CRZ.
- To facilitate informed, transparent, expeditious and predictable decisions on forest clearance applications, launched Geographical Information System (GIS) based Decision Support System (DSS).
- An online portal of Central Zoo Authority for grant of online recognition to zoos and monitoring zoos was launched in September 2014.

## Impact

- Since introduction of this practice in July 2014, more than 700 applications for Terms of Reference and 400 applications for EC has been filed online.
- This has ensured transparency of EC and FC. The Project Proponents (PP) can access and track their proposals. It has lent transparency and predictability in the system.





## SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE FOR EXPEDITIOUS PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

### Issue

- Complicated procedures for delayed project implementation.

### Decision

- Irrigation projects with Cultural Command Area (CCA) of 2000 ha. exempted from EC.
- Biomass based TPP up to 15 MW exempted from EC.
- The industries located in industrial estates don't have to undertake public hearing for the second time.
- Working permission in linear projects after Stage-I FC.
- Need of routing application for NBWL clearance for EC projects outside PAs done away with.
- Issued guidelines which provide that Compensatory Afforestation (CA), Net Present Value (NPV) and Forests Right Act (FRA) will not be applicable on prospecting projects in cases involving no permanent change in land use.

### Impact

- The smaller projects and environment friendly projects given faster clearance. Now with Stage-I Forest Clearance, work can begin on ground. The prospecting projects further streamlined and the requirements of clearances simplified.
- The revised guidelines will expedite prospecting and assessment of mineral reserves.





# EMPOWERING STATES, STRENGTHENING FEDERALISM, DECENTRALISATION AND DELEGATION OF POWERS

## Issue

- Over centralization of authority left States out of decision making process and led to delays.

## Decision

- General condition for project to become Category A reduced from 10 km from PA etc. to 5 km. More projects will be appraised at state level and the PP need not come to Ministry for clearance.
- Irrigation Projects with Cultural Command Area (CCA) 2000 ha to 10,000 ha EC to be given by State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA).
- Biomass based TPP > 15 MW EC by SEIAA.
- Powers of SEIAA for Mineral beneficiation limit raised from 0.1 MTPA to 0.5 MTPA and Non-molasses based distillery limit raised from 30 kld to 60 kld.
- Notified Rules for Constitution of Regional Empowered Committee (REC) and delegated powers to RECs to dispose proposals seeking diversion up to 40 ha of forest land, linear proposals except proposals relating to mining, regularization of encroachments and hydel projects.
- To ensure unbiased and effective appraisal, REC will have three non-official experts in forestry and allied disciplines as members.

## Impact

- More power has been delegated to the States (SEIAA). This will ensure expeditious clearances of the projects at local level and faster implementation.
- With the new system of delegation, approximately 92% proposals will be disposed of at the Regional Offices. Only 8% proposals involving diversion of large areas require approval of the Ministry.

# PROTECTING AND PROMOTING CLEANER ENVIRONMENT

## Issue

- Measures required to be taken for protecting and promoting cleaner environment.

## Decision

- Coal cess doubled from Rs.50 to Rs.100 per ton, this will substantially add to kitty of US \$3 billion – which will be used for development of clean technology.
- Ministry has filed an application before the Hon'ble Supreme Court to strengthen the institution of CAMPA and release ninety five percent of accumulated funds amounting to Rs. 33,000 crore to States / Union Territories.

## Impact

- Availability of additional funds will help the States to increase pace of afforestation substantially.
- This will facilitate faster implementation of programmes of afforestation and re-forestation and ensure environment friendly development and promotion of industries.





## CONTROL OF POLLUTION

- Stringent Emission Norms for Cement Industry.

### Issue

- Cement industry is categorized as one of the major air polluting industry and substantial quantum of dust is emitted, if air pollution control devices are not operating efficiently. Cement industry emits  $\text{SO}_2$  and  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions besides Particulate Matter (PM).

### Decision

- The Ministry's proposal was considered by the Peer and Core Committee. The emission norms for  $\text{SO}_2$  and  $\text{NO}_x$  including revised PM emission standards for cement plant were notified on August 25, 2014.

### Impact

- Compliance with the new norms for  $\text{SO}_2$ ,  $\text{NO}_x$  and revised norms for PM emission by the cement plants will help in achieving the ambient air quality goal.





