



सत्यमेव जयते



DIRECTORATE
GENERAL OF
HYDROCARBONS



ASSAM SCIENCE
TECHNOLOGY AND
ENVIRONMENT
COUNCIL



HANDBOOK FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY RELEVANT PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES FOR UPSTREAM E&P OPERATIONS



HANDBOOK FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY RELEVANT PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES FOR UPSTREAM E&P OPERATIONS

A joint initiative of

**Assam Science Technology
and Environment Council**

Science, Technology and Climate Change
Department
Government of Assam

**Directorate General of
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MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR GENERAL, DGH

In today's dynamic global landscape, the significance of the Indian oil and gas industry cannot be overstated. As one of the pillars supporting the country's growing economy and burgeoning population, the sector plays a pivotal role in ensuring energy security, driving industrial growth, and meeting the increasing energy demands of a developing nation. However, amidst the pursuit of progress, it is imperative that we tread cautiously and be mindful of our environmental responsibilities.

The exploration and production activities in the oil and gas sector often intersect with environmental concerns, necessitating thorough scrutiny and adherence to regulatory frameworks. Before initiating any operations, obtaining environment-related clearances is not just a legal obligation but a moral imperative. These clearances serve as safeguards, ensuring that our pursuit of energy does not come at the cost of irreparable damage to the environment.

Navigating through the labyrinth of environmental regulations and obtaining the necessary clearances can often be laborious for stakeholders in the industry. Recognising this challenge, the compilation of all rules, regulations, legislations, and their amendments pertaining to environment-related clearances into a comprehensive handbook titled “*Handbook for environmentally relevant procedures and guidelines for upstream E&P operations*” is a commendable endeavour. Such a handbook not only facilitates the smooth processing of clearance proposals in a timely fashion but also defines the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders in this cycle.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the team of experts at Assam Science Technology and Environment Council (ASTEC), Assam and Environment & Clearances Department at Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH), whose dedication and tireless efforts have culminated in the creation of this invaluable handbook. This handbook will undoubtedly serve as a guidance manual for all stakeholders involved in the oil and gas industry.

As we embark on this journey towards sustainable development, let us remain steadfast in our commitment to striking a balance between progress and environmental preservation. Together, let us forge a path where economic growth and environmental sustainability go hand in hand, ensuring a brighter and greener future for generations to come.

With best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Jain', with a horizontal line underneath.

Dr. Pallavi Jain Govil, IAS



MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to learn that the Assam Science Technology & Environment Council has completed the handbook entitled “**Handbook for Environmentally Relevant Procedures and Guidelines for Upstream E&P Operations**”.

At the heart of this project lies a noble endeavour: to harmonise the needs of progress with the imperative of environmental preservation. We understand the delicate balance required to navigate the intricate maze of statutory clearance process while safeguarding our precious ecosystem and wildlife habitats. This handbook is not merely a compendium of rules and regulations but a statement of our collective commitment to a greener and more responsible future.

Each page of this handbook is imbued with the spirit of collaboration and stewardship. It is a tribute to the dedication of countless individuals and organisations striving to ensure that our actions today do not compromise future generations' well-being. As you delve into its contents, may you feel inspired by the enormity of our shared mission and emboldened by the knowledge by the knowledge that every effort, no matter how small, contributes to a larger tapestry of positive change.

Together, let us embrace the challenges ahead with optimism and determination. Let us seize this opportunity to transcend boundaries, foster innovation, forge partnerships and aspire towards excellence in environmental management.

I believe this handbook will serve as our compass, guiding us towards a future where economic prosperity flourishes hand in hand with ecological resilience.

Regards,

(Laya Madduri, IAS)

Secretary to the Govt. of Assam

Science, Technology & Climate Change Department

Janata Bhawan, Dispur

FOREWORD



In the pursuit of sustainable development, the delicate balance between economic growth and environmental conservation becomes increasingly critical. As India emerges as a key player in the global energy landscape, it is imperative that we navigate the challenges of onshore and offshore oil and gas exploration with a steadfast commitment to environmental stewardship.

Due to the complex regulatory framework around oil and gas resources, it is necessary to have a detailed grasp of the environmental effects and mitigation strategies related to these activities. This handbook provides a thorough explanation of the procedures involved in getting permissions for both onshore and offshore projects, making it a valuable guide for industry professionals, legislators, and environmentalists.

India's delicate ecosystems and abundant biodiversity make a strict regulatory structure necessary to protect its natural heritage. The procedures for environmental clearance described in this handbook offer a guide for ensuring that operations related to oil and gas exploration don't jeopardise the integrity of our environment. Every step of the process, from the first project evaluation to the monitoring after clearance, is carefully laid out, highlighting the importance of comprehensive environmental impact assessments and practical mitigation plans. The significance of our forested regions is acknowledged by including environment, forest, and wildlife clearance procedures. These procedures also recognise forested areas' role in biodiversity protection, carbon sequestration, and providing a livelihood for local residents. This manual attempts to combine the need for development with the need to preserve our priceless forests by guiding readers through the challenges of clearing forests.

Making well-informed decisions is essential to the success of our activities as we stand at the convergence of environmental stewardship and economic advancement. This booklet is a tribute to our shared responsibility, painstakingly designed to guide stakeholders through the intricate processes of environment, forest, and wildlife clearance. The cumulative knowledge that resulted from the cooperation of specialists, authorities, and business executives is captured in this handbook. This manual not only clarifies the complex clearance procedures but also emphasises the industry's shared goal of sustainable growth for the oil and gas industry.

I hope this guidebook will operate as a lighthouse, showing the way towards ethical and sustainable methods for both onshore and offshore oil and gas explorations in India.



(Dr. Jaideep Baruah)

Director

Assam Science Technology and Environment Council

PREFACE

Per the India Energy Outlook 2021, India, a country leading the world in economic growth, consumes energy at the third-highest rate worldwide. The energy sector is crucial in sustaining and accelerating India's economic growth. An expanding economy, population, urbanisation and industrialisation mean that India will see the largest increase in energy demand of any country across all of our scenarios for 2040. In the dynamic landscape of energy exploration, where the quest for natural resources converges with the imperative of environmental preservation, this handbook emerges as an essential compass for navigating the intricate terrain of statutory clearances such as environment, forest, and wildlife clearance. As the demand for energy accelerates, particularly in the context of onshore and offshore oil and gas exploration in India, it is incumbent upon us to foster a symbiotic relationship between development and conservation.

This handbook contains chapters on the various statutory clearances required for oil and gas E&P activities, the acts, rules and regulations that govern the clearance procedures, as well as some additional information pertaining to the oil and gas sector. It also provides forms and formats that are required to be filled out for obtaining environment, forest and wildlife clearance. The handbook is a result of extensive collaboration among experts, environmentalists, industry professionals, and regulatory authorities, all driven by a shared commitment to responsible resource utilisation. It seeks to provide clarity and guidance to those involved in the multifaceted journey of obtaining clearances for oil and gas projects, ensuring that progress does not come at the expense of our invaluable natural heritage. The clearance processes delineated in this handbook are not merely a bureaucratic procedure but a proactive strategy to mitigate the potential ecological impacts of exploration activities. By presenting a comprehensive overview of the regulatory landscape, environmental impact assessment methodologies, and monitoring protocols, this handbook aims to empower stakeholders with the knowledge necessary to make informed decisions that prioritise environmental sustainability.

We are extremely thankful to Dr. Jaideep Baruah, Director, ASTEC, and Mr. Gada Lal Das, HOD, Environment Department, DGH, for their instrumental help and suggestions towards this publication. Our heartfelt thanks go to the members of the committee for handbook development, EIACP (PC) Hub Assam coordinators and associates, and associates of DGH for their valuable input.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AAI	:	Airports Authority of India
ADS	:	Additional Document Sought
AQI	:	Air Quality Index
BCM	:	Billion Cubic Meters
BRO	:	Border Roads Organisation
BToe	:	Billion-ton Oil Equivalent
CAMPA	:	Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority
CCR	:	Certified Compliance Report
CFE	:	Consent for Establishment
CFO	:	Consent for Operation
CFR	:	Community Forest Rights
CGWA	:	Central Ground Water Authority
CPA	:	Critically Polluted Areas
CPCB	:	Central Pollution Control Board
CREP	:	Corporate Responsibility for Environment Protection
CRZ	:	Coastal Regulation Zone
CTE	:	Consent to Establish
CTO	:	Consent to Operate
CWLW	:	Chief Wildlife Warden
CZMA	:	Coastal Zone Management Authority
DFO	:	District/Divisional Forest Officer
DG	:	Director General
DGCA	:	Directorate General of Civil Aviation
DGH	:	Directorate General of Hydrocarbons
DGMS	:	Directorate General of Mines Safety
DGS	:	Directorate General of Shipping
DLC	:	District Welfare Committee
DRDO	:	Defence Research & Development Organisation
E&P	:	Exploration and Production
EAC	:	Expert Appraisal Committee
EC	:	Environment Clearance
ECC	:	Empowered Coordination Committee
EcE	:	Economic Cum Environmental

EEZ	: Exclusive Economic Zone
EFA	: Ecologically Fragile Areas
EHS	: Environment, Health and Safety
EIA	: Environmental Impact Assessment
EMC	: Environmental Monitoring Cell
EP	: Environment Protection
EPU	: Early Production Unit
ERDMP	: Emergency Response and Disaster Management Plan
ESZ	: Eco-Sensitive Zones
FAC	: Forest Advisory Committee
FASLI	: Factory Advice Service & Labour Institutes
FC	: Forest Clearance
FDP	: Field Development Plan
FDST	: Forest Dwelling Scheduled Tribes
FRA	: Forest Rights Act
GC	: General Condition
GCS	: Gas Collection Stations
GLC	: Gas Liquid Chromatography
GSR	: General Statutory Rules
HoFD	: Head of Forest Department
HQ	: Head Quarters
HSD	: High Speed Diesel
HTL	: High Tide Line
HWA	: Hazardous Waste Authorization
ICC	: Investment Clearance Cell
ICMC	: Inter-Ministerial Coordination and Monitoring Committee
IEA	: International Energy Agency
IFR	: Individual Forest Rights
IHQ	: Integrated Head Quarters
IPA	: In Principle Approval
IPZ	: Island Protection Zone
ISPS	: International Ship and Port Security
ITDP	: Integral Tribal Development Project
KML	: Keyhole Markup Language
LPG	: Liquefied Petroleum Gas

LTL	: Low Tide Line
LWE	: Left Wing Extremism
MBPD	: Million Barrels Per Day
MMDR	: Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation)
MoC&I	: Ministry of Commerce and Industry
MoD	: Ministry of Defence
MoEF&CC	: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
MoHA	: Ministry of Home Affairs
MoPNG	: Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
NABET	: National Accreditation Board for Education and Training
NAQM	: National Air Quality Monitoring
NBWL	: National Board for Wildlife
NHAI	: National Highways Authority of India
NITI	: National Institute for Transforming India
NOC	: No Objection Certificate
NOCAS	: No Objection Certificate Application System
NSC	: Naval Security Clearance
NSI	: Naval Security Inspection
NSWS	: National Single Window System
O&G	: Oil and Gas
OCS	: Oil Collection Stations
OISD	: Oil Industry Safety Directorate
OM	: Office Memorandum
OMR	: Oil Mines Regulation
ORD	: Oilfields (Regulation and Development)
OTFD	: Other Traditional Forest Dwellers
P&NG	: Petroleum and Natural Gas
PA	: Protected Areas
PCB	: Pollution Control Board
PCCF	: Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
PEL	: Petroleum Exploration License
PESO	: Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization
PH	: Public Hearing
PML	: Petroleum Mining Lease
PMO	: Prime Minister's Office

PNGRB	: Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board
PP	: Project Proponent
PSC	: Project Screening Committee (Related to Forest Clearance)
PSC	: Production Sharing Contracts
R&D	: Research and Development
RO	: Regional Office
RoFR	: Recognition of Forest Rights
ROU	: Right of Use
RSC	: Revenue Sharing Contracts
RSEE	: Research, Survey, Exploration and Exploitation
SBWL	: State Board of Wildlife
SC-NBWL	: Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife
SCZMA	: State Coastal Zone Management Authorities
SDLC	: Sub-Divisional Level Committee
SEAC	: State or Union Territory level Expert Appraisal Committee
SEIAA	: State Environment Impact Assessment Authority
SG	: State Government
SGWA	: State Ground Water Authority
SLMC	: State-Level Monitoring Committee
SPCB	: State Pollution Control Board
STEPS	: Stated Policies Scenario
TES	: Total Energy Supply
ToR	: Terms of Reference
UN	: United Nations
USD	: United States Dollar
UT	: Union Territory
UTEIAA	: Union Territory Environment Impact Assessment Authority
UTPCB	: Union Territory Pollution Control Board
UTPCC	: Union Territory Pollution Control Committee
WBM	: Water Based Mud
WLC	: Wildlife Clearance
WP	: Wildlife Protection
WPC	: Writ Petition (Civil)



CHAPTER 1

Introduction to Indian Oil & Gas Sector and Statutory Clearances





1.1. THE INDIAN OIL & GAS SECTOR

India, at the forefront of economic growth, is also the third largest energy consumer in the world, according to the India Energy Outlook 2021 ¹. The energy sector is crucial in sustaining and accelerating India's economic growth. In the STEPS, India's oil demand rises by almost 4 million barrels per day (mb/d) to reach 8.7 mb/d in 2040, the most significant increase of any country ¹. An expanding economy, population, urbanisation and industrialisation mean that India will see the largest increase in energy demand of any country across all of our scenarios for 2040.

India's energy demand has tripled over the last three decades: the share of traditional biomass has fallen, leaving coal and oil dominant (Fig 1).

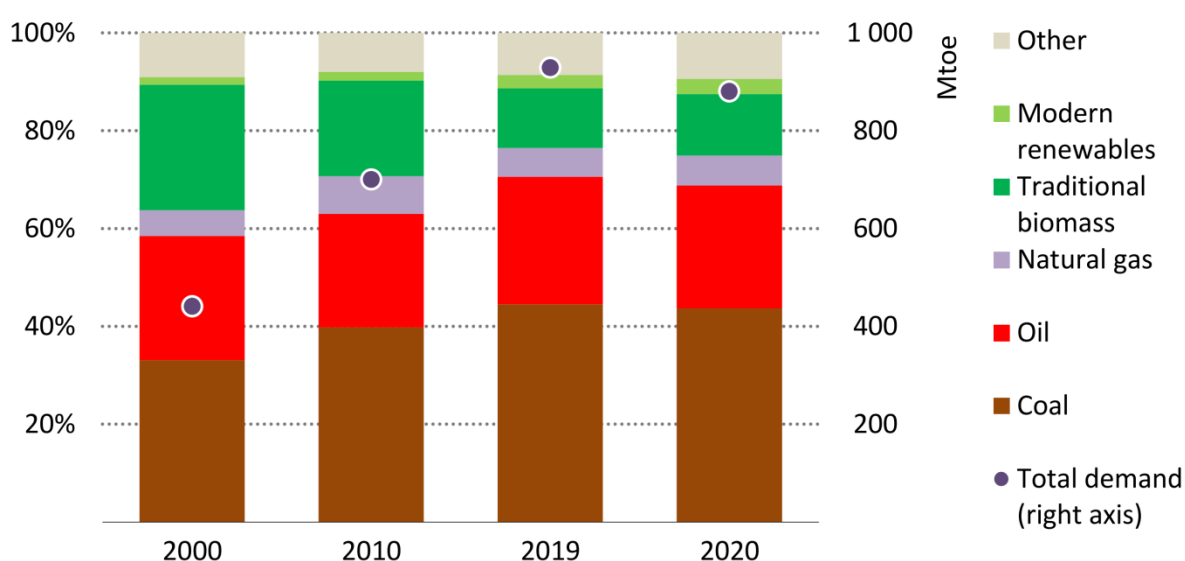
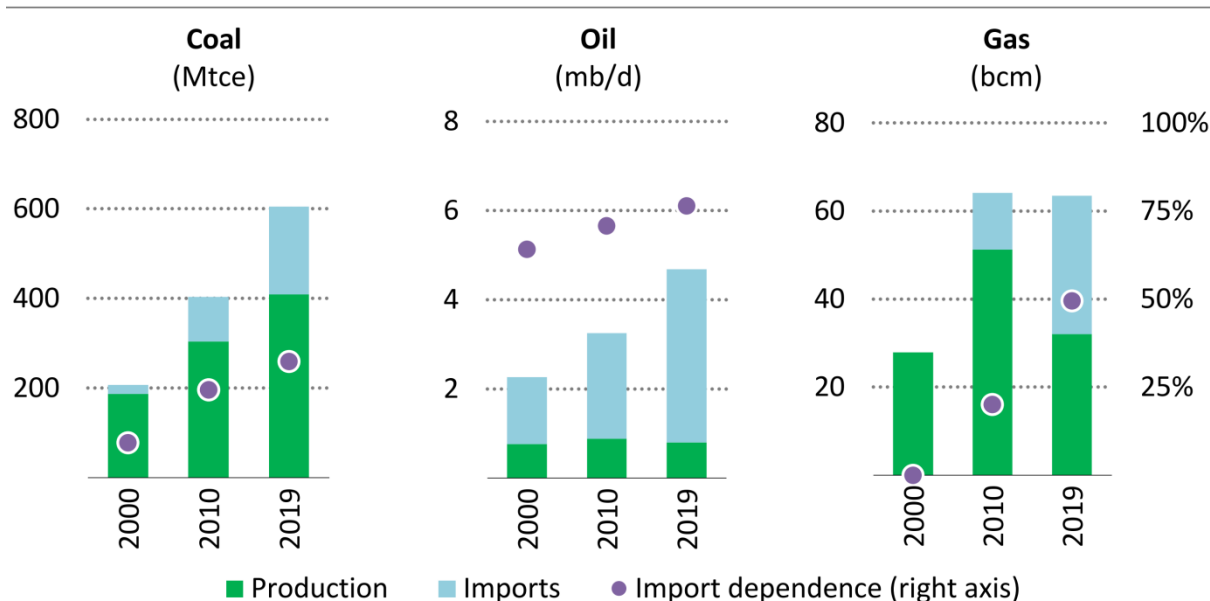


Fig 1: Total primary energy demand in India ¹.

The ever-growing need for energy will make India more dependent on fossil fuel imports, at least for the next three decades, as domestic oil and gas production has stagnated for years (Fig 2). India has laid an impetus to accelerate domestic exploration and production and build strong energy security.

One critical step for accelerating domestic exploration and production is widening exploration, development, and production opportunities encompassing more comprehensive stakeholder consultations for stability and creating policy and regulatory reforms.



India's domestic production of fossil fuels has not been able to keep pace with demand, leading to a rapid rise in import dependence over the past two decades.

Note: Mtce = million tones of coal equivalent; mb/d = million barrels per day; bcm = billion cubic metres.

Fig 2: India's production and trade of coal, crude oil and natural gas ¹.

The Government of India has undertaken an aggressive Oil & Gas exploration program with the target of becoming energy independent by 2047 and accordingly put many efforts towards Ease of Doing Business for Oil & Gas E&P Activities in Indian Basins:

- “Enhancing Domestic Oil & Gas Exploration and Production in the Indian Basins” - A report prepared under the Chairmanship of Vice Chairman NITI Aayog (January 2019).
- ‘Constitution of Empowered Coordination Committee (ECC)’ under the Chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary - To resolve the issues of pending Clearance/ Approvals for upstream Oil & Gas E&P activities as well as streamline the process of approvals, which are taking a long time (February 2019).
- आत्मनिर्भर भारत अभियान Self-Reliant India Movement Launched by Hon’ble Prime Minister of India (May 2020).
- Hydrocarbon Vision 2030 for North-East India Launched by Hon’ble Minister of P&NG (February 2016).
- National Single Window System (NSWS) Investment Clearance Cell (ICC) introduced by MoC&I (January 2021).

