



हाइड्रोकार्बन महानिदेशालय

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF HYDROCARBONS

Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas
Government of India

DGH/Environment & Clearance/31072024

Dated:31.07.2024

It has been noticed that many a times, the User Agency has faced delays in obtaining necessary Environment/ Forest Clearances because of the incorrect submission of data in the designated portal. These delays further hamper the exploration ventures. In many instances, violation cases have also been observed.

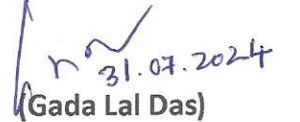
2.0 All the User Agencies are required to strictly comply with the provisions given in the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification 2006, Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and P&NG Rule 1959, and their subsequent Amendments thereof.

3.0 Annexure-I is attached herewith for the purposes of information and intimation to User Agencies involved in the Oil and Gas activities pertaining to the E&P Blocks in India.

4.0 This has been issued with the approval of the Competent Authority, for the information and necessary action please.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,


31.07.2024
(Gada Lal Das)

HoD (Environment & Clearance)

Enclosure: Annexure-I

To,

All Upstream E&P Industries

Annexure-I

1.0 Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 provides the procedure to obtain prior approval of Central Government under section-2 of the Act.

2.0 As per the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, every User Agency, who wants to use forest land for non-forest purpose, after examining all feasible alternatives, prepares the proposal in the format prescribed in the FC Rules and submits it to the PARIVESH portal, along with requisite information and documents complete in all respects well in advance of taking any non-forest activity on the forest land.

3.0 Procedure to obtain prior approval of Central Government under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for use of forest land for non-forest purpose is same irrespective of the ownership of the forest land.

4.0 There also exist provisions for whoever contravenes or abets the contravention of any of the provisions of section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 Act.

5.0 Prior Environment Clearance is a statutory requirement for project/activities covered in the schedule of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification 2006.

6.0 If applicable, User Agency also needs to seek clarification on the time period within which the Environment Clearance (EC) has to be transferred after transfer/ acquisition/ demerger/ change in name etc., of the company and the validity of the transferred EC has been given by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), New Delhi vide OM dated 03.11.2023 and 10.12.2021, respectively.

7.0 Project activity located within the default ESZ of 10 km from the project boundary would require clearance from the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL). Wildlife Clearance is issued not only to forest areas but also for non-forest areas such as Tanks, and Lakes which are notified as sanctuary/national parks, tiger reserves, and tiger corridors as per the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, or eco-sensitive zones. User Agency has to login into the Ministry's portal <https://parivesh.nic.in> and submit the form, accordingly.

8.0 Obtaining the consents under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, as applicable from time to time, is mandatory for all industrial units in red, orange and green categories. *Oil and Gas activities/installations fall in the Red Category industrial unit.*

9.0 User Agency needs to comply with the necessary provisions of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, EIA Notification 2006, Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and P&NG Rules 1959, as applicable from time to time.

10.0 Any E&P operation/activity without having all requisite statutory clearances is not admissible / illegal which may lead to violation under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan)

Adhiniyam 1980, EIA Notification 2006, Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981, Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 and P&NG Rule 1959 and their subsequent Amendments thereof.

11. DGH has prepared and published a handbook for environmentally relevant clearance procedures and guidelines for upstream onshore Oil and Gas Exploration and Development Operations. The handbook is available at <https://www.dghindia.gov.in/> portal. User Agencies are required to go through and extract maximum benefit from the handbook.

12. User Agency is also required to visit PARIVESH portal regularly, for recent Office Memorandum/ Notifications/ Guidelines issued from MoEF&CC, New Delhi.

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