**Real-time Online monitoring of 3206 industrial units in 17 critically polluting sectors. Industries will install instruments to monitor 24x7 effluent discharge quality and air emission quality. This will be expanded in coming days.**

## Issue

- Strengthening the testing infrastructure and network for monitoring ambient environmental quality and progressively ensure real-time and online availability of the monitoring data.
- All the 17 category industries, common effluent treatment plants (CETPs), common hazardous waste and biomedical waste incinerators discharge of environmental pollutants directly or indirectly into the ambient air and water, resulting in adverse effect on the air and water quality.
- To minimize inspection of industries on routine basis and to promote self-discipline in the industries to exercise self-monitoring & compliance and transmit data of effluent and emission compliance to SPCBs/PCCs and CPCB on a continuous basis.

## Decision

- Need to inculcate habit of self-monitoring through self-regulatory mechanism, online source and effluent monitoring systems to comply with the prescribed standards.
- To Install online Continuous Stack Emission Monitoring Systems (CSEMS) in common hazardous waste and biomedical waste incinerators and online effluent quality monitoring system at the outlet of effluent treatment plants in 17 categories of highly polluting industries by March 31, 2015.
- To connect and upload the online emission and effluent monitoring data at SPCBs/PCCs and CPCB server by March 31, 2015.
- To ensure regular maintenance and operation of the online system with tamper proof mechanism having facilities for online calibration.
- To submit bank guarantee of 25% of the cost of online monitoring systems. This will ensure timely installation of online monitoring systems.

## Impact

- The SPCBs shall install the necessary software and hardware in their headquarters for centralized data collection, analysis and corrective action.
- The action taken report along with time bound action plan under the 17 category of industry and CETPs, common hazardous waste and biomedical waste incinerators for installation of online monitoring systems shall be submitted to the CPCB within 120 days from the date of receipt of these directions.

## Air Quality Index (AQI) launched - One Number, One Colour and One Description.

### Issue

- Traditionally, air quality information has been reported through voluminous data, which often does not make much sense to the general public. It is important that information on air quality is put up in public domain in simple linguistic terms for easy understanding. In view of this, CPCB initiated steps for developing National AQI as a tool for effective dissemination of air quality information.

### Decision

- AQI scheme was launched on October 17, 2014 for inviting public comments. AQI scheme comprises of six categories, namely Good, Satisfactory, Moderately polluted, Poor, Very Poor, and Severe with different colour codes. It considers eight pollutants ( $PM_{10}$ ,  $PM_{2.5}$ ,  $NO_2$ ,  $SO_2$ , CO,  $O_3$ ,  $NH_3$ , and Pb) for which short-term (up to 24-hourly averaging period) National Ambient Air Quality Standards are prescribed. Based on the measured ambient concentrations, corresponding standards and likely health impact, a sub-index is calculated for each of these pollutants. The worst sub-index reflects overall AQI. Information on likely health impacts for these categories is also provided.

### Impact

- AQI is expected to result in greater awareness and larger involvement in air quality improvement. It will help citizens in taking preventive measures and will assist local government agencies and pollution control authorities in taking mitigation measures.





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## PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE

### Issue

- Due to expiry of term of nominated members of National Board for Wildlife (NBWL), the meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL was pending since September 2013.

### Decision

- The NBWL and the Standing Committee of NBWL were re-constituted in July & September 2014.
- The NBWL Rules, 2003 were amended vide Gazette Notification dated 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014, to enable the continuation of term of office of members of NBWL till the Board is re-constituted.

### Impact

- As a result of the amendment to the NBWL Rules, 2003, deliberations of Standing Committee of NBWL can be organized even if nomination of new members is delayed.



## Issue

- Pendency of decisions for development related projects for more than one year.

## Decision

- All the proposals pending were placed before the Standing Committee of NBWL at the 31<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

## Impact

**The Standing Committee of NBWL considered 165 proposals at the meeting. This included 73 proposals pending for more than one year. Important projects in this regard include:**

- Proposal for fencing and patrol road along the Indo-Bangladesh Border in Dampa Tiger Reserve, Mizoram.
- Construction of Gaduli to Hajipur-Odma-Khavda-Kunariya-Dholavira-Maovana-Gadakbet-Santalpur road along the Western Indian border.
- Widening of NH-31A from Sevoke-Gangtok, West Bengal in favour of 764 BRTF.
- Widening of existing 2 lane to 4/6 lane in Sholapur-Bijapur Section of NH-13 in Maharashtra.
- 765 KVS/C Anpara "D" Unnao transmission line (from District Sonebhadra to Unnao), Uttar Pradesh.
- New Railway Line Broad Gauge (BG) between Agartala to Sabroom, Tripura.
- Expansion of gas field development in Tengakhat-Naharkotia-Jorajan area, Tinsukia-Dhola area and Doom Dooma-Pengeri area in Assam.