India's legal compliance universe is vast, and thus, every E&P operator must be well aware of the prevailing regulations for the Upstream Oil & Gas sector to undertake O&G E&P activities sustainably.

1.2. SEDIMENTARY BASINS OF INDIA

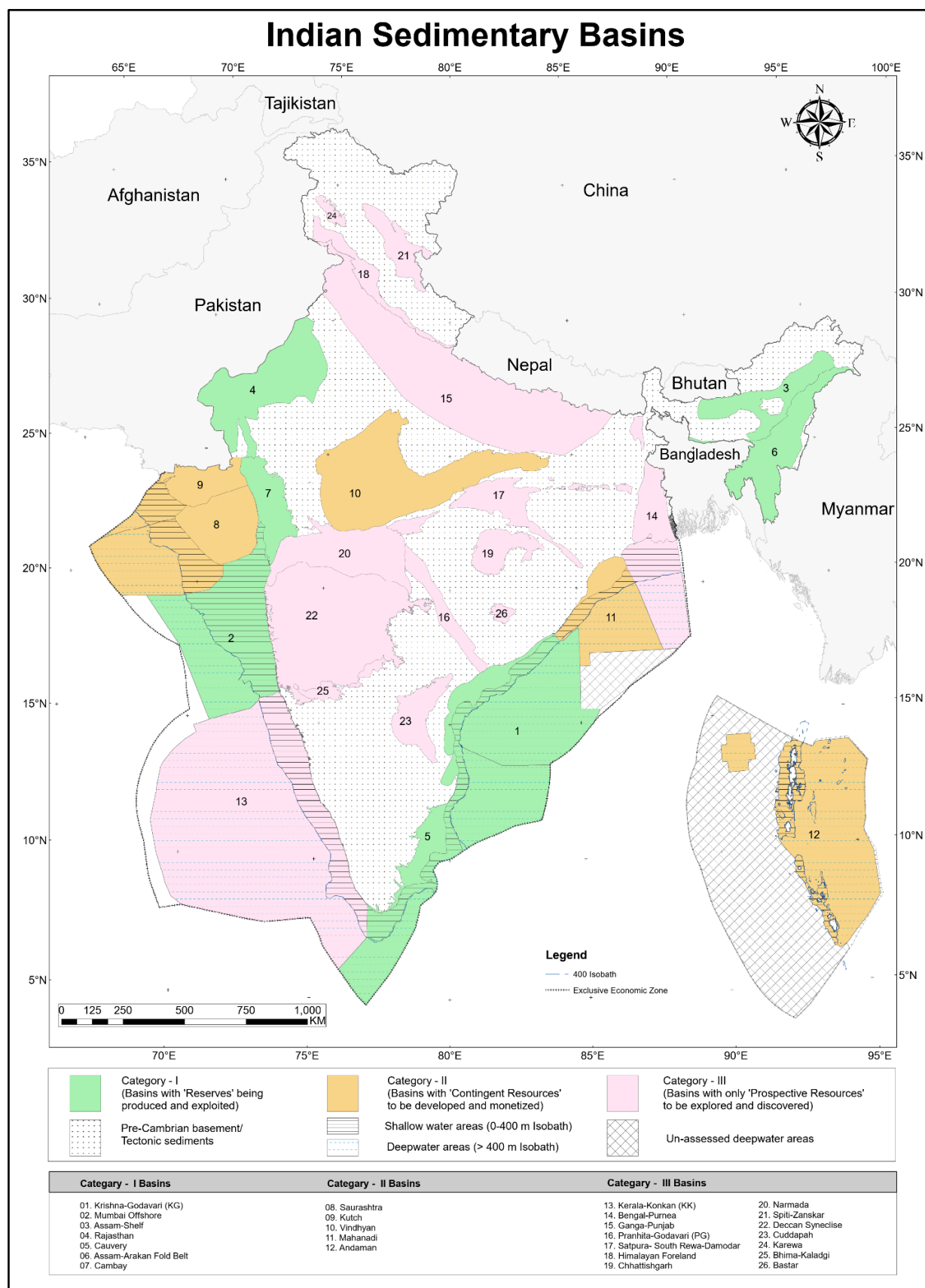
India comprises 26 sedimentary basins with an estimated sedimentary area of 3.36 million sq. km. Out of this, 1.63 million sq. km. area is on-land, shallow offshore has an aerial extent of 0.41 million sq. km. and deep-water has a sedimentary area of 1.32 million sq. km. as per renewed categorisation of sedimentary basins. The sedimentary basins of India have a total hydrocarbon reserve of 41.872 billion-ton oil equivalent (BToe) ².



Fig. 3: Total unrisked conventional hydrocarbon ³.

These 26 Indian sedimentary basins have been divided into the following three categories:

- **Category-I:** Basins, which have reserves and already producing; Commercial production established; 7 basins: 9,98,325 sq. Km.
- **Category-II:** Basins, which have contingent resources pending commercial production; 5 basins: 7,80,974 sq. Km.
- **Category-III:** Basins, which have prospective resources awaiting discovery; 14 basins: 1,586,150 sq. Km.

Fig 4: Indian sedimentary basins ⁴.

1.3. LIFE CYCLE OF A HYDROCARBON FIELD

Hydrocarbon fields have a long-life cycle. From the discovery of petroleum deposits to the first oil/gas, exploration and production activities have spread over several decades. All activities are administrated by MoPNG, DGH, OISD, PNGRB, DGMS, PESO, and/or Chief Inspector of Factories and statutory bodies created under Environmental Regulations, viz. State Pollution Control Board/ UT Pollution Committees etc. Five stages in the lifecycle of the hydrocarbon field and activities covered in each stage are depicted below:

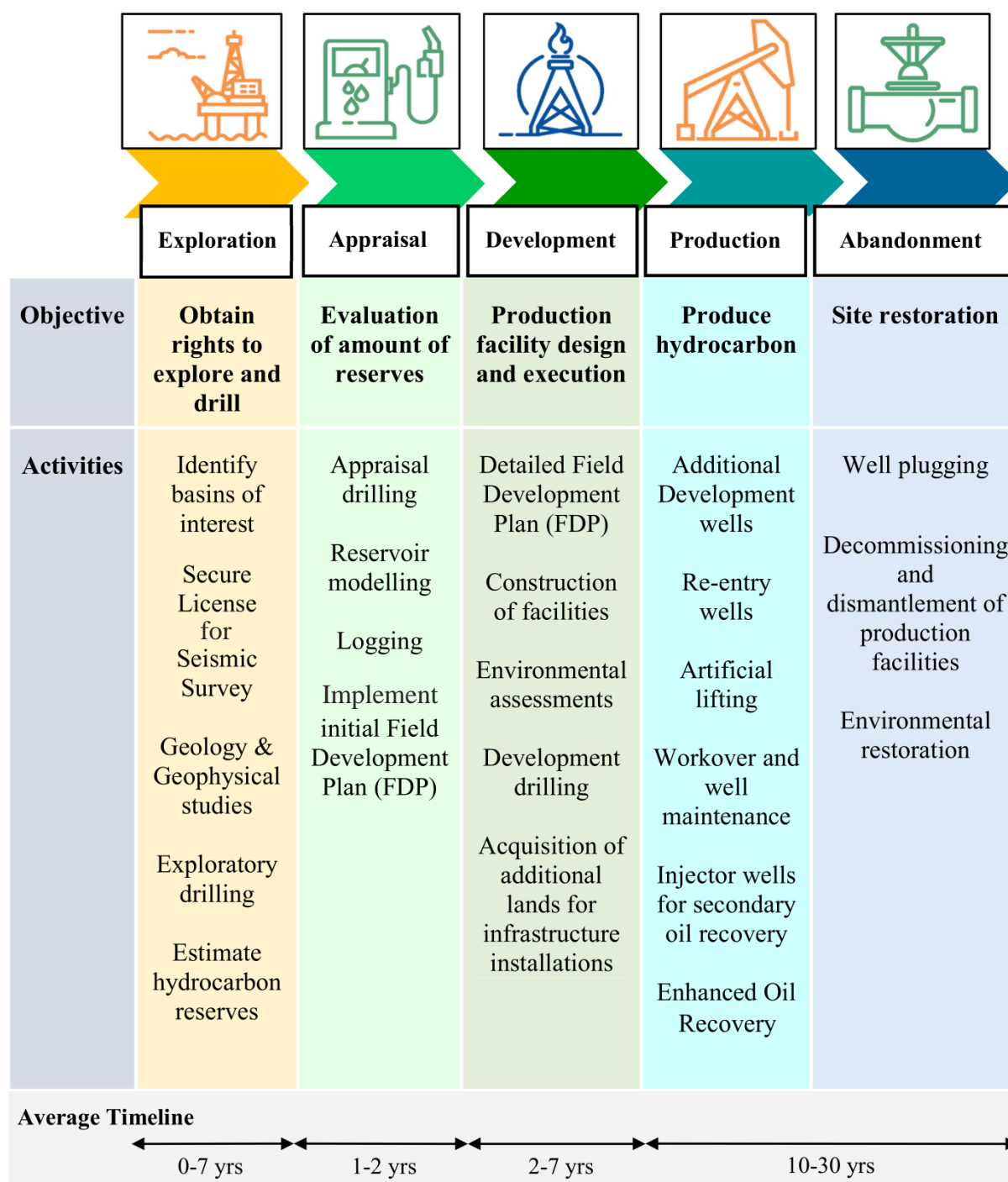


Fig 5: Five stages in lifecycle of hydrocarbon field

All Oil & Gas fields typically go through three production phases: buildup, plateau, and decline in production.

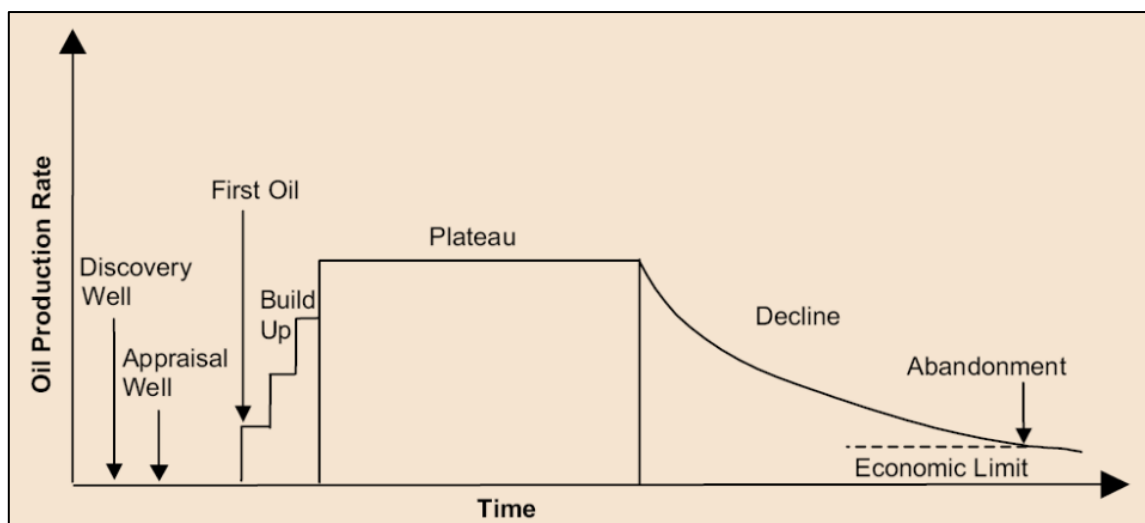


Fig 6: Theoretical production profile of an oilfield, describing various stages of development in an idealised case (Adapted from Feygin and Ryzhik (2001) ⁵ and Robelius (2007) ⁶)

1.4. EXPEDITING CLEARANCES FOR E&P OPERATIONS: OILFIELDS (REGULATION AND DEVELOPMENT) ACT, 1948, AND PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS RULES, 1959, FOR UPSTREAM O&G E&P ACTIVITIES

Protecting and preserving the environment is integral to the culture and religion of most human communities. It is essential to draw linkages between the environment and various stakeholders to build further bridges between legislations relating to the two.

Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948, enacted on 8th September 1948 and the Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules, 1959, which came into force on 25th November 1959, empowers the Central Government to regulate Oil Blocks in the Indian sedimentary basins. Onshore PEL & PML blocks are accordingly granted by the respective State/UT Govt. under the provision of Regulation 5(ii) of Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules, 1959, based on allotment of the same by the Central Govt. Offshore PEL & PML blocks are directly allotted/ granted by the Central Govt. under the purview of Regulation 5(ii) of Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules, 1959.

Post the award of blocks and execution of the contract, the contractor is required to obtain a Petroleum Exploration License (PEL) for the entire contract area as per the provisions of the Oilfields Regulation & Development (ORD) Act, 1948 and Petroleum & Natural Gas Rules, 1959. Under the terms of the PEL, the licensee is granted an exclusive right to operations relating to the information drilling or test drilling and the right to lease over any part of the license area. Subsequently, the contractor must obtain a Petroleum Mining Lease (PML) for parts of the contract area encompassing discoveries for development and production activities. Under the PML, the lessee has an exclusive right in the leased land to conduct mining

operations for petroleum and natural gas and has the right to carry out construction in the leased area for the full benefit of the lease or to fulfil the obligations under the lease.

Oil & Gas E&P activities are governed under the Mines Act, 1952 and the Oil Mines Regulation (OMR), 2017. These can't be treated at par with the mining activities carried out for extraction of minerals under the purview of Part-C of the First Schedule of MMDR Act, 1957 or Mineral (Evidence of Mineral Contents) Rules, 2015. Oil & Gas E&P activities can't be considered mining in terms of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order on "Mining" dated 04.08.2006 in IA-1000 in WPC-202 of 1995. Exploration of "Mineral Oils" (Natural Gas & Petroleum) and Mining of "Minerals" (other than Mineral Oils) have distinct Constitutional, Legislative and Operational Frameworks. A difference persists between PEL and PML. PEL is a short-term License. In contrast, PML is considered a long-term Mining lease, and no commercial production is permitted during operation with PEL till the PEL is converted to a PML. However, all the required Statutory Clearances/Approvals apply to both PEL & PMLs. For granting PML, no Environment Clearance, Public Hearings, etc. are needed.

Apart from PEL and PML, contractors or operators of oil and gas blocks must get statutory permits and approvals from various State and Central government bodies, such as - Environment Clearance, Forest Clearance, and Wildlife Clearance from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Consent to Establish (CTE), Consent to Operate (CTO) from concerned State Pollution Control Boards. Grant of PEL/PML only gives the preferential rights/access right over the area to the Operator, and except for Seismic survey Offshore and in non-forest land in On-shore blocks, no other E&P activities can be undertaken with a grant of PEL or PML. Grant of PEL/PML facilitates the Operators' application for the required statutory clearances under various regulations.

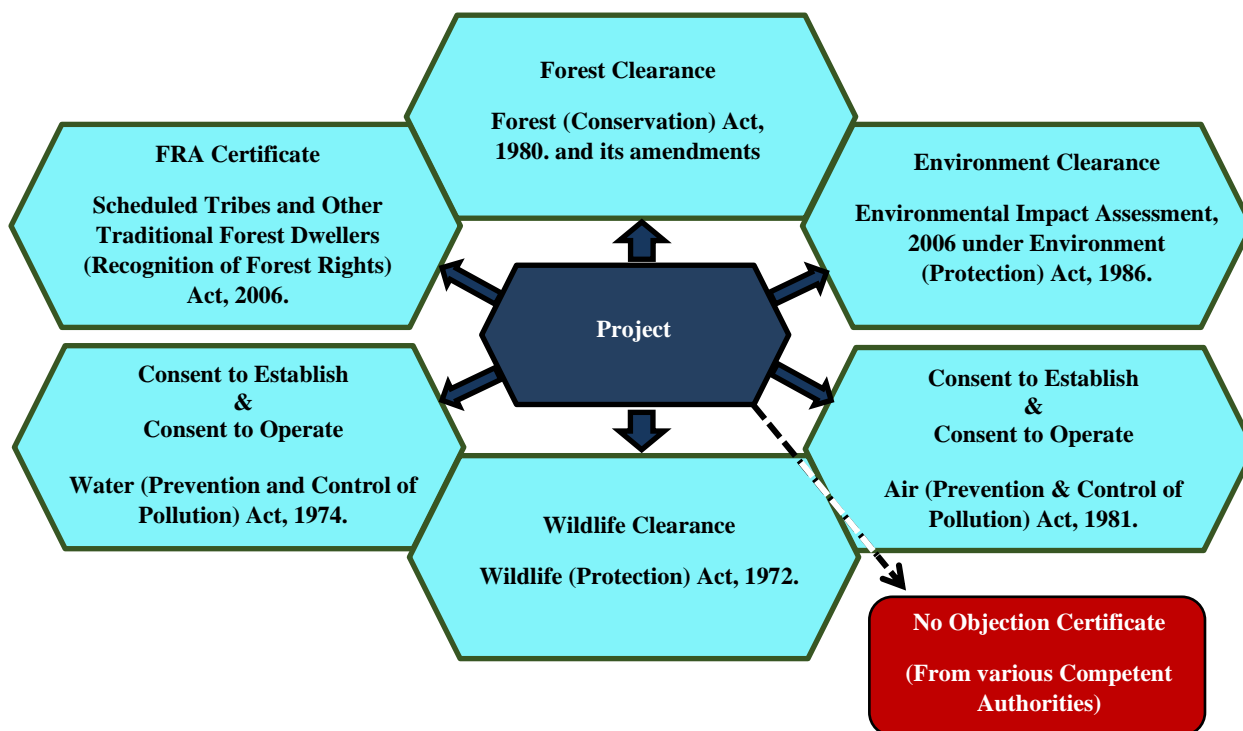


Fig 7: List of key clearances to be taken in a project.

Environment-related clearances are an essential part of the upstream exploration and production (E&P) oil and gas sector, as they must ensure that oil and gas activities do not cause undue harm to the environment and ensure mitigation measures towards sustainable development.

1.5. EVOLUTION OF STATUTORY CLEARANCES

The environment can be defined under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 as "environment includes water, air and land and the inter-relationship which exists among and between water, air and land, and human beings, other living creatures, plants, micro-organisms and property."

Adequate provisions for protecting the environment and forests have been made in the Constitution of India. Article 47 provides for the protection and improvement of health. Article 48A is directed towards the protection and improvement of the environment and the protection of forests and wildlife. Article 51(A) says it is the duty of every citizen to protect and improve the natural environment. Following the UN Conference on Human Environment (Stockholm, 1972), a constitutional amendment (42, 1976) inserted relevant provisions for environment protection in the Constitution in Part IV-Directive Principles and Part IV A- Fundamental Duties.

