

Hon'ble NGT dated 06.06.2019 has communicated to all SPCBs/PCCs that pulp and paper units importing waste paper should be covered under Extended Producer Responsibility as per clause 13(2) of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016.

(d) Ministry has notified the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Amendment Rules, 2019 on 1st March 2019 prohibiting the import of solid plastic waste in the country. The prohibition came into force from 1st September 2019.

#### **Pending forest based projects**

65. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the forest based projects approved by the Ministry during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether any previous projects are pending since long;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to expedite the clearance of these pending projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) In the last three years and current year (upto 21st January, 2020), Central Government has approved 3,530 number of projects (51,109 hectare of forest land), under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. State-wise details of proposals approved by the Central Government is given in Statement (*See below*). Compensatory Afforestation over more than 92,000 ha area has been stipulated against these approvals.

(b) to (d) Grant of approval by the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is a continuing process. All complete proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territory Administration are decided expeditiously by the Central Government.

In order to expedite decisions on complete proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territory Administration, the Central Government has taken a number of measures which include:

- i. For public utility projects involving forest land up to 1 hectare and felling of maximum 50 number of trees, Central Government has granted general approval to the State Governments/Union Territory Administration.
- ii. General Approval (GA) has been accorded to the State Governments in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) Districts identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs, involving forest land up to 40 ha and felling of trees up to 50 numbers (per ha), for development of public infrastructure works by State Government not falling in the Protected Areas.
- iii. Power to accord approval in all category of proposals except mining, hydel and encroachment involving forest area up to 40 hectares and linear proposals irrespective of forest areas like road, railways, transmission lines have now been delegated to Regional Empowered Committees at each Regional Office of the Ministry.
- iv. In case of prospecting of minerals (drilling of boreholes having size 4" up to 25 numbers per 10 square kilometres without felling of trees) in forest areas have been exempted from the purview of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- v. State Government/UT Administration (in forest area having crown density upto 0.1) and Regional Offices of the Ministry (in forest area having crown density between 0.1 to 0.7) may accord approval for prospecting of minerals in forest areas.
- vi. General Approval has been granted to State Government to give permission to agencies identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs for construction of road projects, located within an aerial distance of 100 Km from the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and located outside the Protected Areas (PAs).
- vii. General Approval has been accorded to the State Governments for creation of Border Security related infrastructure such as, border roads, fencing, border outposts, flood lights, surveillance infrastructure, and power infrastructure within 16 km aerial distance from the Indo - Bhutan and Indo- Myanmar borders, 15 km aerial distance from Indo-Nepal border and 100 km aerial distance from Line of Actual Control (LoC) along Eastern and Western borders.

**Statement***State wise approvals of forest land for non-forestry purpose under FC Act, 1980*

Category: All Categories

During the Period: 01/04/2016 to 21/01/2020

Case Status: Approved

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2016-2017		2017-2018		2018-2019		2019-2020		Grand Total	
		No. of Cases	Area Diverted (in Ha.)	No. of Cases	Area Diverted (in Ha.)	No. of Cases	Area Diverted (in Ha.)	No. of Cases	Area Diverted (in Ha.)	No. of Cases	Area Diverted (in Ha.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	5.26	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	5.26
2.	Andhra Pradesh	8	16.29	10	1215.87	10	492.99	4	192.24	32	1917.40
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	4	182.30	4	222.86	0	0.00	0	0.00	8	405.16
4.	Assam	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	1.00	0	0.00	1	1.00
5.	Bihar	18	165.68	45	571.67	59	330.89	17	427.05	139	1495.29
6.	Chandigarh	1	0.02	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0.02
7.	Chhattisgarh	8	752.08	7	294.12	6	623.65	0	0.00	21	1669.85

8.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	1	1.50	5	3.30	3	0.60	0	0.00	9	5.40
9.	Goa	0	0.00	6	42.49	3	1.19	0	0.00	9	43.68
10.	Gujarat	20	299.66	12	13.29	54	1140.54	115	163.78	201	1617.28
11.	Haryana	200	360.97	297	322.10	257	531.45	253	519.88	1007	1734.40
12.	Himachal Pradesh	20	31.81	46	254.14	74	666.22	51	360.86	191	1313.04
13.	Jharkhand	5	303.82	8	351.73	15	440.76	14	891.80	42	1988.11
14.	Karnataka	20	199.20	15	320.71	7	140.64	18	377.36	60	1037.90
IS.	Kerala	2	4.16	1	0.17	4	2.88	2	0.26	9	7.48
16.	Madhya Pradesh	18	808.06	43	3935.00	189	2442.86	188	1750.09	438	8936.00
17.	Maharashtra	10	1519.78	9	1365.08	4	431.39	3	183.79	26	3500.04
18.	Manipur	2	96.00	1	58.56	0	0.00	1	24.50	4	179.06
19.	Meghalaya	1	4.82	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	4.82
20.	Mizoram	1	0.24	0	0.00	1	17.50	3	46.48	5	64.22
21.	Odisha	15	268.24	14	1934.73	17	3650.52	18	4129.21	64	9982.69
22.	Punjab	124	45.87	280	649.31	192	630.99	120	267.44	716	1593.61

Written Answers to

[3 February, 2020]

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
23.	Rajasthan	21	2176.63	27	120.51	30	777.56	34	465.19	112	3539.89
24.	Sikkim	4	14.33	1	0.61	0	0.00	0	0.00	5	14.94
25.	Tamil Nadu	2	9.77	1	0.76	4	32.33	5	18.12	12	60.97
26.	Telangana	3	2.49	8	4891.81	12	2310.97	23	355.05	46	7560.32
27.	Tripura	2	11.12	1	3.33	2	8.48	10	264.51	15	287.45
28.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0.00	1	4.20	2	124.50	24	15.42	27	144.13
29.	Uttarakhand	60	171.64	73	1067.97	140	295.10	43	134.81	316	1669.53
30.	West Bengal	3	124.87	4	75.99	3	26.91	2	102.33	12	330.10
GRAND TOTAL		574	7576.61	919	17720.30	1089	15121.91	948	10690.19	3530	51109.01

*Note:* There was no diversion of forest land in respect of remaining six States /UTs