## Issue

- Commitment to protection of wildlife.

## Decision:

- As a significant gesture towards commitment to protection of wildlife, on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2014, large number of wildlife articles involved in wildlife offences was burnt in public at Delhi Zoo.

## Impact

- The event was witnessed by all the visitors to the Delhi Zoo apart from the delegates participating in the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual conference of the World Associations of Zoos and Aquariums, held in New Delhi.
- The event could garner public support in conservation of wildlife.

## Issue

- Online recognition and scientific management of Zoos.

## Decision

- Launching of online portal of Central Zoo Authority in September 2014.
- Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) with the International Species Information Systems, USA.

## Impact

- The online portal helps the CZA in simplification of process for recognition of Zoos as well as in better monitoring of the Zoos across the country.
- The agreement would bring in online software for scientific management of animals in 36 Zoos in the country.





## CLIMATE CHANGE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- The 20<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of Parties under UNFCCC in Lima, Peru.

### Issue

- The CoP 20 and CMP 10 under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol were held in Lima (Peru) from 1-14 December, 2014.

### Decision

- The Indian delegation led by the Minister played a proactive and constructive role in protecting India's long term interests and emphasised the need for inclusive growth and development space to tackle the problem of eradicating poverty, providing energy access to all and address other developmental priorities.

### Impact

- India along with other developing countries was able to ensure that the decisions adopted incorporated the convention principles and the rights of developing countries to pursue inclusive and sustainable development.





# National Action Plan on Climate Change

- The Ministry has been entrusted with the task of coordinating the implementation of National Missions under NAPCC and providing the information to the Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change.

## Issue

- National Missions were approved by the Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change in the year 2010-II. The National Missions were prepared during 11th Five Year Plan keeping the then national targets and priorities to meet the challenges of Climate Change. Adequate attention was given to all National Missions for successful implementation and to achieve the voluntary announcement of the 20-25% reduction of emission intensity of GDP by 2020 over the base level of 2005.

## Decision

- The third meeting of ECCC was held on 14.11.2014 under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary to Prime Minister wherein various decisions were taken namely, revisiting of all National Missions under NAPCC in the light of new scientific information and technological advances; undertaking additional interventions in areas, like Greenhouse Gas (GHG) mitigation in power generation, other Renewable Energy Technologies programmes, disaster management, protection of coastal areas, health sector and creating capacity at different levels of government, as indicated in the NAPCC; reporting of actions on reduction of enteric fermentation, nuclear power, dedicated freight corridor, hydro power and vehicle efficiency; exploring possibilities of new missions on wind energy, health, waste to energy, coastal areas and redesigning of the National Water Mission and National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture by the concerned Ministries in consultation with the Ministry. Further, a meeting of Sub-Committee of ECCC in its meeting held on 23.12.2014 recommended that the central sector schemes be reviewed for their coverage, integration and harmonization with the National Missions.

## Impact

- This will aid in fulfilment of India's voluntary pledge for reducing emissions intensity of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 20-25% by 2020 in comparison with 2005 level and will also indicate the future actions which could be included in the submissions of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions. It will also enhance the ecological sustainability of India's development path that identifies measures that promote India's development objectives while also yielding co-benefits for addressing climate change effectively.

# BASIC Ministerial Meeting on Climate Change

## Issue

- The 18<sup>th</sup> BASIC (Brazil, South Africa, India and China) Ministerial Meeting on Climate Change was held in New Delhi, India on 7-8 August 2014.

## Decision

- Delegates from BASIC countries discussed important issues relating to Climate Change negotiations especially on matters pertaining to the Ad-hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform.

## Impact

- A Joint Statement was issued at the end of the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2014.



# Issuance of Host Country Approval

- The National Clean Development Mechanism Authority (NCDMA) has issued Host Country Approval to 51 CDM projects which contribute to Sustainable Development in the country in the last about two hundred days.

## Issue

- The future of the carbon market post-2012 has become the center stage of discussions, debates and negotiations across the world with the end of the first commitment period of Kyoto Protocol in December 2012. CDM is going through difficult times as the Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) prices have dwindled. CERs lost 98 percent of their value from over 20 Euros in the past five years after most nations refused to take on fresh legal targets to cut greenhouse gas emissions under Kyoto II. This move hit the demand and left the market massively oversupplied with credits.