The government of India has enacted various acts and legislations to ensure sustainable development. Prominent among these are as follows:

- Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 (amended in 1988).
 - This act seeks to maintain or restore the “wholesomeness of Water”, and the Central and state Pollution Control Boards have been established under this Act.
- Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) (Cess) Act, 1977 (amended in 1991).
 - According to this act, both central and state governments must provide funds to the boards to implement it.
- Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 (amended in 1988 and in 2023).
 - This act provides compensatory afforestation to make up for diversifying forest land to non-forest use.
- Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
 - This act was enacted in 1986 to protect and improve the human environment.
- Environment Protection Act, 1986, through which the government acquired wide powers to protect the environment.
- Biological Diversity Act, 2002.
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) notification, September 2006.
 - This notification has decentralised the environmental clearance projects by categorising the developmental projects into two categories, i.e., Category A (national-level appraisal) and Category B (state-level appraisal).
- Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

1.6. ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS FOR THE OIL & GAS INDUSTRY

Upstream O&G E&P operations are governed under multiple Rules/ Regulations/ Acts under different Ministries as detailed below:

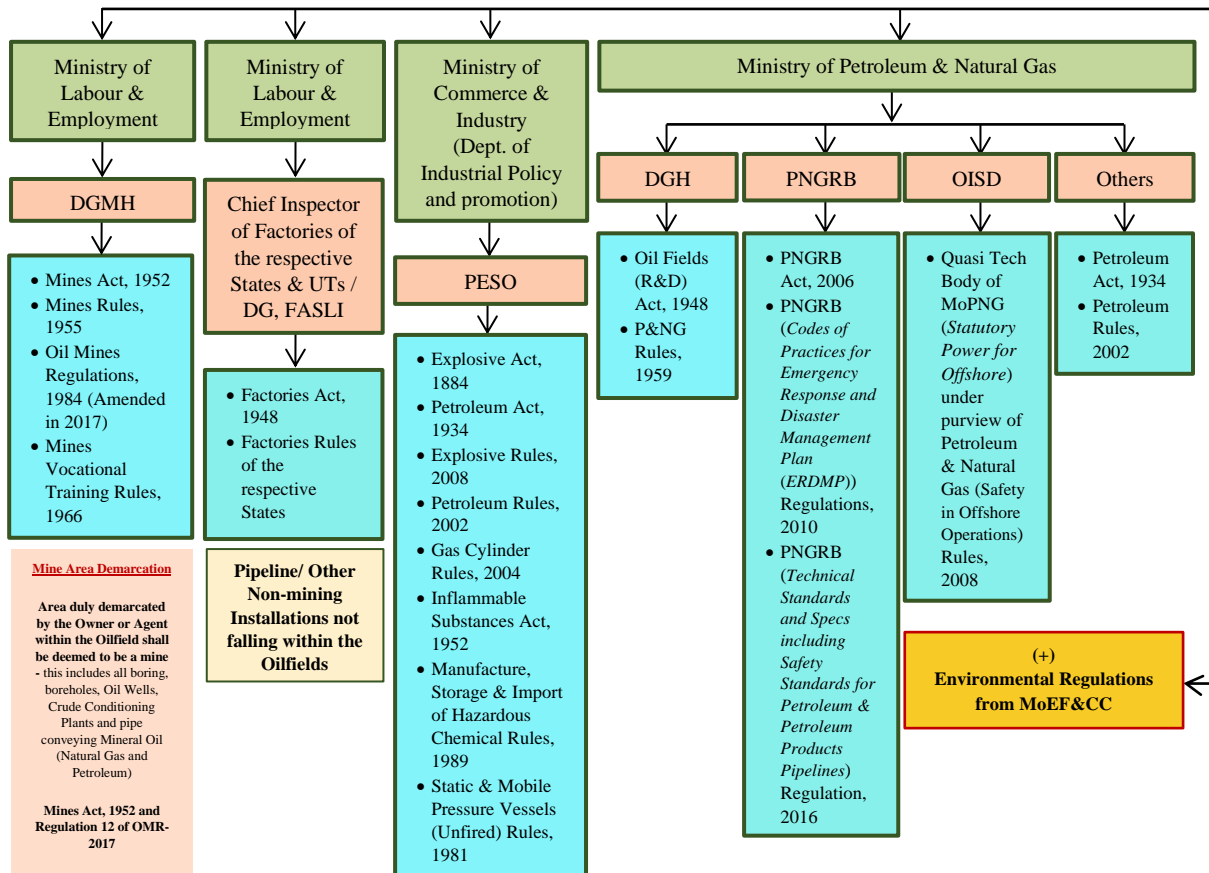


Fig 8: Rules and Acts governing O&G E&P operations by different Ministries.

Additionally, there are other applicable environmental regulations from MoEF&CC for the oil & gas industry, which are as follows:

- 1) Indian Forest Act, 1927
- 2) Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
- 3) The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
- 4) The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Cess, Act, 1977
- 5) Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 (amended in 1988 and 2023)
- 6) The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
- 7) Oil Mines Regulation, 1984 amended in 2017
- 8) The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
- 9) The Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986
- 10) The Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rule, 1989
- 11) Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989

- 12) GSR 176(E) April 1996 - under the purview of EP Act, 1986 - Guidelines for Discharge of Solid Waste, Liquid Discharge and Gaseous Emissions by Oil Drilling and Gas Extraction Industry
- 13) GSR. 546(E) dated 30th August 2005 under the purview of EP Act, 1986: Solid waste, drill cutting and drilling fluids disposal for onshore drilling operation
- 14) Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 - For FCs
- 15) EIA notification, 2006 vide S.O 1533 dated 14th September 2006: Not applicable beyond 12 Nautical Miles
- 16) Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008
- 17) GSR 186(E) 18th March 2008 under the purview of EP Act, 1986: Oil Refineries Standard and Notification
- 18) Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011
- 19) Island Protection Zone (IPZ) Notification, 2011

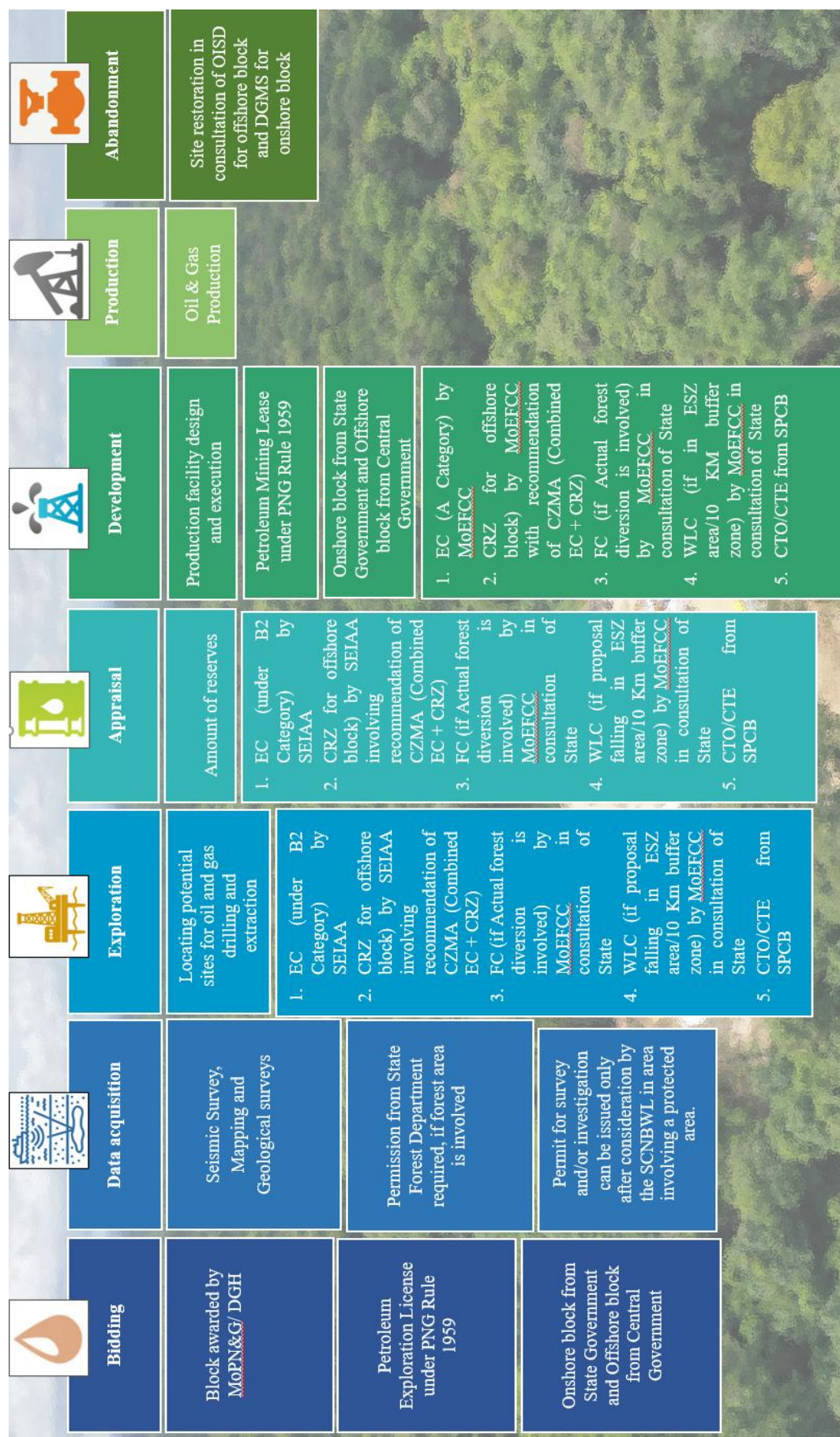


Fig 9: Basic regulatory requirements over the project lifecycle of an oil block

1.7. STATUTORY ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVALS REQUIRED FOR “ON-SHORE” & “OFF-SHORE” O&G E&P ACTIVITIES

A chart showing the statutory approvals required for oil & gas E&P activities under various environmental regulations/Supreme Court’s order and the Forest Right Act is given as follows.

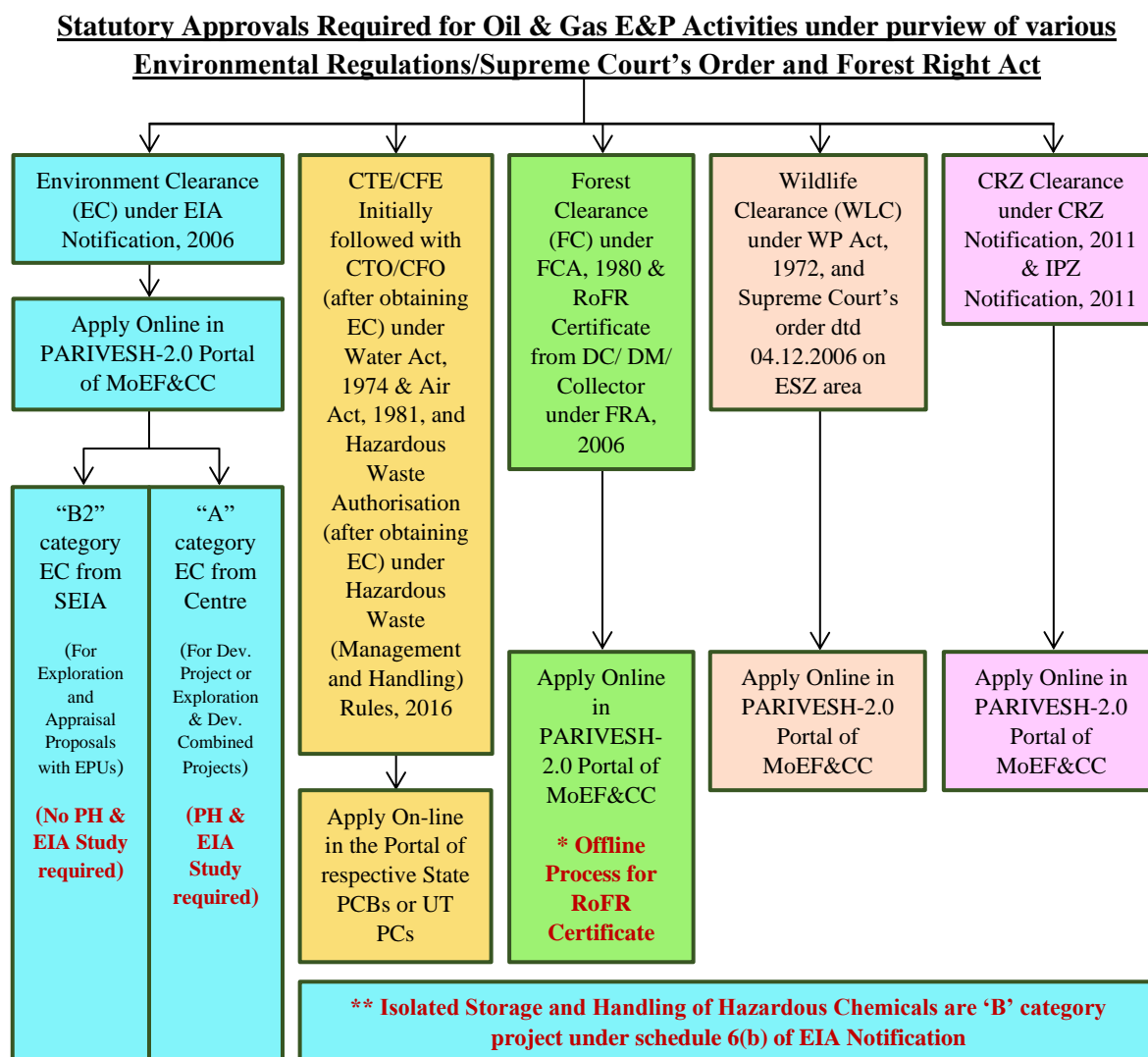


Fig 10: Statutory environmental approvals required for O&G E&P activities.

1.8. ADDITIONAL CLEARANCE/APPROVALS REQUIRED FOR “OFF-SHORE” O&G E&P ACTIVITIES

A chart showing the additional clearances/approvals required for “Off-shore” O&G E&P activities is given as follows.

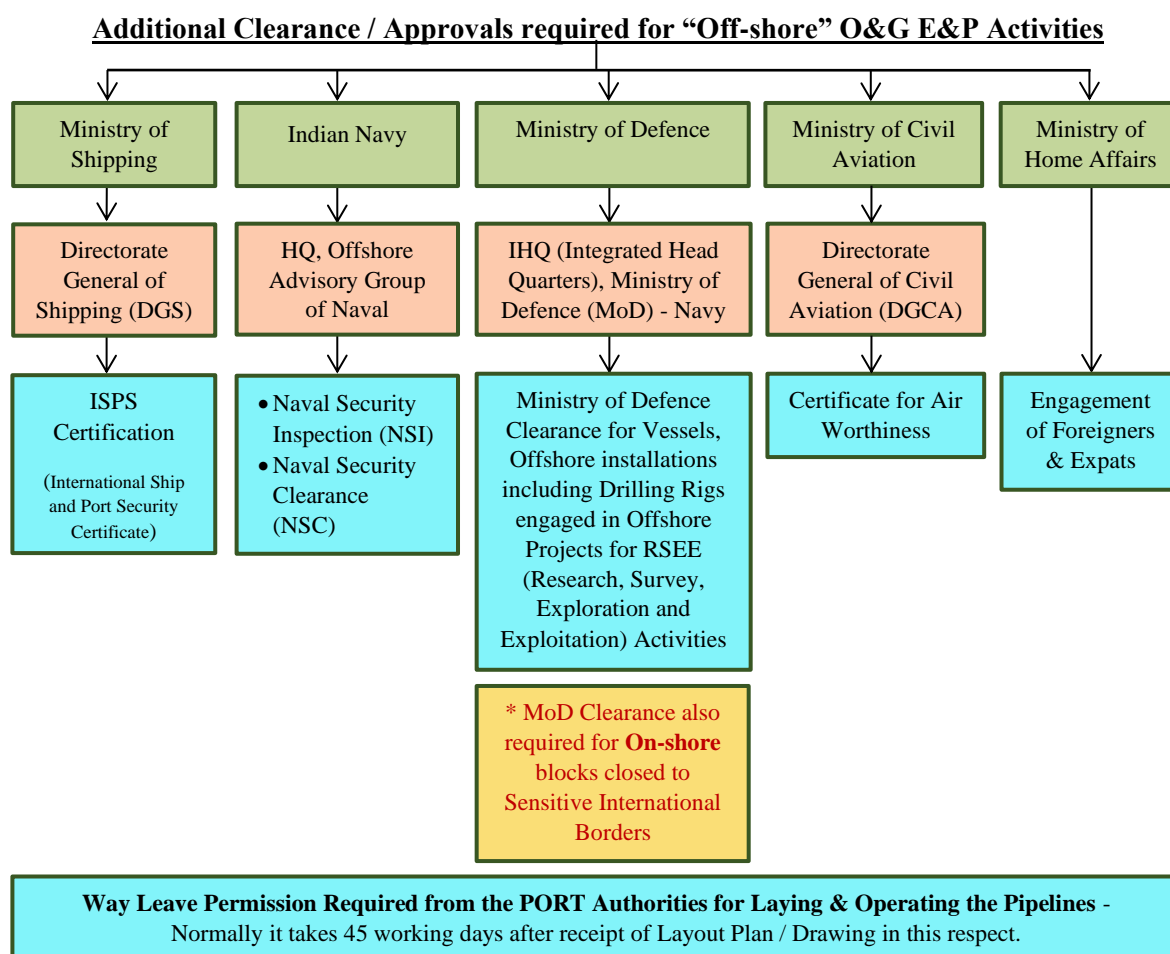


Fig 11: Additional approvals required for “Off-shore” O&G E&P activities.

1.9. ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE FOR ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION IN INDIA

A chart showing India's administrative structure for environment protection is given as follows.

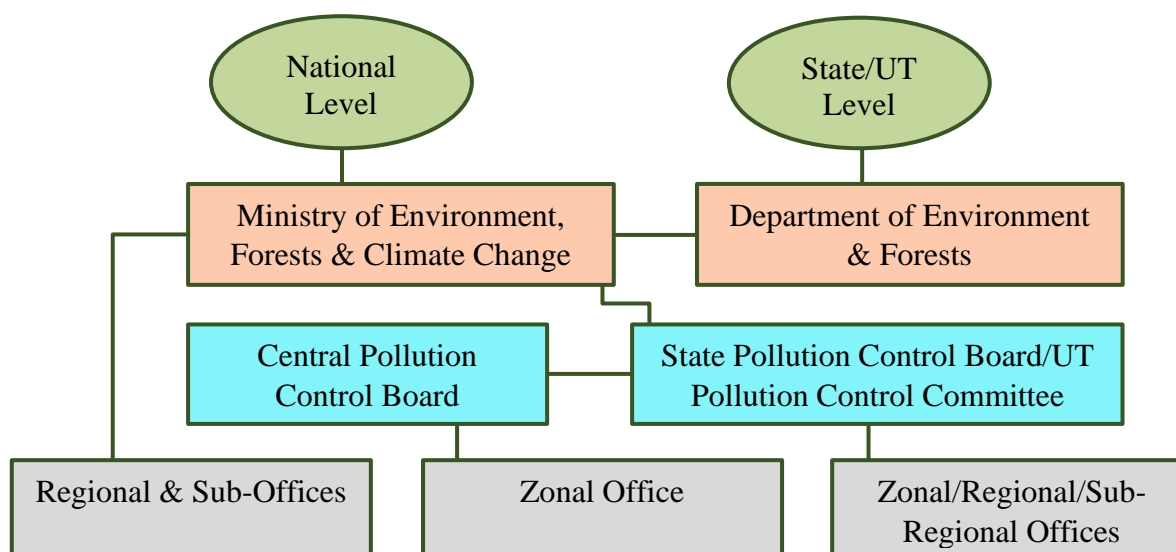


Fig 12: Administrative structure for environment protection in India.

1.10. CONCLUSION

To expedite the resolution of issues in the Oil & Gas sector, the Empowered Coordination Committee (ECC) was constituted in May 2019 under the chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary. The Director General, DGH, is the convenor at the ECC meetings. ECC is an inter-ministerial committee including members from the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), the Ministry of Defense (MoD) and others for addressing the issues in the grant of various clearances relating to policy issues. Seven (07) ECC meetings have been held so far, dated 29.07.2019, 20.01.2020, 14.09.2020, 10.01.2022, 23.05.2022, 04.11.2022, and 01.05.2023.

