

D.O.No.2411/5/2022-GC

Dear Sir,

The following are the main activities of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change during the month of December, 2022:

1. **Mission LIFE**

In the CoS meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022, regarding the implementation of Mission LIFE, areas of inter-Ministerial convergence and coordination were presented to the Ministries/Departments. Thereafter, the Social Media campaign on SAVE ENERGY - one of the themes of LIFE - was launched on December 2, 2022, with a tweet by Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The creatives were shared with all the Ministries, wherein, apart from the core message, the logos of Mission LIFE as well as that of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav have been incorporated. A presentation in this regard was also made before the Hon'ble Minister of Culture on December 23, highlighting the role of various Ministries in implementation of Mission LIFE as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. A Meeting was held with the Sherpa of G-20, for promoting the message of LIFE in the various meetings of G-20.

The Ministry has integrated the implementation of Mission LIFE by reaching out to more than 10 lakh students through its network of 1 Lakh eco-clubs and promoting it through Nukkad Natak, Cycle Rallies, Folk dances etc., and also by embedding the logo and the message of Mission LIFE on the tickets of the Botanical Gardens under BSI as well as Zoos under the Central Zoo Authority. More than 1.25 lakh tickets with the logo have been issued online by the Central Zoo Authority, the average footfall being approximately 6000 per day. The ZSI conducted outreach in 5 States in the cities of Kolkata, Chennai, Dehradun, Shillong and Port Blair. Similarly, the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH), through its regional museums at Sawai Madhopur (Rajasthan) and Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) conducted Nukkad Natak, Green Talk and presentations through kiosks on the theme of LIFE. With the objective of maximising public participation especially that of youth, a competition has been launched on My Gov, soliciting entries related to slogan, jingles and posters on LIFE. It is estimated that approximately 23-24 lakh

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persons have been sensitized on the theme of "Mission LIFE" since the rollout by MoEFCC.

As a result of constant follow-up by MoEF&CC, other Ministries have already initiated convergence activities. Outreach of the creatives in regional languages was carried out by the Central Bureau of Communication under I&B Ministry. The Department of Consumer Affairs has popularised and promoted the LIFE messages on 'Save Energy' through its 'Jago Grahak Jago' Campaign, while the Tourism Ministry has informed that the messages are being shared with tourism stakeholders. Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has initiated action for outreach while the Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL) is developing a curriculum for school children on LIFE.

## **2. CIRCULAR ECONOMY**

Circular Economy is key to resource efficiency and thus, ecologically balanced productivity enhancement. The Ministry has notified market-based Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Regulations, for four categories of wastes i.e. plastic packaging waste, battery waste, e-waste and waste tyre. In the month of December 2022, a series of meetings were held of the Round Table on Special Category Waste, which were co-chaired with Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan. The Round Table deliberations included extensive stakeholder engagement. Thereafter, during the Virtual Conference on December 23, best practices of waste recycling in the States of Kerala, Karnataka, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh and Assam were shared at a national level. The Round Table has made specific recommendations and drawn up an implementable roadmap in order to unlock the full potential of Circular economy, and the recommendations have been taken up by MoEFCC with the relevant Central Ministries and also the State Governments.

## **3. COP BIO DIVERSITY**

An Inter-Ministerial Indian delegation participated in the CoP regarding Convention on Biological Diversity, where the Kunming-Montreal "Global Biodiversity Framework" (GBF), including four goals and 23 targets for achievement by 2030 were adopted. In addition to the GBF, the meeting approved a series of related agreements on its implementation, the most significant being resource mobilization and digital sequence information on genetic resources. India's stand in the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety was also placed and negotiated.

The Cabinet in its meeting held on 16 December 2022 approved this Ministry's proposal to move the motion in the Parliament for consideration and passing of the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, 2022, as reported by the Joint Committee and official amendments to this Bill. The letters of Motions were sent to the Secretary General, Lok Sabha on December 21, 2022.

#### 4. Environment and Forest Clearance

During the Expert Appraisal Committee meetings held in December, 2022, a total of 129 projects pertaining to different sectors were appraised, 48 projects were accorded Environmental Clearance and 36 projects were prescribed TOR.

During the month of December, 937.98 ha. of forest land in 123 cases, was approved (in principle) under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. 488.80 ha. of non-forest land and 780.71 ha. of degraded forest land have been earmarked and approved for carrying out Compensatory Afforestation.

#### 5. National Clean Air Programme

The Ministry is implementing the National Clean Air Programme for improvement of air quality in 131 cities since 2019. The guidelines for "Swacch Vayu Sarvekshan" were finalised in 2022 and the Sarvekshan was conducted for assessing the performance of these 131 cities so as to award performing cities. 09 cities in 3 categories were given cash prize of Rs. 5.25 crores based on their performance assessment under "Swacch Vayu Sarvekshan" framework during the Vayu Conference held from 3 – 4 December, 2022 at Bhubaneswar.

*Regards,*

Yours sincerely,



(Leena Nandan)

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