## Decision

- The National CDM Authority (NCDMA) at its meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2014 decided to hold NCDMA meeting quarterly or when at least 10 large scale projects have submitted all required documents. It was agreed to delist projects that are not submitted with complete documents. To fix a time line in this direction, Members agreed that if project proponents fail to submit requisite documents online within 3 months after submission of their project, it will be delisted and project proponent will be intimated.

## Impact

- Project proponents need not wait indefinitely for the Host Country Approval due to less number of projects coming for approval in the pipeline.





# Reference Document for REDD+

## Issue

- India is a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In accordance with the Cancun Agreements, developing countries willing to undertake REDD+ activities are required to formulate and follow a national strategy or action plan, establish a national forest reference emission level or national forest reference level or, a subnational level as an interim measure, a robust and transparent national forest monitoring system for the measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) on the performance of the REDD+ activities, and a system for providing information on how the REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected.

## Decision

- To address the involved issues and guide the country in supporting REDD+ issues, an Expert Committee was constituted for the preparation of Reference Document on REDD+ in India. The Reference Document for REDD+ in India has been prepared by the Sub Group Members on Forestry and Climate Change is under finalisation.

## Impact

- The Reference Document on REDD+ in India will outline the history, development and present status of REDD+ issues at the international and national level and act as a guide for implementation of the strategy and delineate the actions to be undertaken for implementation of REDD+ in the country.



# PROTECTION OF BIODIVERSITY

## Issue

- Biodiversity Conservation – leading the way as global leader.

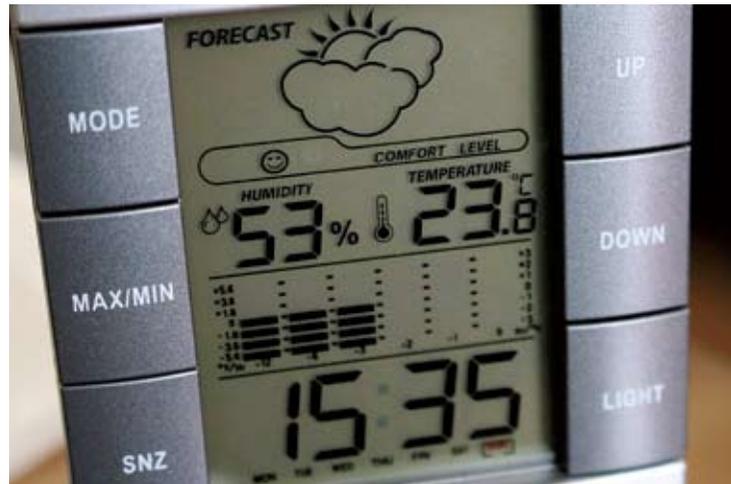
## Decision

- After hosting a well organised eleventh Global Biodiversity Summit (CoP-II to CBD) at Hyderabad in October 2012, India did exceedingly well in leading the Global Biodiversity agenda for two years.
- As President of the CoP to CBD, India's proactive leadership ensured that the Nagoya Protocol enters into force and attains international legitimacy.

## Impact

- Recognising the stellar role played by India in facilitating entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol, India was invited to chair the historic first meeting of the Nagoya Protocol in Korea on 13-17 October 2014. This was an unprecedented event in multilateral environmental discourse, and an 'icing on the cake'. The choice which could have gone in favour of any 50 countries that had ratified the protocol 90 days prior to CoP-12 to CBD, went to India because of her leadership inter alia in ensuring ratification of the protocol.
- India celebrated the occasion by having the long awaited Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) guidelines notified on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2014 under the provisions of Biological Diversity Act, 2002. India submitted its Fifth National Report to the CBD in 2014, which provides an update on biodiversity status, trends and threats, and India's progress towards global Aichi biodiversity targets. The document is available on CBD's website at the link <http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/in/in-nr-05-en.pdf> and on Ministry's website at the link <http://moef.gov.in/sites/default/files/India%27s%20Fifth%20National%20Report%20to%20CBD%20.pdf>. India through an extensive consultative process has developed 12 national biodiversity targets along with indicators for monitoring, using Aichi targets as a framework, and brought out a National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) Addendum 2014, to NBAP 2008. This document is available on CBD's website at the link <http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=in>, and on Ministry's website at the link <http://envfor.nic.in/sites/default/files/NBAP%20Addendum%202014.pdf>. India also ratified the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, which provides for international rules and procedures on liability and redress for damage to biodiversity resulting from Living Modified Organisms.
- India already has domestic ABS mechanism in place in the form of Biological Diversity Act and Rules. With Nagoya Protocol now being legally binding, it would be easy to track flight of Indian Genetic Resource overseas and seek benefit sharing on mutually agreed terms, in the event of commercialisation of accessed resource.