This report is an initiative from the Environment & Clearance Department at the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH). In the following chapters, the environment-related clearances, including grant of PEL/PML and other statutory clearances, have been discussed in detail along with process flows of the clearances, documents required while filling the forms at the PARIVESH portal, deliverables and timelines for various processes at different stakeholder level, etc.



CHAPTER 2

PEL & PML Grant Process





2.1. PETROLEUM EXPLORATION LICENSE (PEL) AND PETROLEUM MINING LEASE (PML)

Petroleum exploration is required to exploit the best opportunities in the chosen areas. An oil company may work on a prospective area for several years before an exploratory well is spudded. During this period, the area's geological history is studied, and the likelihood of hydrocarbons being present is quantified.

As per PNG rules 1959, no person shall prospect for petroleum except in pursuance of a petroleum exploration license granted, and no person shall mine petroleum except in furtherance of a petroleum mining lease granted.

As per these rules, a license or lease in respect of

- i. any land or mineral underlying the ocean within the territorial waters or continental shelf of India vested in the Union shall be granted by the Central Government; and
- ii. any land vested in a State Government shall be granted by the State Government with the previous approval of the Central Government.

The duration of the PEL/PML is as per the contract signed, and it may be renewed subject to the merit/requirement of the block.

2.2. APPLICATION FOR PETROLEUM EXPLORATION LICENSE (PEL)

Any person desirous of exploring petroleum in any part of a designated area may apply to the State Government for the grant of an exploration license under the provisions of the Oilfields (Regulation & Development Act) 1948 and P&NG Rules, 1959.

For carrying out petroleum exploration, the application submission process varies from state to state. The operator needs to fill out the application in the prescribed format along with all original documents for the grant of PEL.

2.2.1. DOCUMENTS / INFORMATION TO BE ATTACHED ALONG WITH THE PEL APPLICATION

For any state, the PEL application must contain the following information:

- Map showing the area applied for PEL on the scale of 1: 50,000, along with the latitudes and longitudes of the corner points. The map should depict the district, taluka, and village boundaries concerning the area applied.
- A copy of the contract signed with the Government of India in the case of RSC and PSC (should be attached to the application marked to state authority).
- The names of the villages, along with the survey numbers falling in the area applied, should be submitted in the document form.
- An application fee of INR 1,00,000/- along with the first-year license fees @ Rs.200/- per Sq. Km. should be paid in advance in the prescribed Challan.
- A security deposit of INR 4,00,000/- should be paid in advance in the prescribed Challan.

- Two/three number of copies (depending upon the state) should be marked in the following order:
 - Secretary MoP&NG, Government of India,
 - Concerned mining department of state (Name varies from state to state)
 - The District Collectors of concerned districts (in some states)

The licensee shall be at liberty to determine the license or relinquish any part of the area covered by the license by giving no less than two months' notice in writing to the Central Government or the State Government, as the case may be.

2.3. APPLICATION FOR PETROLEUM MINING LEASE (PML)

After carrying out a successful exploration activity, the explorer must apply to the State Government for the grant of a mining lease. The procedure for applying the PML varies from state to state; the Operator needs to fill out the application in the prescribed format along with all original documents for the grant of PML.

2.3.1. DOCUMENTS / INFORMATION TO BE ATTACHED ALONG WITH THE PML APPLICATION

The PML application must contain the following information/documents:

- Map at the scale of 1:50,000 showing the area under PEL converted to ML along with the latitudes and longitudes of the corner points. The map should depict the district, taluka, and village boundaries concerning the area applied.
- The names of the villages, along with the survey numbers falling in the area applied, should be submitted.
- To meet preliminary expenses, an amount of INR 1,20,000/- is to be deposited.
- Application fees amounting to INR 2,00,000/- to be deposited.
- Security deposit amounting to INR 8,00,000/- to be deposited.
- The three copies of the application in the prescribed format should be marked in the following order:
 - Secretary MoP&NG, Government of India
 - Concerned mining department of state (Name varies from state to state)
 - The District Collectors of the concerned districts (in some states).

NOTE: The procedure for application of PEL/PML varies from State-to-State.

2.4. PEL AND PML APPLICATION THROUGH DGH ONLINE PORTAL

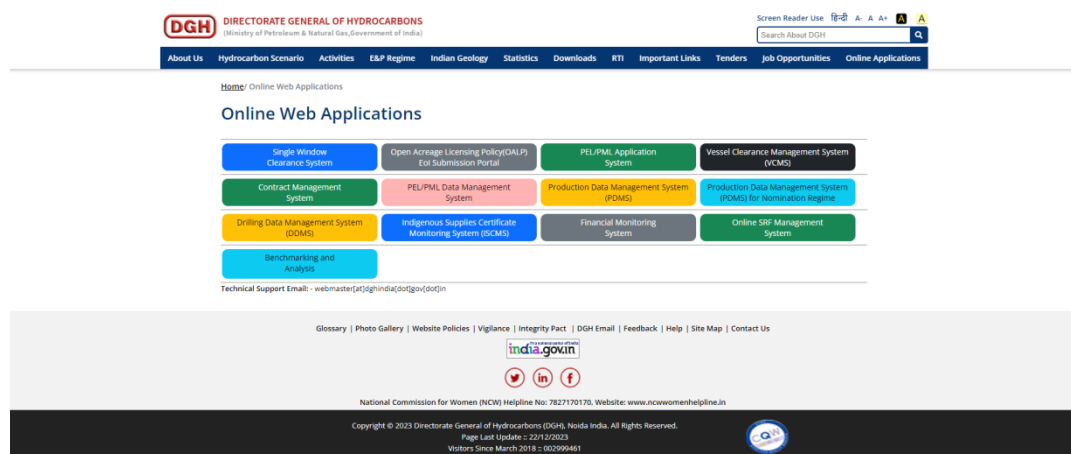
DGH has developed an E&P Single Window Clearance System for streamlining and effective monitoring of the PEL/PML applications for which credentials have been provided to all the E&P companies operating in India, concerned officials from State Departments and other concerned Stakeholders. Operators must apply for PEL/PML simultaneously at the state

(with required payment) and at the PEL/PML Application System of DGH for onshore blocks. In the case of offshore blocks, the operator needs to apply at the PEL/PML Application System only. While applying in the portal, the operator must submit details of the area, coordinates, reserve estimates, production profile, map, payment details, and justification for the PML. After completion of technical review and approval of DG, DGH, a recommendation letter is sent to MoPNG by mail and post. Accordingly, MoPNG issues a PML order for offshore blocks and a PML recommendation letter to the state for onshore blocks.

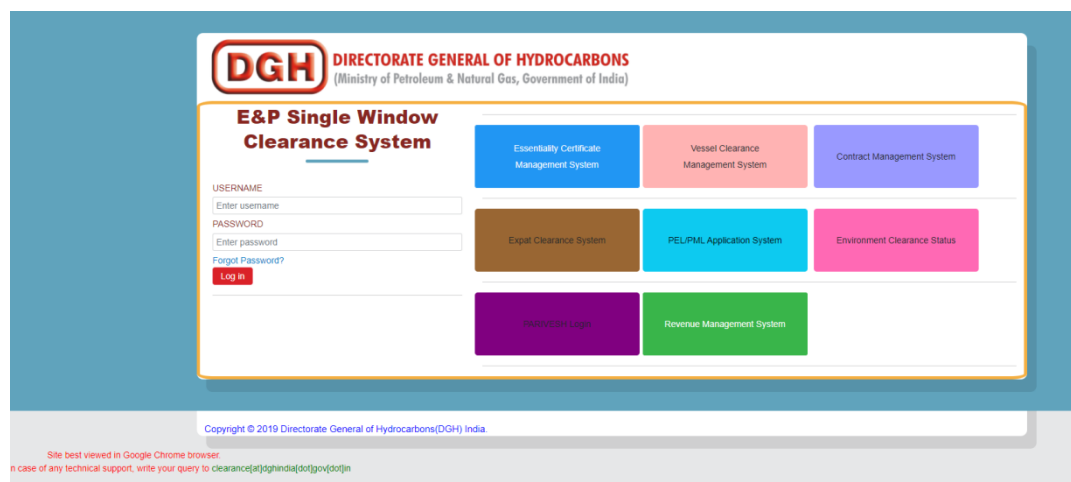
2.4.1. STEP-WISE GUIDE TO APPLY OR VIEW THE PEL / PML APPLICATION THROUGH E&P SINGLE WINDOW CLEARANCE SYSTEM

STEP 1: Go to the link given as

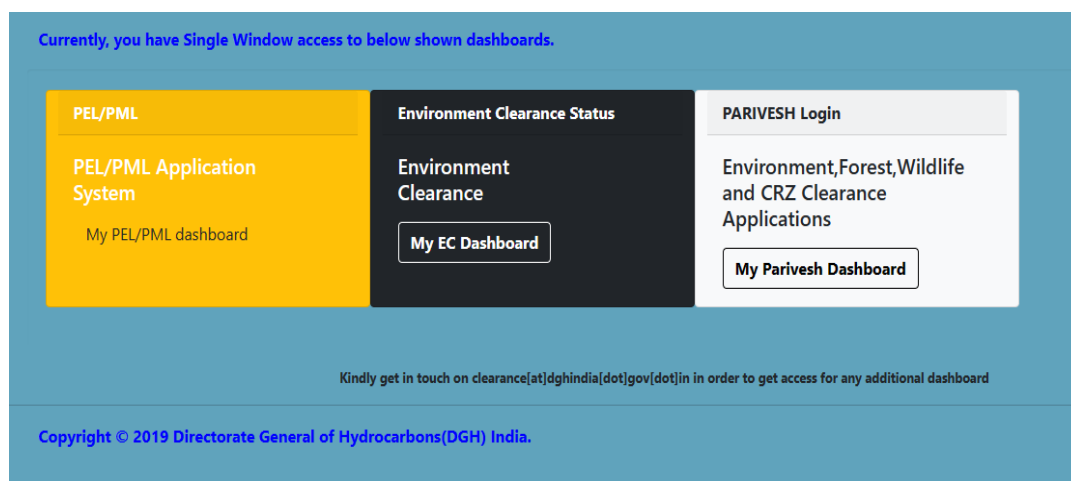
https://www.dghindia.gov.in/index.php/page?pageId=120&page=online_applications and click “Single Window Clearance System”, as depicted in the screenshot.



STEP 2: Enter the credentials in the Username & Password provided by the DGH team, as shown below.



STEP 3: Click on “PEL/PML application system”.



STEP 4: Fill out all the required information and submit it.



CHAPTER 3

Environment Clearance (EC) Process for Upstream O&G E&P Activities





3.1. ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE (EC) - A BRIEF

Environment Clearance refers to getting government approval for the installation and modification (amendment) of specified projects. It is essential for activities that have the potential to cause severe environmental contamination ⁷.

3.1.1. BACKGROUND

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has evolved as a management tool and a planning aid that helps in identifying, predicting, and assessing impacts on the environment from proposed development projects ⁸. It is a valuable mechanism that aids in promoting sustainable development. The objective of EIA is to ensure that development is sustained with minimal environmental degradation ⁹.

3.1.2. CLASSIFICATION OF EIA

EIA can be classified based on the purpose and the theme of development. EIA can be climate impact assessment, demographic impact assessment, development impact assessment, ecological impact assessment, economic and fiscal impact assessment, health impact assessment, risk assessment, social impact assessment, strategic impact assessment, and technology assessment ¹⁰.

3.1.3. REQUIREMENTS OF PRIOR ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE

The following projects or activities shall require prior Environment Clearance from the concerned regulatory authority, which shall from now on be referred to as the Central Government in the Ministry of Environment and Forests for matters falling under Category 'A' in the Schedule as per EIA Notification 2006 and at State level the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) of the issues falling under Category 'B' in the said Schedule as per EIA Notification, 2006, before any construction work, or preparation of land by the project management except for securing the land, is started on the project or activity:

- i. All new projects or activities listed in the EIA Notification, 2006.
- ii. Expansion and modernisation of existing projects or activities listed in the Schedule to this notification with the addition of capacity beyond the limits specified for the concerned sector, that is, projects or activities that cross the threshold limits given in the Schedule, after expansion or modernisation;
- iii. Any change in product or mix in an existing manufacturing unit included in the Schedule as per EIA Notification, 2006, beyond the specified range.

3.2. CATEGORISATION OF O&G UPSTREAM E&P PROJECTS

All the projects listed in the schedule are divided into two categories, namely, Category 'A' and Category 'B', based on the potential social and environmental impacts and the spatial extent of these impacts. Category 'B' projects are further categorised into **Category 'B1' and Category 'B2' Projects**.

All projects under **Category ‘A’** in the Schedule, including expansion and modernisation of existing projects, shall require prior EC from the Central Government (Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change) based on the recommendation by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC). *Development drilling of Oil & Gas falls under Category ‘A’*. All projects under **Category ‘B1’** in the Schedule, including expansion and modernisation of existing projects, but excluding those that fulfil the General Conditions defined under sub-clause (30) of clause 3 of this notification, shall require prior EC from the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) at State level or UTEIAA at Union Territory level, as the case may be, based on the recommendations of a State or Union Territory level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC). All projects under **Category ‘B2’** that are required to be placed before the Appraisal Committee as specified in the Schedule shall require prior EC from the State/Union Territory Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA or UTEIAA), as the case may be. *Exploratory drilling of Oil & Gas falls under B2 Category*.

In the absence of a duly constituted SEIAA or SEAC, a Category “B” project shall be treated as a Category “A” project.

A chart showing the categorisation of oil and gas upstream E&P projects under the purview of the EIA notification, 2006, and its amendments is given as follows:

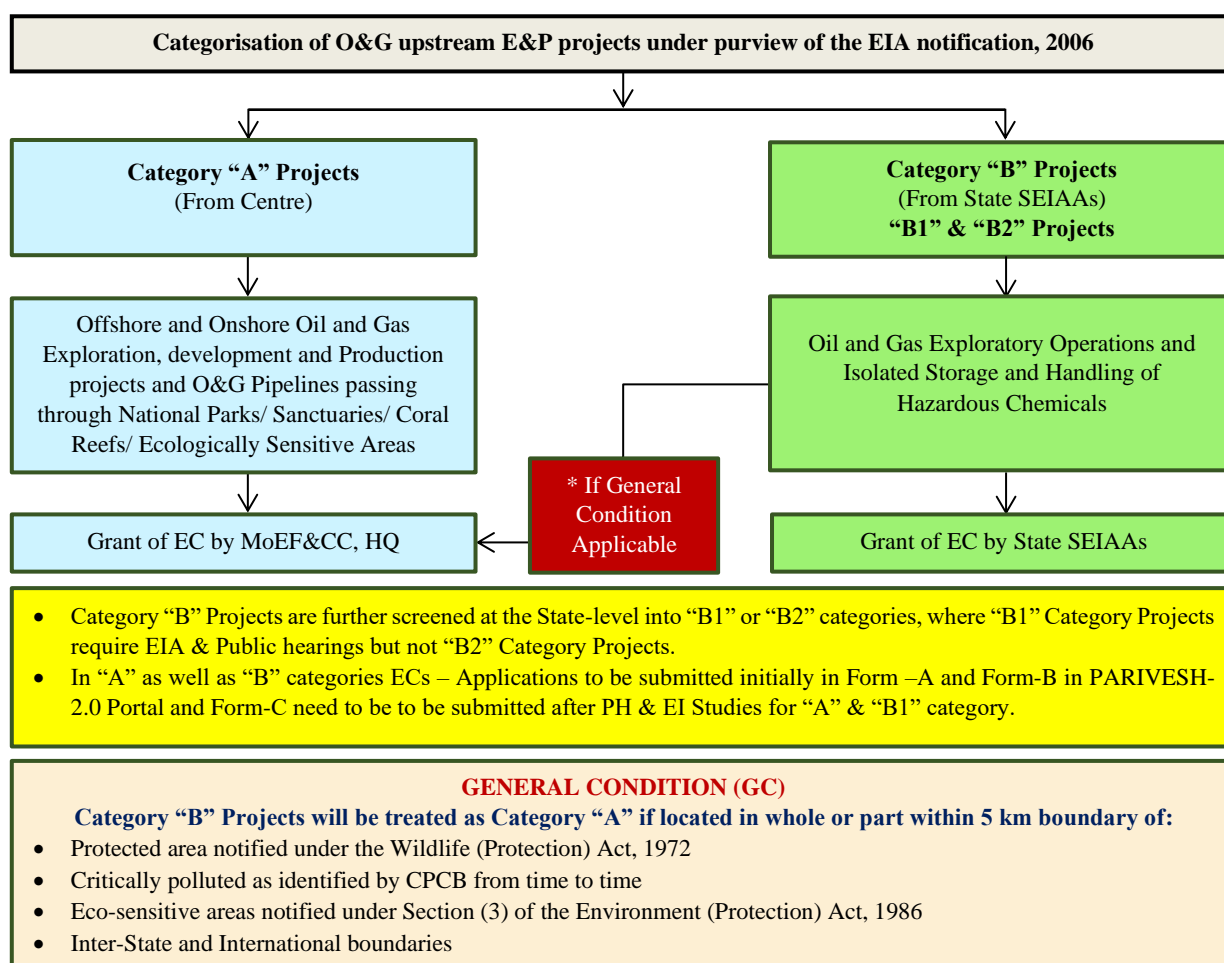


Fig 13: Categorisation of O&G upstream E&P projects under the purview of the EIA notification, 2006 and its amendments.

3.3. APPLICABLE SCHEDULES AND GAZETTE NOTIFICATIONS FOR O&G ACTIVITIES UNDER EIA NOTIFICATION, 2006

- **Schedule 1(b):** Offshore and Onshore oil and gas Exploration, Development and Production projects: Requires “A” or “B2” (Exploration & Appraisal) categories ECs
- **Schedule 4(a):** Petroleum Refining Industry: Requires “A” category EC
- **Schedule 4(b) (ii):** Coal Tar processing units: Requires “A” or “B” category EC
- **Schedule 6(a):** Oil & Gas Transportation Pipeline (crude and Refinery/ Petrochemical products) passing through National Parks/ Sanctuaries/ Coral Reefs/ Ecologically Sensitive areas (including LNG Terminal): Requires “A” category EC
- **Schedule 6(b):** Isolated Storage and Handling of Hazardous Chemicals (as per threshold planning quantity indicated in column 3 of Schedule 2 & 3 of MSIHC Rules, 1989 and subsequent amendments) projects: Requires “B” categories EC
- EC will be kept on hold pending the grant of Stage-I Forest Clearance (O.M. No. IA3-22/10/2022-IA.III dtd. 11.04.2022)
- Oil and Gas exploration drilling operations are classified as “B2” category projects (Gazette S.O.236 (E) dtd. 16.01.2020)
- EC validity period – Oil and Gas E&P and all other projects: 10 years (gazette S.O. 1807 (E) dtd. 12.04.2022)
- Only the pipeline projects passing through National Parks/ Sanctuaries/ Coral Reefs/ Ecologically Sensitive Areas need prior EC (F.No. J-11011/294/2017-IA-II(I) dtd. 06.09.2018)

3.4. STAGE-WISE PROCESS FOR OBTAINING ‘A’ CATEGORY EC FROM CENTRE & ‘B’ CATEGORY EC FROM STATE

The stage-wise process for obtaining EC for “A” category projects is given in the following sequential order:

- Screening (Only for Category ‘B’ projects and activities)
- Scoping
- Public Consultation
- Appraisal

3.4.1. SCREENING

In the case of Category ‘B’ projects or activities, this stage will entail the scrutiny of an application seeking prior environmental clearance by the concerned State level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) for determining whether or not the project or activity requires further environmental studies for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for its appraisal prior to the grant of environmental clearance depending upon the nature and location specificity of the project. The projects requiring an Environmental Impact

Assessment report shall be termed Category 'B1', and the remaining projects shall be termed Category 'B2' and will not require an Environment Impact Assessment report.

3.4.2. SCOPING

Scoping refers to the process by which the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) determines the comprehensive Terms of Reference (TOR) addressing all relevant environmental concerns for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report.

- To seek TOR, the operator needs to submit an online application to MoEF&CC along with a copy of the pre-feasibility project report and draft TORs proposed by the applicant.
- To reduce delays, standard TORs have been developed by MoEF&CC with inputs from experts and Expert Appraisal Committees (EAC) of the respective sectors.
- Standardization of the TOR would enable the operator to commence the EIA study after successful online registration.
- The EAC will have the right and the responsibility of stipulating additional TOR in specific projects, considering the features of the projects within 30 days of the online registration of the proposals.
- After appraisal by the EAC, TORs are conveyed to the operator by MoEF&CC within 30 days and are also displayed on the website of MoEF&CC.
- The application for prior Environment Clearance/TOR, if rejected by the regulatory authority on the recommendations of EAC, would also be conveyed to the applicant along with reasons for rejection.
- Once TOR is issued, the PP can carry out the EIA study.
- **The standard Terms of Reference (TOR) for preparation of EIA reports in the oil and gas sector is given in Annexure I.**

REQUIREMENT OF ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) REPORT

Environmental Impact Assessment, or EIA, is the process through which the environmental impact of a proposed development is evaluated. It takes into consideration the socio-economic, cultural, and human health impacts. The main goal of EIA is to conserve the environment and bring out the best combination of economic and environmental costs and benefits.

EIA started in India in 1976-77 when the Planning Commission directed the Department of Science & Technology to assess the river valley projects from the point of view of the environment. This was extended for all those projects that required approval from the Public Investment Board. Then, in 1986, the government enacted the Environment (Protection) Act, which made EIA statutory. The other primary laws in this regard are the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act (1972), the Water Act (1974), the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act (1981), and the Biological Diversity Act (2002). In 1982, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change set up the Environmental Information System (ENVIS) to collect, collate, store, retrieve and disseminate information related to the environment sector. This serves as a web-based distributed network of subject-specific databases. The chief purpose of

the ENVIS is to integrate all countrywide efforts to collect, store, disseminate, and use environmental information for better managing environmental assessment activities.

- EIA study has to be done through Quality Council of India (QCI) – NABET accredited EIA Consultant Organization (ACO) only (MoEF&CC OM. No. J-11013/77/2004- IA II (I) dtd. 18/03/2010).
- The validity of the EIA Report is three years, which could be extended by a maximum of one year. (MoEF&CC OM. No. IA3-22/10/2022-IA.III dtd. 08/06/2022).
- Rapid EIA study data is to be collected for one dry season of 3 months, excluding the monsoon period, by collecting two samples per week, and a total of 24 samples need to be collected for such studies.

Detailed description on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study and Report preparation is given in [Annexure II](#).

3.4.3. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Public consultation refers to the process by which the concerns of affected persons and others who have a plausible stake in the project's environmental impacts are ascertained for taking into account the concerns in project activities.

PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

- The Applicant shall make a request through a letter to the Member Secretary of the SPCB or Union Territory Pollution Control Committee, in whose jurisdiction the project is located, to arrange the public hearing within the prescribed statutory period.
- In case the project site covers more than one District, State or Union Territory in which the project is located and the applicant shall make separate requests to each concerned SPCB or UTPCC for holding the public hearing as per this procedure (*If the project involves more than one districts, separate PH to be conducted for each district*).
- The public hearing shall be completed within 45 (forty-five) days from receipt of the request letter from the Applicant.
- The Applicant shall enclose with the letter of request at least 10 (ten) hard copies and an equivalent number of soft (electronic) copies of the draft EIA Report with the generic structure given in [Annexure II](#), including the Summary Environment Impact Assessment report in English and the official language of the state/ local language, prepared strictly in accordance with the Terms of Reference communicated to the project proponent.
- Simultaneously, the applicant shall arrange to forward copies, one hard and one soft, of the above draft EIA Report along with the Summary EIA to the following authorities or offices within whose jurisdiction the project will be located:
 - i. District Magistrate / District Collector / Deputy Commissioner
 - ii. Zila Parishad or Municipal Corporation or Panchayat Unions
 - iii. District Industries Office

- iv. Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) / PRIs concerned / Development Authorities
 - v. Concerned Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- On receiving the draft Environmental Impact Assessment report, the authorities mentioned above, except the MoEF&CC, shall arrange to widely publicise it within their respective jurisdictions, requesting the interested persons to send their comments to the concerned regulatory authorities. They shall also make the draft EIA Report available for inspection electronically or otherwise to the public during regular office hours until the Public Hearing is over.
 - The SPCB or UTPCC concerned shall also make similar arrangements for publicity about the project within the State/Union Territory and make available the Summary of the draft EIA Report for inspection in selected offices or public libraries or any other suitable locations, etc. They shall also make a copy of the draft Environmental Impact Assessment report available to the above five authorities/offices.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION

- The Member-Secretary of the concerned SPCB or UTPCC shall finalise the date, time and exact venue for the conduct of the public hearing within 7 (seven) days of the date of receipt of the draft EIA Report from the project proponent and advertise the same on one major National Daily and one regional vernacular Daily/ Official State Language. A minimum notice period of 30 (thirty) days shall be provided to the public for furnishing their responses.
- The advertisement shall also inform the public about the places or offices where the public could access the draft EIA Report and the Summary of the EIA Report before the public hearing.
- In places where the newspapers do not reach, the Competent Authority should arrange to inform the local public about the public hearing by other means, such as by beating drums or by advertising/announcements on radio/ television.
- No postponement of the date, time, or venue of the public hearing shall be undertaken unless some untoward emergency occurs and then only on the recommendation of the concerned District Magistrate/ District Collector/ Deputy Commissioner, the postponement shall be notified to the public through the same National and Regional vernacular dailies and also prominently displayed at all the identified offices by the concerned SPCB or Union Territory Pollution Control Committee.
- In the above exceptional circumstances, fresh date, time, and venue for the public consultation shall be decided by the Member Secretary of the concerned SPCB or UTPCC only in consultation with the District Magistrate/ District Collector/ Deputy Commissioner and notified afresh as per procedure.

A few additional useful information related to public consultation is given in Annexure III.

3.4.4. APPRAISAL

Appraisal means detailed scrutiny by the regulatory authority, i.e., EAC, to consider the project for grant Environment Clearance. For this stage, the operator has to apply online with documents like the final EIA report, public hearing proceedings, etc. The operator is generally invited to participate in EAC meetings to furnish necessary clarification in person.

PROCEDURE FOR APPRAISAL BEFORE EAC

- The PP shall apply in the PARIVESH-2.0 portal of MoEF&CC in Part-C of the Common Application Form, enclosing the following documents where public consultations are mandatory:
 - Final Environment Impact Assessment Report (20 hard copies and 1 soft copy)
 - A copy of the videotape or CD of the public hearing proceedings
 - A copy of the final layout plan (20 copies)
 - A copy of the project feasibility report (1 copy)
- The final EIA Report, prepared after the public consultation, must incorporate the concerns expressed in PH along with the action plan and financial allocation, item-wise. Enclosing a forwarding letter from the State PCB/ UTPCC with respect to the Public Hearing procedure is mandatory.
- The Final EIA Report and the other relevant documents submitted by the applicant shall be scrutinised in the office within 30 days from the date of its receipt by the concerned Regulatory Authority strictly with reference to the TOR. The inadequacies noted shall be communicated electronically or otherwise in a single set to the Members of the EAC/ SEAC, enclosing a copy of the Final EIA Report, including the public hearing proceedings and other public responses received along with a copy of Form-1 or Form-1A and scheduled date of the EAC/ SEAC meeting for considering the proposal.
- Where a public consultation is not mandatory, the appraisal shall be made on the basis of the prescribed application Form-A & Form-B and EIA report in the case of all projects and activities other than Item 8 of the EIA Notification Schedule. In the case of Item 8 of the Schedule, considering its unique project cycle, the EAC or SEAC concerned shall appraise all Category B projects or activities on the basis of the Application Form and the conceptual plan and make recommendations on the project regarding the grant of Environment Clearance or otherwise and also stipulate the conditions for Environment Clearance.
- Every application shall be placed before the EAC/ SEAC, and its appraisal is completed within 60 days of receipt, with requisite documents/ details in the prescribed manner.
- The applicant shall be informed at least 15 days before the scheduled date of the EAC/ SEAC meeting to consider the project proposal.
- The minutes of the EAC/ SEAC meeting shall be finalised within 5 (five) working days of the meeting and displayed on the website of the concerned regulatory authority. If the project or activity is recommended for grant of EC, then the minutes shall clearly list the

specific environmental safeguards and conditions. In case the recommendations are for rejection, the reasons for the same shall also be explicitly stated.

- Submission of hard copy of EIA Report & PH Proceedings to IA Division of MoEF&CC (Central) for grant of EC.

REQUIREMENT FOR EAC APPRAISAL/ PRESENTATION

- The EAC meeting will be held in video conferencing mode.
- PP has to send all the documents, viz. Presentation for the meeting, brief write-up/ Executive Summary on the project in 3-4 pages (in MS Word Format), EIA/ EMP Report and other requisite documents) to the Chairman and Members of the EAC (Industry-2) well in advance before the meeting (List of EAC members for Industry-2 to be checked from PARIVESH portal) - *No documents can be shared through Google Drive*
- One set of complete documents with a brief on the project, PPT, etc., is to be sent to MoEF&CC by e-mail on priority.
- The item number of the agenda of the EAC (Industry-2) meeting is to be indicated while circulating the documents.
- To circulate the documents in a pen drive or by e-mail, whichever is convenient (bulky EIA/ EMP reports may be sent in a pen drive mentioning the agenda numbers).
- Project Proponent or their authorised representative can participate in the presentation meeting of EAC - Preferably, not more than three representatives should join for the VC meeting.
- Consultant to include an undertaking in the EIA report that the prescribed TOR have been complied with and that the data submitted is factually correct, and also an undertaking shall be submitted owning the contents (information and data) in the EIA/ EMP report.
- In case the members of the Expert Appraisal Committee do not receive the proposals, the Committee will not consider the project

A format of the PPT prescribed by MoEF&CC for Presentation before EAC (Industry-2) for Grant of EC is given in **Annexure IV.**

3.5. APPRAISAL PROCESS AND TIMELINE FOR GRANT OF ‘A’ CATEGORY ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE

A flow-chart showing the process of appraisal for granting Environment Clearance to category “A” projects is given as follows:

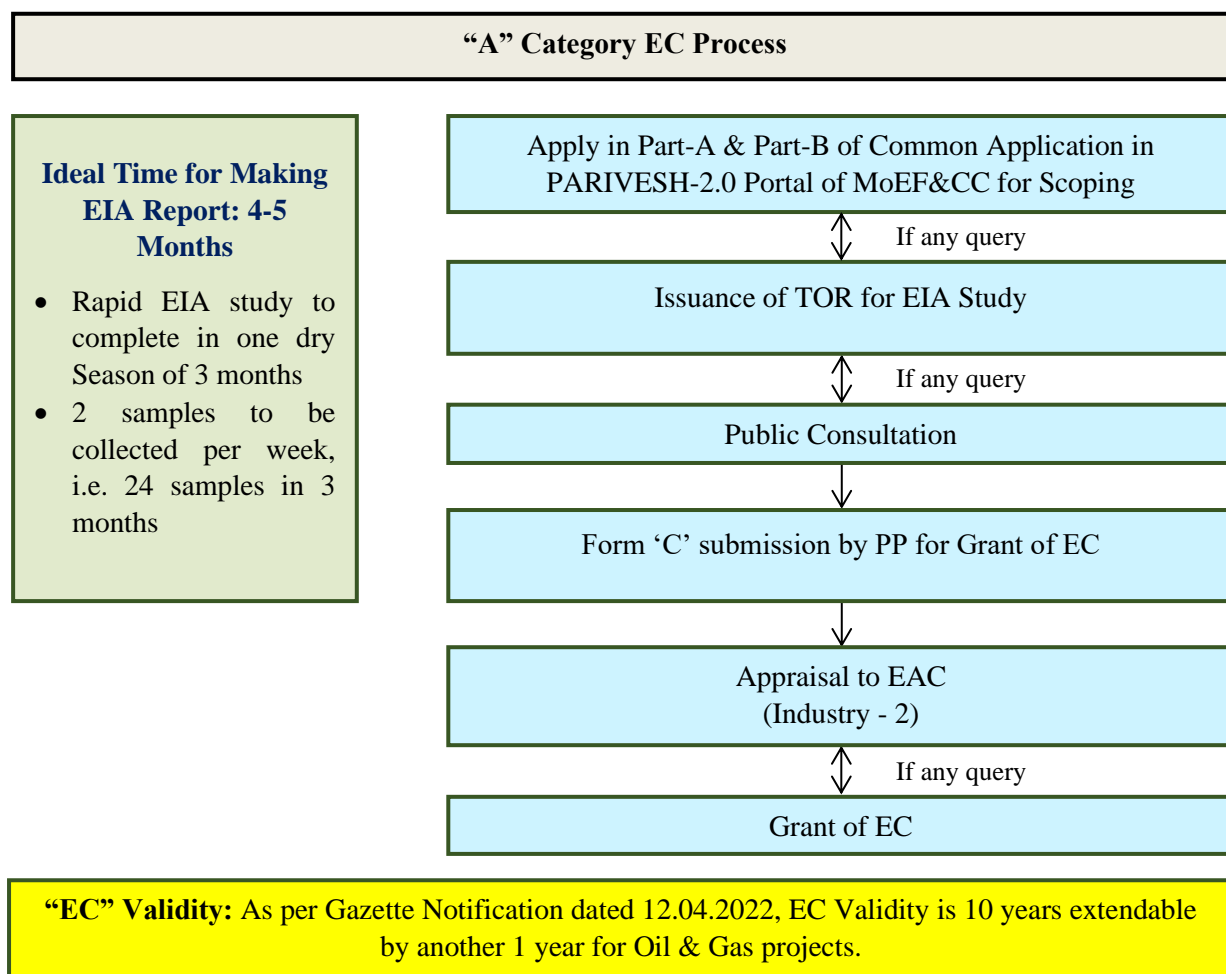


Fig 14: “A” category EC grant and appraisal process.

A table showing the timeline for the process of appraisal for granting Environment Clearance to category “A” projects is given as follows:

TIMELINE FOR GRANT OF ‘A’ CATEGORY ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE		
PROCESS	AGENCY	TIMELINE
Issuance of TOR for EIA Study	EAC	30 Days
Public consultation	SPCB	45 Days
Appraisal	EAC	60 Days
Grant of EC	MoEF&CC	45 Days
Note: 45 days may be subtracted from the total timeline for offshore blocks ***		

Table 1: “A” category EC grant and appraisal timeline.

Note: *At the central level, oil and gas projects under category “A” are placed before EAC for Industrial projects - 2 (Petrochemical & Distilleries).*

*** A few useful information related to Offshore O&G E&P Activities are given in Annexure V.

3.6. APPRAISAL PROCESS AND TIMELINE FOR GRANT OF ‘B2’ CATEGORY ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE

A flowchart showing the process of appraisal for granting Environment Clearance to category “B2” projects is given as follows:

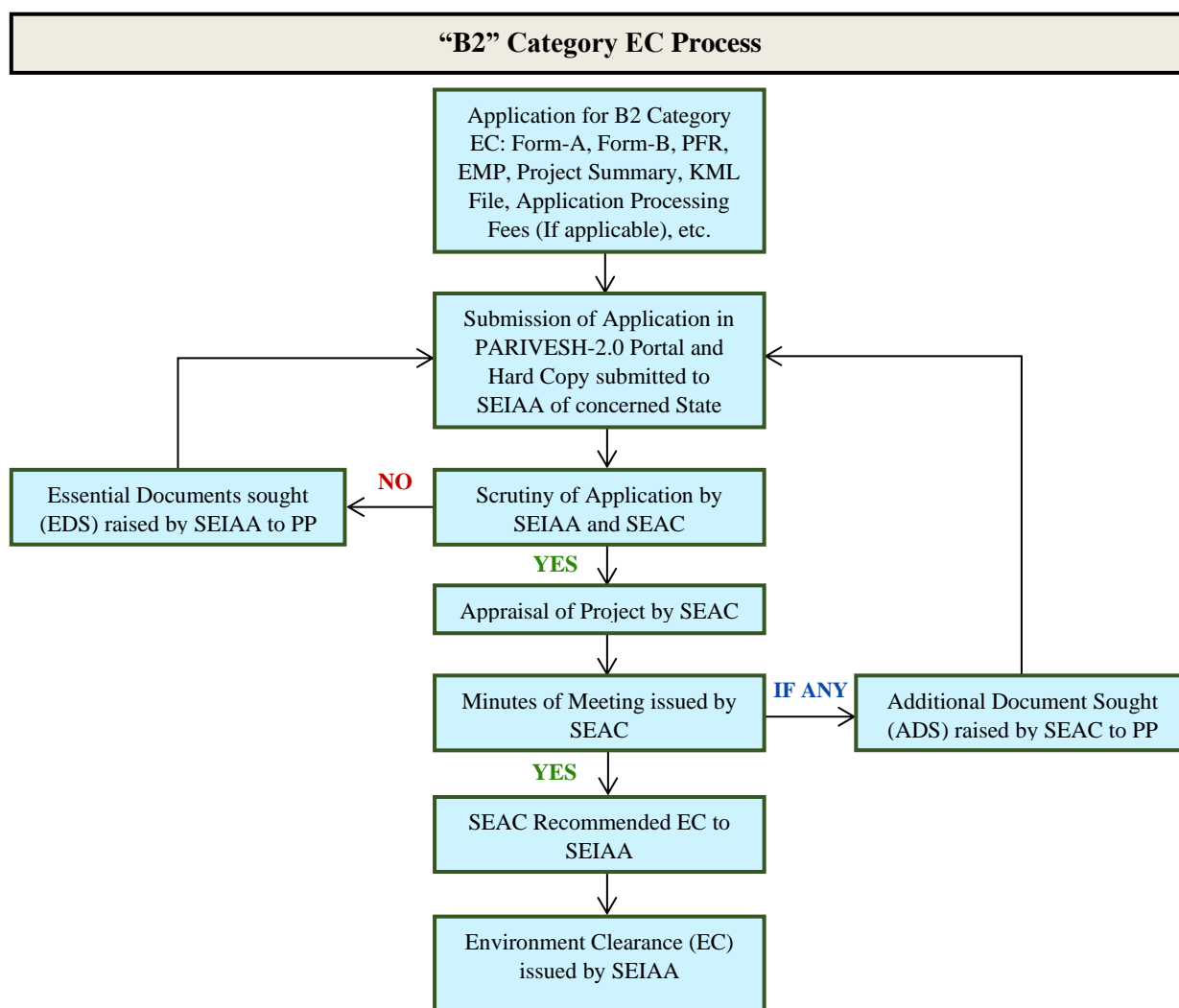


Fig 15: “B2” category EC grant and appraisal process.

Note:

1. Oil & gas exploratory/ appraisal drilling operations are classified as ‘B2’ category projects under EIA Notification, 2006, with the publication of Gazette Notification of 16.01.2020.
2. EIA study and Public Hearing are not required for ‘B2’ category projects, and SEIAA now approves the EC for these projects at the state/ UT level. Oil and gas projects under category “A” are placed before EAC for Industrial projects - 2 (Petrochemical & Distilleries) at the central level.