## RESEARCH IN ENVIRONMENT

### Issue

- To reduce the timelines for processing and appraising the research proposals being sanctioned by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change under the R&D scheme to various Research Institutions and Universities etc. spread across the country.

### Decision

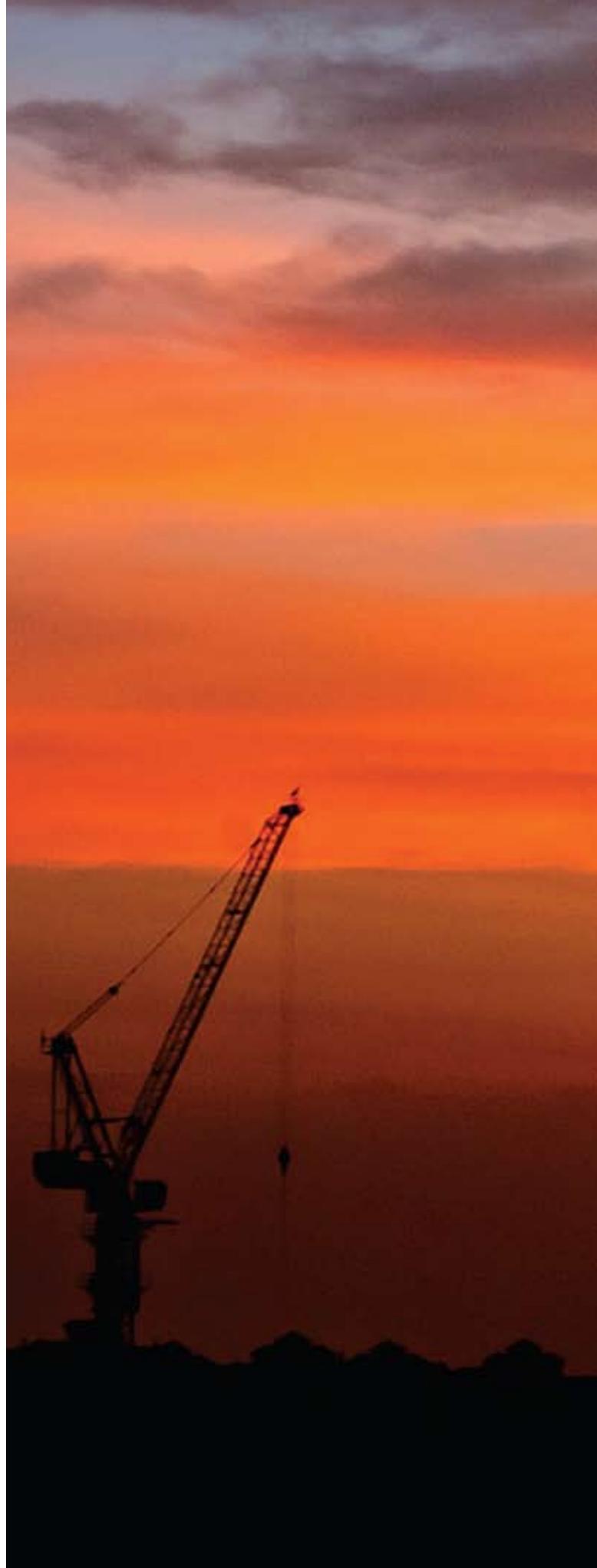
- To launch a Project Management and Information System (PMIS) for research projects being sanctioned by the Ministry.

### Impact

- In order to reduce the timelines for processing and appraising the research proposals, the Project Management and Information System (PMIS) covering on-line submission of research proposals, on-line Peer Reviewing, on-line monitoring of status of processing of proposal at various levels, on-line issue of sanction letters etc. has been put in place.
- The PMIS is expected to bring in transparency, efficiency and speedy decision making in respect of research projects to be sanctioned under the grant-in-aid R&D Scheme.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

- Review for amendment to Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- Declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones.
- Formulation of policies and programmes for effective management of human-wildlife conflict.
- Review of National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016).
- Amendment of Municipal Solid Waste Rules.
- Amendment of Hazardous Waste Management Rules.
- Amendment of Plastic Waste Rules.
- Finalisation of Construction and Demolition Waste Rules.
- Integration of online monitoring system of Environment Clearance, Forest Clearance and Wildlife Clearance.







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