3.7. COMMON STEPS TO BE FOLLOWED FOR OBTAINING 'A' CATEGORY EC FROM CENTRE/ 'B2' CATEGORY EC FROM SEIAA

- Grant of PEL/ PML is the prerequisite while applying for EC.
- Application to be submitted in Part-A and Part-B of Common Application Form in PARIVESH-2.0 portal of MoEF&CC along with Prefeasibility Report and draft TORs - Title should be "Offshore and Onshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Development & Production".
- Obtain an online acceptance screenshot and submit hard copies to MoEF&CC, Central/SEIAAs along with a copy of the acceptance letter.
- Copies of Applications of Forest Clearance/ Wildlife Clearance/ CRZ Clearance are to be attached as per applicability.
- CGWA application for Water Drawl is to be attached as per applicability.
- Onshore Block Maps to be authenticated by the respective DFOs/ Revenue/ ASI authorities before applying for EC/ FC/ Wildlife Clearance etc. - They have to certify whether any Wildlife Sanctuary/ National Parks/ Tiger Reserve/ Elephant Reserve/ Elephant Corridor/ Wildlife Migration Area/ Mangroves/ Biosphere Management Area or Reserves/ ESZ areas/ Archaeological or Heritage site/ Defence Establishment or any Other important Monument are located within 1 Km from the boundary of the Forest land proposed for diversion mentioning their aerial distances (FC Proposals)/ mentioning aerial distance(s) from Block Boundary (EC proposals).
- Apply for Consent to Establish (CTE)/ Consent for Establishment (CFE) from State PCBs/ UT Pollution Committees.

3.8. OTHER FORMS RELATED TO EC APPLICATION

- Form-3: Application for Amendment in TOR
- Form-4: Application for Amendment in Environment Clearance
- Form-5: Application for Extension of Validity of TOR
- Form-6: Application for Extension of Validity of Environment Clearance
- Form-7: Application for Transfer of Environment Clearance
- Form-8: Application for Transfer of Terms of Reference

3.9. ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE PROCESS FOR PROJECTS IN COASTAL REGULATION ZONE (CRZ) AREA

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has issued Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) notification (<http://www.moef.nic.in/rules-regulations/crz-notifications>) on 6th January, 2011 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 declaring certain areas as CRZ.

The CRZ areas are:

- i. The land areas from High Tide Line (HTL) to 500 meters on the landward side along the seafront.
- ii. The land areas between HTL and 100 meters or width of the creek, whichever is

less, on the landward side along the tidal-influenced water bodies connected to the sea.

- iii. The land area falling between the Hazard line and 500 meters from HTL on the landward side in the seafront and 100 meters in the case of the tidally influenced water body. The hazard line is to be demarcated by MoEF&CC through the Survey of India, considering tides, waves, sea level rise and shoreline changes.
- iv. The land between HTL and LTL, which is termed as the intertidal zone.
- v. The water and the bed area between LTL to the territorial water limit (12 Nm) in case of sea and the bed area between LTL at the bank to the LTL on the opposite side of the bank of the tidally influenced water body.

Setting up new industries and expanding existing industries are prohibited within CRZ areas. However, mining activities of sand, rocks and other sub-strata material are permitted, as an exception, under clause 3(x) of CRZ notification with the following sub-clauses:

- a) Those rare minerals not available outside the CRZ area.
- b) Exploration and exploitation of oil and natural gas.

As exploration and exploitation of oil and natural gas is a permissible activity under clause 3(x) of CRZ notification 2011, regulations of permissible activities in CRZ would need to be followed, which are detailed in clause 4 of the notification. For the projects listed under permissible activities under the CRZ notification 2011 and also attract EIA notification 2006, for such projects, clearance under EIA notification 2006 shall only be required subject to being recommended by the concerned State or Union territory Coastal Zone Management Authority (CZMA).

3.9.1. APPRAISAL PROCESS FOR PROJECTS LOCATED IN THE CRZ AREA THAT REQUIRE EC UNDER CATEGORY 'A'

A flow-chart showing the process of appraisal for granting Environment Clearance to category "A" projects in Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) area is given as follows:

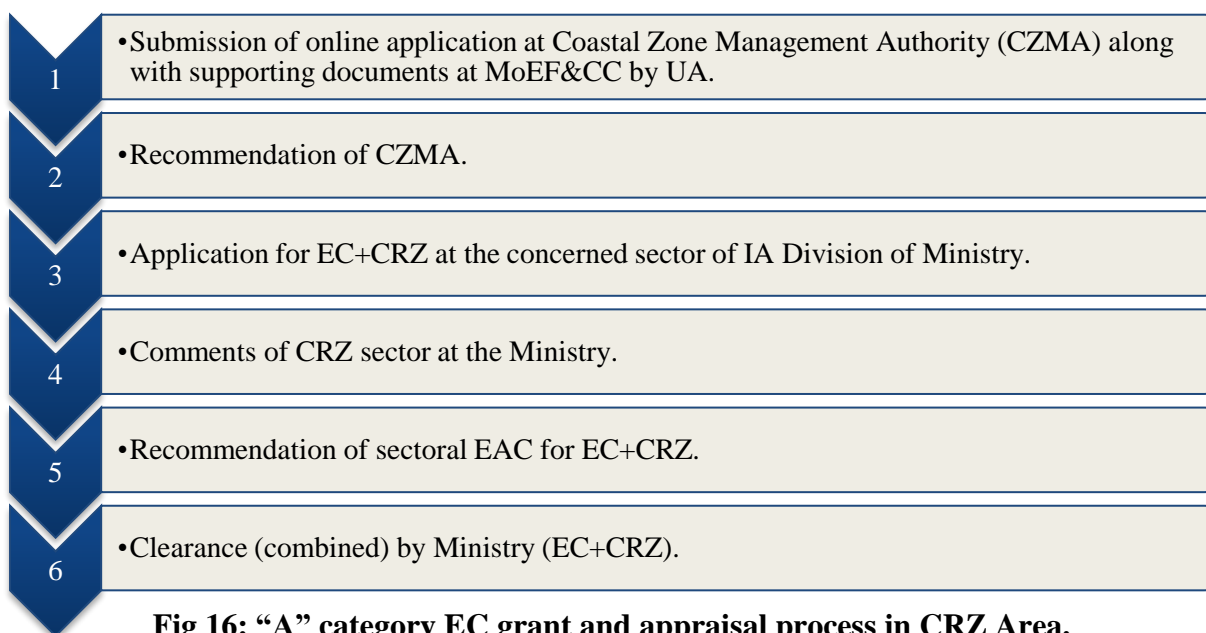


Fig 16: "A" category EC grant and appraisal process in CRZ Area.

3.9.2. APPRAISAL PROCESS FOR PROJECTS LOCATED IN THE CRZ AREA THAT REQUIRE EC UNDER CATEGORY 'B'

A flow-chart showing the process of appraisal for granting Environment Clearance to category “B” projects in Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) area is given as follows:

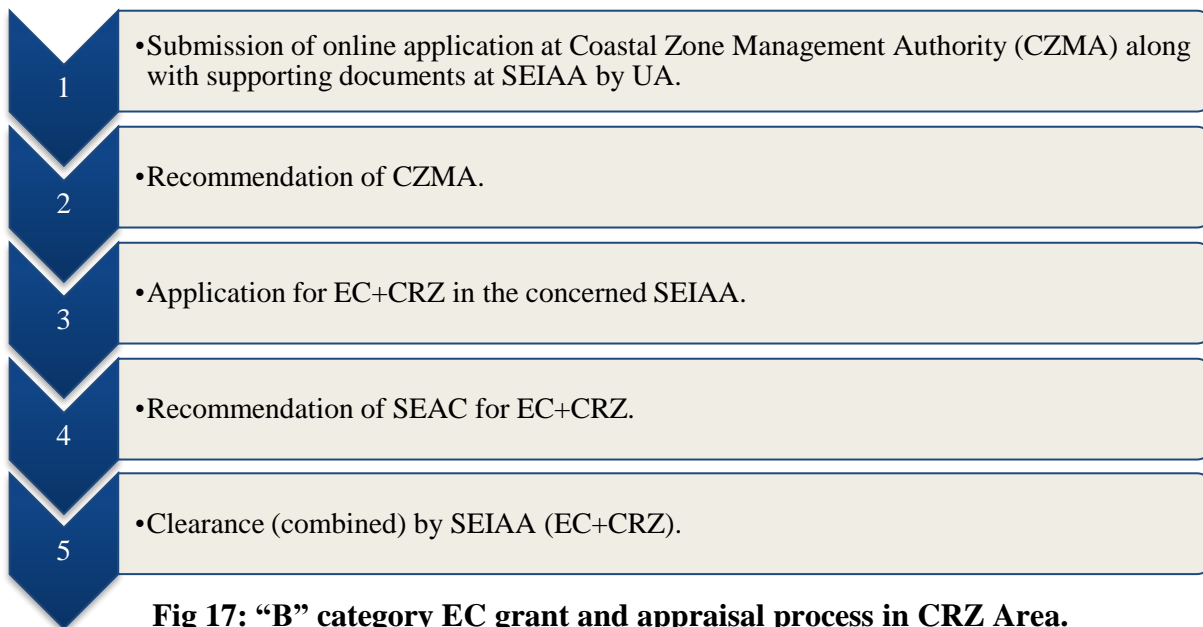


Fig 17: “B” category EC grant and appraisal process in CRZ Area.

- Coastal Zone Management Authorities (CZMA) of the concerned State governments/ UT Administrations will examine the proposal and grant approval within **60 days** of receipt of application and scrutiny
- The CRZ clearance accorded to the projects shall be valid for the period of **Five years from the date of issue of the clearance** for commencement of construction and operation
- Submission of **6 monthly** Compliance Report is mandatory

3.9.3. STEPS TO BE FOLLOWED FOR OBTAINING ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE (EC) UNDER CRZ NOTIFICATION 2011

- The operator shall apply online to MoEF&CC to seek Terms of Reference for the project, including the components that fall under the CRZ notification, 2011.
- The concerned Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) would recommend TOR, including the need for a public hearing.
- Further consideration of the project would need the recommendations of the concerned State Coastal Zone Management Authority (CZMA), in addition to the procedure covered in the EIA notification, 2006.
- The operator shall apply with the following documents for seeking recommendations under CRZ notification of the concerned CZMA:
 - Form 1 (Annexure IV of the notification)
 - Rapid EIA report, including marine and terrestrial component
 - Disaster management report: Risk management report and Management Plan

- Comprehensive EIA with cumulative studies for projects in the stretches classified as low and medium eroding by MOEF based on scientific studies, as in consultation with State Govt. and Union Territory Administration
 - CRZ map including HTL and LTL demarcated by one of the authorised agencies in 1:4000 scale
 - Project layout superimposed on the above
 - CRZ map covering a 7 km radius around the project site
 - CRZ map indicating CRZ I, II, III, IV, including other notified areas
 - No objection Certificate from the concerned State Pollution Control Board for projects involving the discharge of effluents, solid waste, sewage and the like
- The concerned CZMA then shall examine the above documents in accordance with the approved CZMP and in compliance with CRZ notification 2011 and make recommendations within 60 days from the date of receipt of complete information to MoEF&CC for the oil and natural gas sector.
 - MoEF&CC shall consider such projects for clearance based on the recommendations of concerned CZMA, Public hearing proceedings if a part of TOR, final EIA, etc., within 60 days.
 - The decision of MoEF&CC will be conveyed to CZMA and the operator and uploaded to the website.

NOTE

- It is mandatory to obtain a recommendation from the State/Union Territory Coastal Zone Management Authority (CZMA) before Final approval either by SEIAA for 'B' category Projects or EAC (CRZ) at Centre for 'A' category Projects
- SEIAA of concerned State/ UT can grant CRZ Clearance along with EC only for Projects attracting "B" category EC (OM. No IA3-12/1/2022-IA.III dtd 26th April 2022)

3.9.4. LIST OF INSTITUTES/ AGENCIES AUTHORISED FOR DEMARCATION OF HIGH TIDE LINE (HTL)/ LOW TIDE LINE (LTL) IN COASTAL REGULATION ZONE

- i. Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad.
- ii. Centre for Earth Science Studies, Thiruvananthapuram.
- iii. Institute of Remote Sensing, Anna University, Chennai,
- iv. Institute for Wetland Management and Ecological Designs, Kolkata
- v. Naval Hydrographic Office, Dehradun
- vi. National Institute of Oceanography, Panaji, Goa
- vii. National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai
- viii. National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai

A few useful information related to Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ), Island Protection Zone (IPZ) and their notifications are given in **Annexure VI.**

3.10. PARIVESH PORTAL APPROVAL PROCESS OF ‘A’ & ‘B’ CATEGORY ECs**3.10.1. PARIVESH PORTAL APPROVAL PROCESS FOR “A” CATEGORY ECs****FOUR ROLES AT VARIOUS LEVELS FOR ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE
PROCESS (CATEGORY A)**

User Agency
Member Secretary
Section Officer
Joint Director/Deputy Director

**WORKFLOW FOR ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE PROCESS
(CATEGORY A)**

- User Agency can register (to get the login credentials) on PARIVESH portal. Thereafter, project details can be submitted along with all required documents of TOR [Common Application Form (Part-A&B) etc.] / EC Application. When U.A. submits all these details, an acknowledgment letter would be sent (by System) to email-id of U.A. Acknowledgment letter contains information including unique Proposal Number, Project Sector etc. U.A. may refer this unique proposal number for future reference.
- Member Secretary considers the proposals for TOR/EC application (within 5 working days for TOR and 20 working days for EC). If all the relevant documents are uploaded properly by U.A., Member Secretary sends acceptance letter to U.A. along with a request to submit a hard copy of the proposal to the Section Officer of IA division. If any other details are missing or any other information is needed, Member Secretary may raise EDS/ADS query to U.A to upload the relevant document on the portal.
- Once he accepts the proposal, then it has to be considered in next EAC meeting. After EAC consideration, the fate of the proposal is decided by the competent authority of the Ministry.
- **Note:** After accepting the proposal, if Member Secretary does not present TOR proposal in EAC Meeting for one month, then system will automatically grant standard TOR to the proposal.

3.10.2. PARIVESH PORTAL APPROVAL PROCESS FOR “B” CATEGORY ECs**THREE ROLES AT VARIOUS LEVELS FOR ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE
PROCESS (CATEGORY B)**

User Agency
SEIAA (State Environment Impact Assessment Authority)
SEAC (State Expert Appraisal Committee)

WORKFLOW FOR ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE PROCESS (CATEGORY B)

- User Agency can register (to get the login credentials) on PARIVESH portal. Thereafter, project details can be submitted along with all required documents of TOR [Form-1 (Part-I) etc.]/ EC Application. When U.A. submits all these details, an acknowledgement letter would be sent (by System) to email-id of U.A. Acknowledgement letter contains information including unique proposal number, Project Sector etc. U.A. may refer this unique proposal number for future reference.
- SEIAA logs-in to the portal and scrutinizes the proposal (within 5 working days) and sends an acceptance letter to U.A. (after assigning SEIAA file number), if all relevant documents are uploaded properly by PP. If any document is missing or any other information is needed, SEIAA may ask U.A. to upload those missing information. Time line will start only, if SEIAA accepts the proposal.
- When, SEIAA sends the acceptance letter to U.A., proposal details are forwarded automatically to SEAC for further processing.
- SEAC can view the proposal after logging in to portal and can take print out (if needed) of the entire details and then process it. After that, he/she uploads the agenda, minutes of the meeting and recommendation on the portal.
- When, SEAC uploads recommendation on the portal, proposal details are forwarded automatically to SEIAA for further processing.
- SEIAA will again login into portal and will conduct SEIAA meeting and then will upload agenda, minutes of the meeting and recommendation/decision on the portal.
- Automatic mailer notifications will be triggered for each and every transaction committed in the OSMEC System.
- **Note:** After accepting the proposal, if Member Secretary (SEIAA) does not present TOR proposal in EAC Meeting for one month, then system will automatically grant standard TOR to the proposal.

3.11. TRANSFER OF ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE (EC)

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) notification of 14th September 2006 mandates prior Environment Clearance (EC) for projects and activities covered in Schedule to the notification, including onshore and offshore exploration of oil and gas. Para 11 of the notification is about the Transferability of Environment Clearance (EC) and is reproduced below.

Quote

“A prior Environment Clearance is granted for a specific project or activity to an applicant may be transferred during its validity to another legal person entitled to undertake the project or activity on application by transfer or by the transferee with a written ‘no objection’ by the transferor to and by the regulatory authority concerned, on the same terms and conditions under which the prior Environment Clearance was initially granted and for the same validity

period. No reference to the Expert Appraisal Committee or State Level Expert Appraisal Committee concerned is necessary in such cases”.

3.11.1. APPRAISAL PROCESS FOR TRANSFER OF EC

A flowchart showing the process of appraisal for the transfer of Environment Clearance is given as follows:

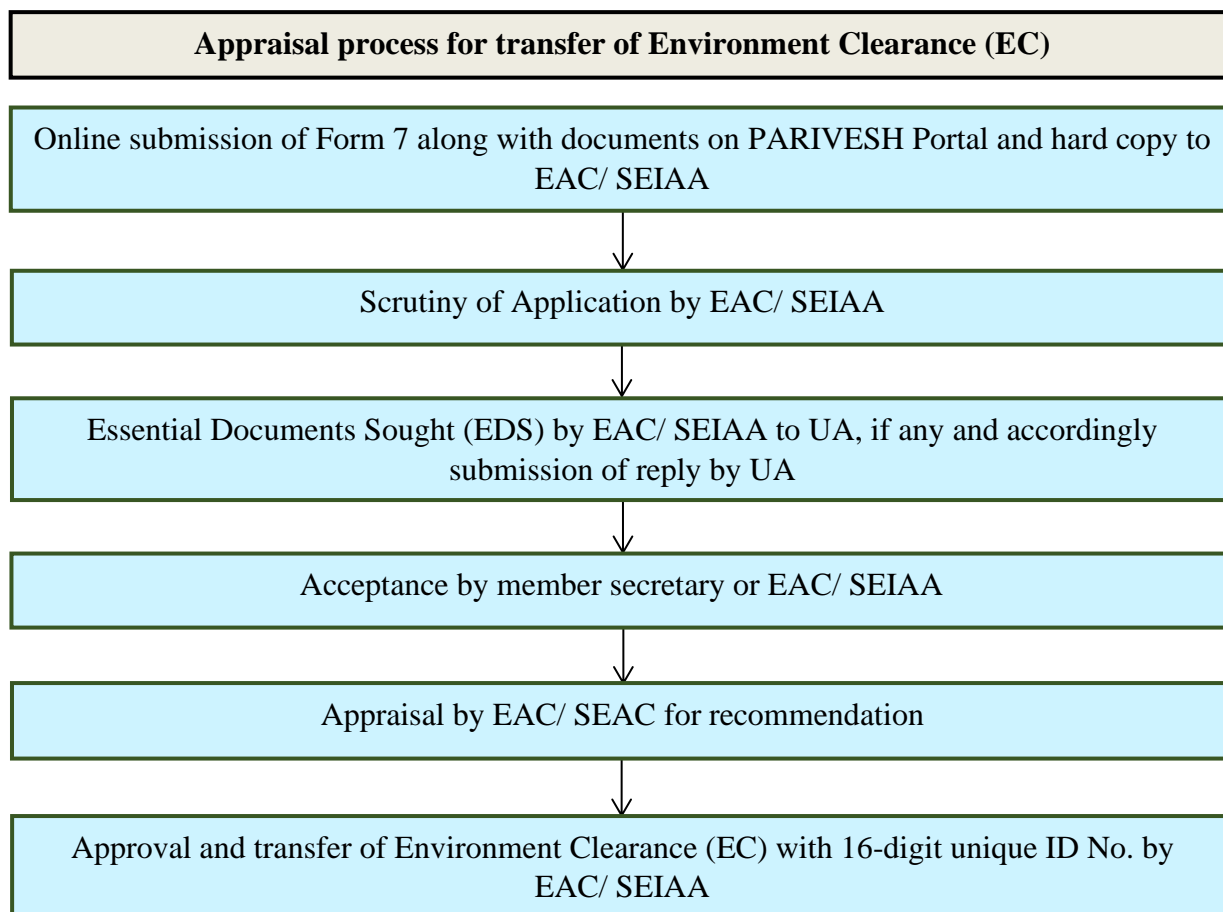


Fig 18: Process of appraisal for transfer of EC

3.11.2. LIST OF DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR TRANSFER OF ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE (EC)

An indicative list of documents required for the transfer of Environment Clearance (EC) is given as follows:

- Valid Environment Clearance.
- MoU between both parties, i.e., transferee and transferor.
- Commitment by the new agency/ operator to implement EC conditions given to the original operator.
- Present status of the project by operator/monitoring report by MoEF&CC regional office.
- Details of legal notices received and court cases, etc., if any, to the original operator and compliance commitment by the new operator.

- Certified Compliance Report
- Consent obtained from SPCB/UTPCC

A few additional useful information related to Environment Clearance (EC) is given in **Annexure VII**.

3.12. PROCESS OF HANDLING EC VIOLATION CASES AND LEGAL PROVISIONS UNDER EP ACT, 1986

- In the event of Violation(s) of the EC conditions, Penal provisions are prescribed as follows:
 - Environment Clearance can be revoked as per Section 5 of EPA, 1986.
 - Criminal Cases can be filed under section 15 of the EPA, 1986, and a copy of proof has to be furnished that the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) of MoEF&CC has filed a case before the judicial Magistrate prior to considering the proposal for grant/re-grant of EC.
 - Punishment for Contravention of the Act or Rules prescribes- Imprisonment for a term of a maximum of 5 years or with a fine up to Rs. 1 Lakh or both with an additional fine @ Rs 5000/- day with a term of imprisonment extending up to 7 years in case of Continued Defiance after the conviction of First such failure.
 - Project proponents who violate the stipulated conditions of the EC have to Submit the Company's Board Resolution that in future provisions of EPA,1986 and EIA Notification, 2006 will not be Violated.
- Violation cases under the purview of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 & EIA Notification, 2006 are now separately dealt by EAC through a hearing/appraisal process with reference to Gazette Notifications dtd 14th March 2017 & 8th March 2018.
- MoEF&CC's Gazette notification - S.O.804(E). dated 14th March 2017 had given an opportunity to all Project Proponents to regularise all the violation cases under the purview of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 & EIA Notification, 2006, where Projects are executed without obtaining Environment Clearance (EC).
- Subsequently, MoEF&CC published another Gazette Notification S.O.1030(E) dated 8th March 2018, followed by the issuance of an OM in this regard dtd 15th March 2018, which directs consideration of violation proposals by the EAC or the SEAC/SEIAA.
- Vide OM issued by MoEF&CC on 16th March 2018 had extended the timeline by another 30 days for regularisation of the violation cases in compliance with the order dated 14th March 2018 of Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Madras in WMP Nos.3361 and 3362 of 2018, and WMP No.3721 of 2018 in WP No.11189 of 2017. The OM issued by MoEF&CC dtd 15th March 2018 also remains valid at the same time.

3.13. SAMPLE FORMS FOR ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE (EC) IN PARIVESH-2.0 PORTAL

Sample Forms for Environment Clearance (EC) through PARIVESH 2.0 are given in **Annexure VIII**.



CHAPTER 4

Forest Clearance (FC) Process for Upstream O&G E&P Activities





4.1. FOREST CLEARANCE (FC) - A BRIEF

4.1.1. BACKGROUND

India's Forest Cover in 2021 was 7,13,789 sq. Km (21.71% of the country's geographical area) ¹¹. The government has approved the diversion of 17,381 hectares of forest land in 2022-23, 16,785 hectares in 2021-22, 18,314 hectares in 2020-21, 17,392 hectares 2019-20, 19,359 hectares in 2018-19 and 19,592 hectares in 2017-18 ¹². Approximately 70% of the diversion of forest land occurred during the last 42 years since FCA was enacted in 1980. Before the enactment, 4.135 million hectares of forest land was diverted at the rate of 1.43 lakh hectares per annum during the 25 years from 1951-52 to 1975-76 without any mitigative measures. During the 34.5 years after its enactment, the diversion rate came down to around 15000 hectares per annum, equating to 1.2 million hectares of forest land being diverted for non-forest purposes with adequate mitigative measures ¹³. Prior FC approval from the central government is necessary to de-reserve forestlands for non-forest purposes. Forest Clearance needs to be taken under the provision of section 2(ii) of FCA, 1980 for all Oil & Gas E&P activities, which involve Breaking & Clearing/ Diversion of Forestlands for non-forestry purposes.

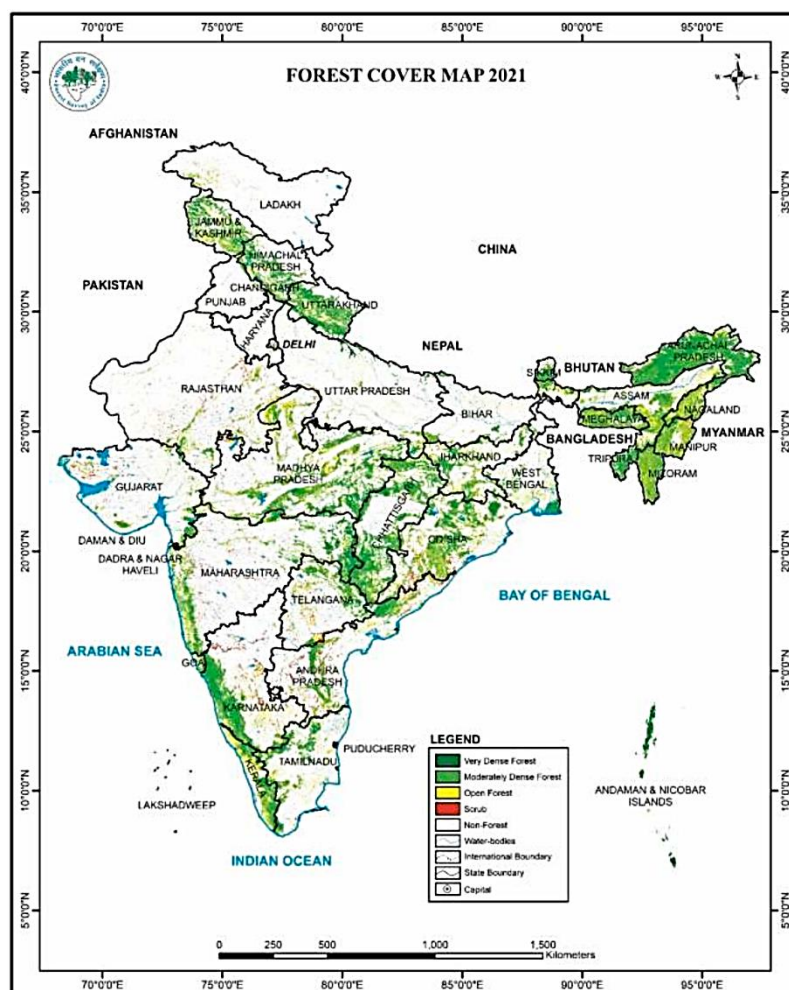


Fig 19: Forest cover of India in 2021 ¹¹.

4.1.2. FORESTRY LEGISLATIONS IN INDIA

- Indian Forest Act, 1865 and 1927
- Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 enacted w.e.f 25th October, 1980 with amendment in 1988
- Forest (Conservation) Rules, 1981, substituted with Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003, with subsequent amendments twice in 2014
- Forest Conservation Rules, 2022 enacted w.e.f 28th June 2022: It provides a *procedure for obtaining approval and compensation for forest loss*.
- Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 enacted w.e.f 29th November 2023
- Consolidated guidelines and clarifications issued under “Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980” and “Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023” released by MoEF&CC on 29th Dec, 2023.
- Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, enacted w.e.f 13th December, 2006

The Indian Forest Act of 1865 was the first legal document on this subject. During the colonial period, it was later replaced by the Indian Forest Act, 1927. With any legislation passing, it hoped to address the social issue for which it got enacted. The Forest Act of 1927 was primarily concerned with timber. It empowered the state to control tribal people’s rights to use forests. The Forest Conservation Act 1927 was divided into 13 chapters and included 86 sections. Upon independence, the President of India enforced the Forest (Conservation) Ordinance in 1980, which was later repealed by virtue of Section 5 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Under the 1980 Act, restrictions were placed on the use of forests for non-forest purposes.

The Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 is an Act of the Parliament of India to check the irrational exploitation of forests, maintain the ecological balance & provide for the conservation of forests. It was further amended in 1988. The act came into force on 25th October 1980 and consists of 05 sections. Section 2 of the Act describes the conditions under which state authorities do not have permission to make forest-related laws without the authorisation of the Central Government. The emphasis is on ‘non-forest purposes,’ meaning that forest areas must be cleared for the plantation of tea, Rubber, coffee, spices, palms, and oil-producing medicinal plants. According to Section 3 of this Act, the Central Government can form an advisory committee to advise on topics about advising the Central Government on forest preservation.

The Forest (Conservation) Act is applicable in the following cases (*as clarified by Apex Court, in their judgement dtd. 12.12.1996*):

- Land notified as ‘forest’ under IFA, 1927 or under any state/local law
- Land recorded as ‘forest’ in Govt. records
- Land conforms to the “Dictionary meaning of forest”, and lands identified as forest by the Expert Committee constituted by the State Government and taken on record

4.1.3. DE-RESERVATION OF FOREST

- Use of Forest Land for Non-Forest purpose: Non-Forest purpose means diversion of forest lands for any purpose other than "Reforestation"
- Assigning Forest Land by lease to any Private Party or Authority/ Corporation/ Agency/ Organisation.
- Clearing of Naturally Grown Trees for Reforestation

4.2. FOREST CLEARANCE (FC) AND THE ROLE OF MoEF&CC**4.2.1. DEFINITION, NEED AND STAGES OF FOREST CLEARANCE**

Forest Clearance may be defined as an approval accorded by the Central Govt. or State Govt. for the diversion of forest areas for non-forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Forest Clearance is given in two stages: In-principle approvals (Stage-I) & Final approval (Stage-II). In Stage-I, the proposal shall be agreed to in principle, along with certain stipulated conditions and Compensatory levies. After the payment of compensatory levies and submission of a compliance report with respect to the stipulated conditions, final approval under the Act shall be issued.

4.2.2. REGIONAL OFFICE (RO) AND SUB-OFFICES OF MoEF&CC WEF 26th JUNE, 2023

Sl. No	Head Quarter of Regional Office	State & UTs under Jurisdiction of ROs and its Sub-Offices
1	Bangalore	Karnataka, Kerala, Goa and Lakshadweep
2	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
3	Bhubaneswar	Odisha
	Sub-Office at Kolkata	West Bengal and Sikkim
4	Chennai	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and Andaman Nicobar Island
	Sub-Office at Hyderabad	Telangana
	Sub-Office at Vijayawada	Andhra Pradesh
5	Chandigarh	Chandigarh, Haryana & Punjab
	Sub-Office at Shimla	Himachal Pradesh
	Sub-Office at Jammu	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh
6	Dehradun	Uttarakhand
7	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh and Delhi
8	Nagpur	Maharashtra
	Sub-Office at Raipur	Chhattisgarh
9	Ranchi	Jharkhand
	Sub-Office at Patna	Bihar
10	Shillong	Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura

	Sub-Office at Guwahati	Assam, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh
11	Gandhi Nagar	Gujarat, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu
	Sub-Office at Jaipur	Rajasthan

Table 2: List of the regional offices and sub-offices of MoEF&CC.

4.2.3. FUNCTIONS OF REGIONAL OFFICES OF MoEF&CC

- Processing of proposals under FCA seeking diversion of forest land up to as follows (As per FC Rules, 2023):
 - FC proposal for up to 40 Ha (except Mining, Encroachment and De-Reservation)
 - All linear projects
 - Survey in forest land up to canopy density 0.7
 - Hydro Electric power projects up to 25 MW
 - Except encroachment, violations, and de-reservation
- Approval of Working Plans/ Working Schemes.
- Inspection of forest land proposed to be diverted in case of proposals involving diversion of more than 100 hectares of forest land in each case and all the mining projects (irrespective of the area of diversion), follow up action on the implementation of conditions and safeguards laid down by the Ministry while granting clearance to development projects under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- Monitor & evaluate ongoing forestry projects and schemes with specific emphasis on the conservation of forests.

4.2.4. FACTORS CONSIDERED BY MoEF&CC WHILE PROCESSING FC PROPOSALS

- **Type of Forests:**
 - i. Equatorial Moist Evergreen or Rainforest
 - ii. Tropical Deciduous Forest
 - iii. Mediterranean Forests
 - iv. Temperate Broad-leaved Deciduous and Mixed Forest
 - v. Warm Temperate Broad-leaved Deciduous Forest and
 - vi. Coniferous Forest.
- **Priority Factors:**
 - i. Density of Forest Cover (*to evaluate the Eco Value Class Value of the Forest*)
 - ii. Type of Vegetation
 - iii. Climate
 - iv. Soil status of the area
- **Type of Forest Covers:**
 - i. Very Dense Forest

- ii. Moderately Dense Forest
- iii. Open Forest
- iv. Mangrove
- **Canopy Density/ Canopy Coverage/ Crown Cover of Forest:** *It indicates the Proportion of the Forest Floor covered by the Vertical Projection of the Tree Crowns*
 - i. Considered a ***Closed Forest*** when Canopy Density is 1
 - ii. Considered a ***Dense Forest*** when Canopy Density is between 0.75 and 1.0
 - iii. Considered a ***Thin Forest*** when Canopy Density is between 0.5 and 0.7
 - iv. Considered an ***Open Forest*** when Canopy Density is under 0.5
 - v. "Low Density" refers to Plantings which are less than 350 trees per acre (TPA)

4.2.5. FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FAC) OF MoEF&CC AT CENTRE

- FAC is a statutory body headed by the Director General of Forest and Special Secretary, MoEF&CC. The Inspector General of Forest (FC) is the Member Secretary, and the other members are the Additional Director General of Forest, MoEF&CC, Additional Commissioner (Soil Conservation), Ministry of Agriculture and three non-official members who are experts, one each in Mining, Civil Engineering and Development Economics.
- Every proposal involving more than 40 hectares of forest land, except those relating to linear projects, all mining proposals, along with site inspection reports prepared by the Regional Office, is referred by the Central Government to the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) for their approval.

4.2.6. REGIONAL EMPOWERED COMMITTEE (REC) OF MoEF&CC AT REGIONAL OFFICES

- REC is constituted by MoEF&CC under the provision of sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, at each of the Regional Offices, viz. Bangalore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Chandigarh, Dehradun, Gandhi Nagar, Lucknow, Nagpur, Ranchi, and Shillong.
- REC is headed by the Deputy Director General of Forest (Central) of RO, MoEF&CC. AIG/DIG of RO, MoEF&CC is the Member Secretary, and three non-official members are experts, one each in Mining, Civil Engineering and Development Economics.
- Proposals of more than 5 hectares and up to 40 hectares are discussed and approved/recommended by REC.

4.3. FOREST CLEARANCE (FC) PROCESS

4.3.1. TYPES OF FORMS AVAILABLE UNDER FC ACT FOR FOREST CLEARANCE

- **Form-A:** Application involving diversion of fresh forest land
- **Form-B:** Application involving renewal of approval granted in the past
- **Form-C:** Application involving the use of forest land for survey, prospecting

- **Form-D:** Application involving assignment of forest land on lease [*Application under Section 2(iii)*]
- **Form-E:** Application involving re-diversion or change in land use
- **Form-F:** Application involving transfer of approval granted under the Actor change in the name of the user
- **Form-G:** Application seeking approval of the Working Plan
- **Form-H:** Application involving amendment of the conditions of the approval granted in the past

4.3.2. FOREST CLEARANCE ONLINE PROCESS – INTRODUCED WITH EFFECT FROM 01.11.2014

A chart showing the Forest Clearance online process introduced with effect from 01.11.2014 is given as follows.

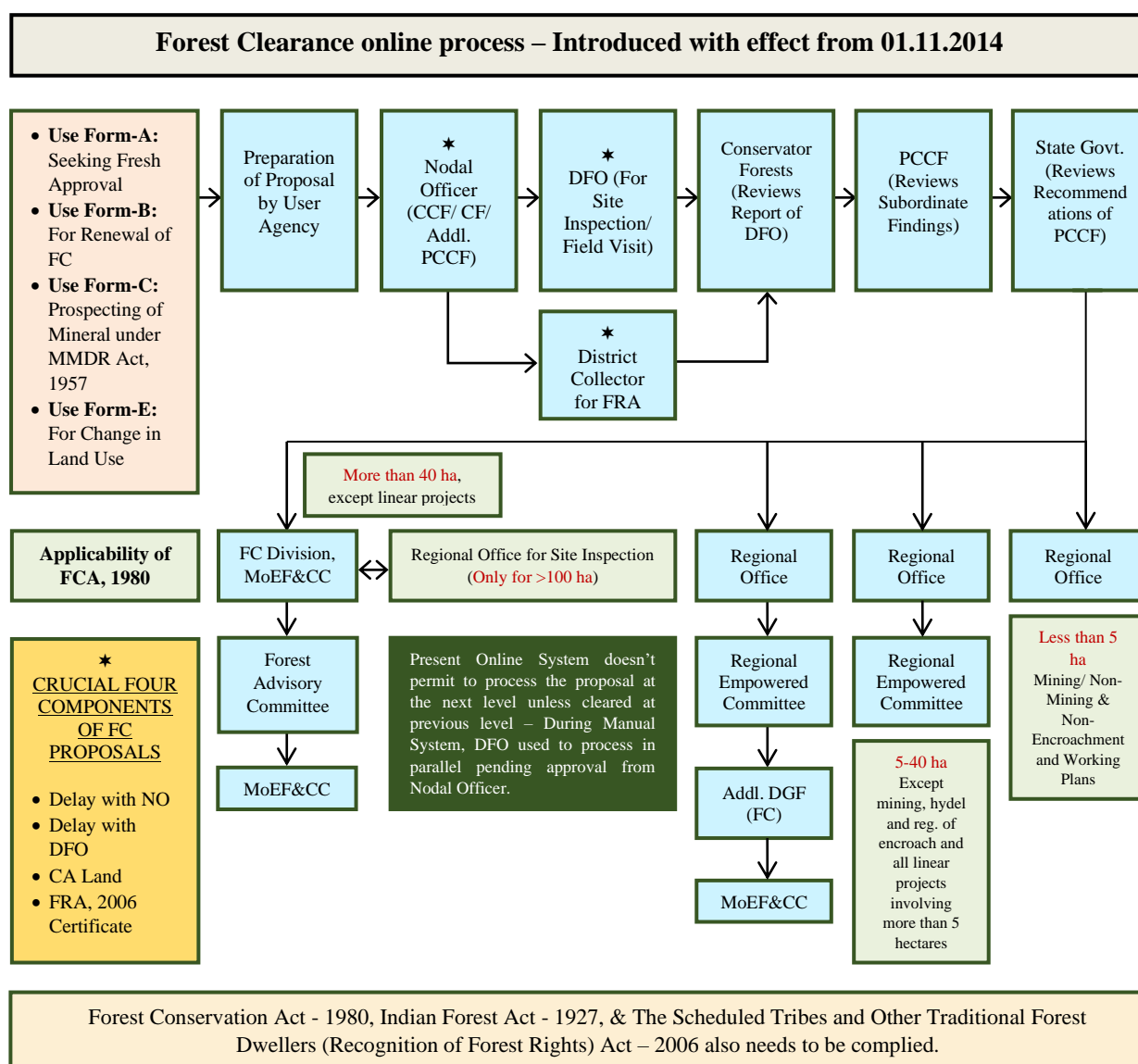


Fig 20: Forest Clearance online process – Introduced with effect from 01.11.2014

4.3.3. FC PROCESS FLOW AS PER VAN (SANRAKSHAN EVAM SAMVARDHAN) RULES, 2023

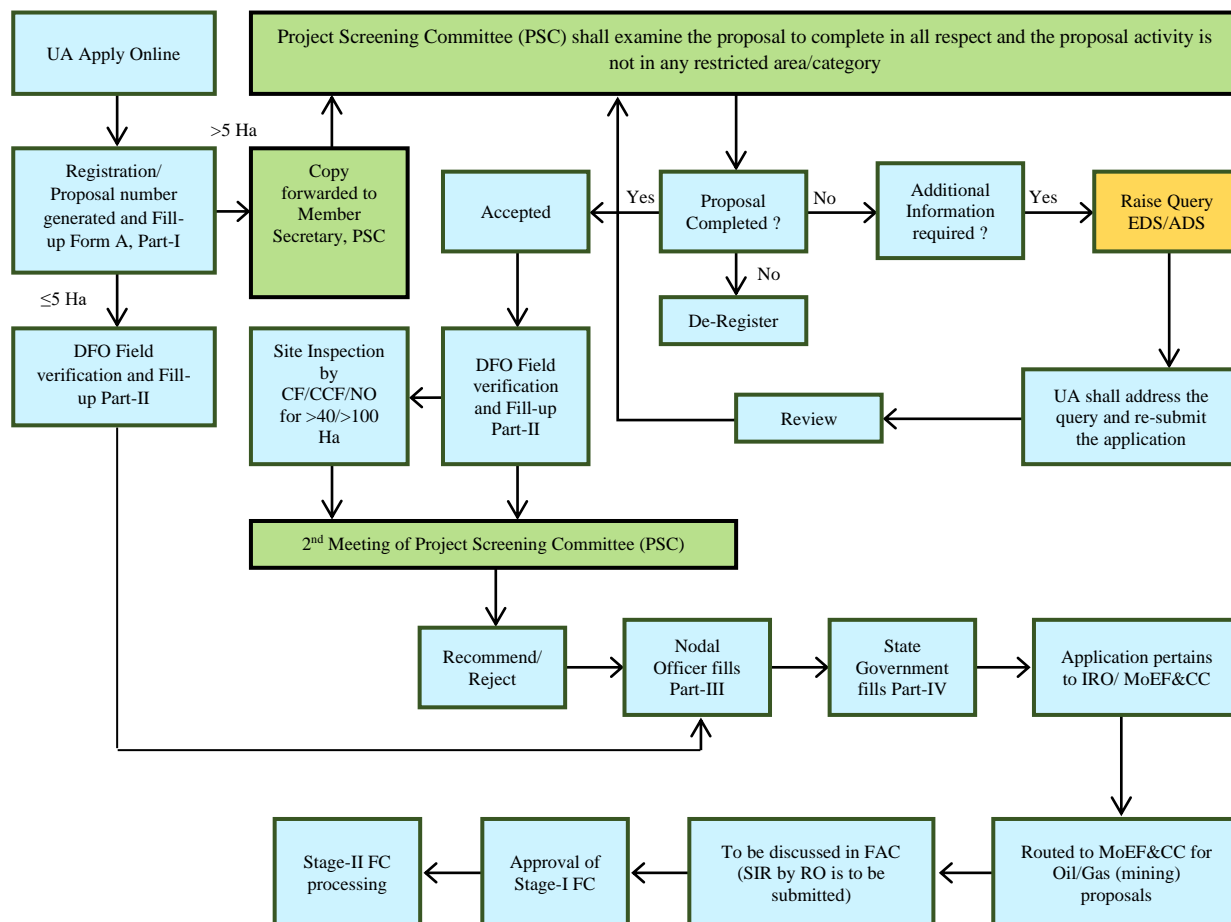


Fig 21: FC process flow as per Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023

NB: The detailed flow charts for processing of proposals and payment for clearance at the state level, ministry level, and IRO level are given in **Annexure IX**.

4.3.4. FOREST CLEARANCE (FC) PROPOSAL MOVEMENT IN PARIVESH PORTAL FOR 8 SCENARIOS SINCE AFTER ENACTMENT OF VAN (SANRAKSHAN EVAM SAMVARDHAN) RULES, 2023

Scenario	Threshold	Applicability	Final Approving Authority	Remarks
Scenario 1	≤ 1 Ha (for Government UA)	Development Initiatives	State Govt. (State Secretary – Forest)	• General Approval
Scenario 1(a)	≥ 0 Ha	Right of Way	State Level (Nodal Officer)	• No Scrutiny through PSC • Flow is bounded up to Nodal Officer (it may go up to State Govt.)

Scenario 2	> 5 Ha. and ≤ 40 Ha.	All except Linear mining, encroachment/ de-reservation and violation projects	IRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the recomm. of REC Scrutiny through PSC
	> 5 Ha.	Linear projects and OFC involving diversion	IRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the recomm. of REC Scrutiny through PSC
	> 0 Ha.	Canopy density of Forest land up to 0.7	IRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the recomm. of REC Scrutiny through PSC (in case of area > 5 Ha)
Scenario 3	> 0 Ha.	Canopy density of Forest land up to 0.7	IRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the recomm. of REC No Scrutiny through PSC (in case of area < 5 Ha)
Scenario 4	0 Ha. to ≤ 5 Ha.	All except mining, encroachment/ de-reservation and violation projects and OFC involving diversion	IRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Without the recomm. of REC No Scrutiny through PSC
Scenario 5	> 40 Ha.	All projects except Linear	MoEF&CC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With site inspection by IRO (mining and de-reservation) Based on the recomm. of FAC Scrutiny through PSC
	> 5 Ha.	Mining, Encroachment, de-reservation and violation	MoEF&CC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With site inspection by IRO Based on the recomm. of FAC Scrutiny through PSC
Scenario 6	> 0 Ha.	Canopy density of Forest land > 0.7	MoEF&CC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the recomm. of FAC Scrutiny through PSC (In case of area > 5 Ha.)
Scenario 7	≤ 5 Ha.	Encroachment, de-reservation, Mining and violation	MoEF&CC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With site inspection by IRO Based on the recomm. of FAC No Scrutiny through PSC

Scenario 8	> 0 Ha.	Canopy density of Forest land > 0.7	MoEF&CC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the recomm. of FAC No Scrutiny through PSC (In case of area < 5 Ha.)
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Table 3: Table showing the Forest Clearance (FC) proposal movement for 8 scenarios.

4.3.5. NEW AMENDMENT OF FOREST CLEARANCE (FC) FOR OIL & GAS SEISMIC SURVEYING/OTHER SURVEYS

	Type	Form	Approving Authority	Conditions	Remarks
Scenario 1 E	Survey	Form C	PCCF	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Felling of trees up to 100 No. of Boreholes ≤ 25 of four-inch diameter per ten square kilometres ≤ 80 shot holes of 6.5-inch diameter per square kilometre in the case of seismic surveys. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workflow: DFO > Nodal Officer > PCCF Process culminates at PCCF. The present workflow would be the same as the existing scenario. No PSC required.
			Ministry/IRO	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Felling of trees > 100 No. of Boreholes > 25 of four-inch diameter per ten square kilometres > 80 shot holes of 6.5-inch diameter per square kilometre in the case of seismic surveys. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per the existing IRO/Ministry flow of Form C Present workflow would be the same as the existing scenario

Table 4: New amendment of Forest Clearance (FC) for O&G seismic surveying/ other surveys as per Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023.

4.3.6. PRESCRIBED TIMELINES FOR PROCESSING OF (STAGE-I) FC PROPOSALS

Tables showing the timelines for the processing of Stage-I FC proposals at State, IRO, and Ministry level are given as follows:

Timeline is prescribed for the proposals which are complete in all respects excluding the time consumed in seeking additional details from the State/UT or User agency.

(a) At State level:

Processing Authorities	Area (Ha)/ Working Days			
	Up to 5 ha	5 to 40 ha	40 to 100 ha	More than 100 ha
Project Screening Committee	0	30	30	30
DCF/ District Collector	10	10	10	20
Site inspections by DCF/CF/Nodal Officer	5	5	20	20
Processing by Nodal Officer/ PCCF	5	10	15	15
State Government	10	15	15	15
Total (A)	30	70	70	100

(b) At IRO level:

Processing Authorities	Area (Ha)/ Working Days			
	Up to 5 ha	5 to 40 ha	40 to 100 ha	More than 100 ha
Scrutiny to examine completeness	3	3	3	3
Examination and processing of the proposal by RO	5	5	5	5
Site inspection by RO	0	0	15	15
Examination and approval by the REC	0	20	20	20
Processing and approval by the competent authority (CA)	5	5	5	5
Communication of approval of CA	2	2	2	2
Total (B)	15	35	50	50
Total (A+B)	45	105	120	150

(c) At Ministry level:

Processing Authorities	Area (Ha)/ Working Days			
	Up to 5 ha	5 to 40 ha	40 to 100 ha	More than 100 ha
Scrutiny to examine completeness	3	3	4	4

Examination and processing of the proposal	6	6	5	5
Site inspection by RO	10	10	20	20
Examination and approval by the FAC	20	20	20	20
Processing and approval by the competent authority (CA)	10	10	10	10
Communication of approval of CA	1	1	1	1
Total (C)	50	50	60	60
Total (A+C)	85	120	160	160

Table 5: Timelines for the processing of Stage-I FC proposals at State, IRO, and Ministry level.

4.3.7. TIMELINE FOR GRANT OF 'FINAL' APPROVAL

A table showing the timeline for the grant of final FC approval is given as follows:

Level	Activity	Time (Days)
State Level	Issue of demand note for payment of compensatory levies by the User agency	2
	Approval of demand by the Nodal Officer	3
	Payment of compensatory levies and submission of documents certificate by user agency	5
	Examination of the compliance report by the DFO and forwarding of the complete compliance report by the DFO to the Nodal office with intimation to the CF/CCF	5
	Examining compliance report by the Nodal officer and issue of shortcomings, if any, to the DFO for compliance, or forwarding the complete compliance report to the MoEF&CC/ RO.	10
Total (A)		25
MoEF&CC, New Delhi/ Regional Office	Examination of the compliance report, confirmation of remittance of compensatory levies realised from the user agency into the CAMPA account and issue of shortcomings, if any, or approve Stage-II	20
Total (B)		20
Total (A+B)		45

Table 6: Timeline for the grant of final FC approval.

4.4. NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR FOREST CLEARANCE (FC)

4.4.1. PARTS OF FOREST CLEARANCE APPLICATION INVOLVING DIVERSION OF FRESH FOREST LAND

- **Part-I:** To be filled by the User Agency
- **Part-II:** To be filled by the concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests/ DFO
- **Part-III:** To be filled by the Nodal Officer (FCA) or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) or Head of Forest department (HoFD)
- **Part-IV:** To be filled by the Secretary in charge of the Forest Department or by any other authorised officer of the State Government not below the rank of an Under Secretary

4.4.2. LIST OF DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED WITH PART-I OF THE FC APPLICATION

- A topo map showing the required forest land and boundary of adjoining forest on a 1:50,000 scale map. The map must be original and duly authenticated jointly by the Project Proponent and the concerned DCF/ DFO.
- The site's location has to be kept demarcated for joint site verification with DFO.
- DFO's Certification is to be obtained indicating the distance(s) of the location from the nearby Pas, etc., viz. Wildlife Sanctuary/ National Parks/ Tiger Reserve/ Elephant Reserve/ Elephant Corridor/ Wildlife Migration Area/ Mangroves/ Biosphere Management Area or Reserves/ Archaeological or Heritage site/ Defence Establishment or any Other important Monument (*Clarifying whether any of these are located within 1 Km from the boundary of the Forest land proposed for diversion and also mentioning their actual distances*).
- Nearby Critically Polluted Areas (CPA), if they exist, their distances, etc., to be indicated.
- Authorization Letter for Submitting Online
- Certified Project Cost
- Justification for the Selecting the Location in Forestlands
- KML File of the Diverted Forest land
- Land use Plan in 1:4,000 scale prepared by using GPS or Total Station
- Mining Plan
- Block Map
- Coordinates and Land Details
- Layout Plan of the Forest Diversion area
- PEL/ PML block Grant Letter and Copy of RSC/ PSC
- Evacuation Plan/ Hydrocarbon Transportation Scheme on successful Discovery
- Status of Environmental Clearance for the Project
- Cost Benefit Analysis (For 20 ha in plains and 5 ha for in hills)

4.4.3. CA LAND DETAILS TO BE SUBMITTED WITH THE FC APPLICATION

- Geo-referenced Map prepared by using DGPS or Total Station

- Survey of India Toposheet in 1:50,000 scale indicating the Location
- KML file (viewable on Google Earth)
- Non-encumbrance Certificate for the designated CA land from the concerned Sub-registrar office of the District Land & Revenue Department
- Additional Documents Required, viz. Ownership Proof of CA land (Copy of Jamabandi from CO office)/ MoU/ Agreement between the Landowner and the User Agency and "Suitability Certificate" from DFO

4.4.4. UNDERTAKINGS TO BE SUBMITTED IN STAMP PAPER/PAD

- Undertaking for payment of 2% of Project Cost for WLMP & HEC (Human Elephant Conflict) Mitigation
- Undertaking for payment of CA & NPV and Additional Payable NPV, if any
- Undertaking for the use of Barest Minimum Forestlands
- Undertaking for Compliance of FRA, 2006
- Undertaking to Bear the Cost of Raising and Maintenance of CA and/or Penal CA as well as the Cost for Protection and Regeneration of Safety Zone, etc., as per the scheme prepared by the State Government
- Undertaking mentioning that DGPS / Total Station used for carrying out all Survey Work
- Undertaking for Tree Extraction Cost
- Undertaking for Transportation of Minerals
- Undertaking for 2D/3D Subsidence Analysis
- Undertaking for FRA, 2006 Certificate

4.4.5. COMPLIANCE REPORT AND ENCLOSURES TO BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO GRANT OF FINAL/ STAGE-II FC

- Copy of Environment Clearance
- RoFR Certificate to be obtained from DC/DM/Collector in compliance with FRA, 2006
- Deposition of money in CAMPA Fund towards CA, NPV & Overhead Cost
- Documentary evidence towards settlement of payable 2% of the Project Cost in CAMPA Fund towards Wildlife Management Plan
- Settlement of payable NPV @ 2% for the forest land in the PML block
- Copy of Wildlife Management Plan approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State
- Deposition of money to O/o DFO towards Cost for boundary Pillar Demarcation and Tree Felling.
- To obtain a boundary pillar Demarcation certificate from DFO along with Photographic evidence
- Undertakings as per conditions stipulated in Stage-I of FC approval to be submitted
- Evidence of all Payments to be enclosed
- CA land finalisation and transfer the same in the name of the Forest Department followed by PRF notification by the State Forest Department (For Private Operators, where Degraded forestlands can't be allotted)

A few additional useful information related to Forest Clearance (FC) is given in **Annexure X**.

4.5. PARIVESH PORTAL APPROVAL PROCESS OF FOREST CLEARANCE (STAGE-I & STAGE-II / FINAL FC)

4.5.1. PARIVESH PORTAL APPROVAL PROCESS FOR STAGE-I FC

WORKFLOW FOR FOREST CLEARANCE PROCESS (STAGE-I)

- User Agency can register to get the login credentials from PARIVESH Portal.
- After successful registration, User Agency will get user-id and password for logging in to the portal.
- After login, User Agency can submit Part-I of the application for seeking prior approval of Central Government for diverting forest land for non-forestry purposes. (CA land details to be provided in Part-I). Also, an application to be submitted to concern DCs for processing of FRA certificate.
- When User Agency submits all these details, an email alert would be sent (by System) to registered email-id of User Agency for the confirmation of the successful submission of the application. This email alert may contain some information of proposal including unique proposal number generated automatically by the system. User Agency may refer this unique proposal number for future reference.
- For upto 5 Ha, after submission of the application, the proposal will be forwarded to DFO's account. DFO will further process the proposal and will verify all the details submitted by User agency. After processing it, DFO will fill Part-II and upload copy of site inspection report and recommendation on the portal and proposal will be forwarded to Nodal Officer.
- For above 5 Ha, after submission of the application, the proposal will be forwarded to Member Secretary's (MS) account for Project Screening Committee (PSC) Meeting. The proposal will be discussed in PSC-I and if found correct in all aspects, the proposal will be accepted and forwarded to DFO or EDS may be raised for any shortcomings. DFO will fill part-II and proposal will be forwarded to Member Secretary, PSC and discussed in PSC-II. If the proposal found correct in all aspects, the proposal will be recommended and forwarded to Nodal Officer.
- Nodal Officer will fill Part-III and upload his/her recommendation on the portal and the proposal will be forwarded to State Secretary/State Government officer.
- State Secretary/State Government Officer filled Part-IV and uploads his/her recommendation on the portal, proposal details are forwarded automatically to concerned Regional Office or MoEF&CC, HQ Delhi as per the flow defined in the system for the approval of Competent Authority. Some of the proposals can be decided at State Government level also.
- For Mining/ dereservation/ encroachment category, proposals will be forwarded to MoEF&CC, HQ, Delhi. Also, Site inspection report has to be submitted by regional office. If the proposal found correct in all aspects, it will be discussed in Forest

Advisory Committee (FAC) meeting for recommendation, or EDS may be raised for any shortcomings before FAC. Minutes of the meeting of FAC and the decision of the competent authority will be uploaded on the portal.

- Proposals up to 5 ha will be examined by the regional office and if found correct in all aspects Stage-I may be granted. For any shortcomings, EDS may be raised before granting the proposal.
- Linear projects above 5 ha and other projects involving more than 5 ha upto 40 ha, shall be examined for its completeness by regional office and referred to Regional Empowered Committee (REC).
- REC will examine the proposal and after further enquiry, may recommend the proposal for Stage-I approval.
- The decision of REC may be reviewed by Central Government when necessary and the decision taken by Central Govt will be final.
- The status of proposal will be updated at each transaction and the same would be reflected automatically in the reports available in public domain.
- This completes the entire Forest clearance (Stage-I) process.

4.5.2. PARIVESH PORTAL APPROVAL PROCESS FOR STAGE-II FC

WORKFLOW FOR FOREST CLEARANCE PROCESS (STAGE-II)

- After Stage-I approval, the proposal will be forwarded to DFO for raising demand for Compensatory levies.
- Once Demand Details is submitted, the proposal will be forwarded to State Nodal Officer for verification of demand details. If any information is incorrect, Nodal Officer may reject the demand details submitted by User Agency and may ask to resubmit the demand details again. If Demand details are correct in all respect, the Nodal officer will accept the demand and demand note will be generated in the portal.
- After generating demand note, User Agency will make payment in the bank (outside the Portal) through any mode i.e. RTGS/NEFT, voucher etc.
- After making the payment against the proposal, user agency will have to filled the payment completion details in PARIVESH Portal.
- The payment details will be verified by the competent authority and after verification the user agency shall upload compliance against the conditions imposed in the Stage-I approval.
- The submitted compliance (to the conditions stipulated in Stage-I Clearance) report submitted by UA to will be forwarded to DFO/CFs account for review in the portal.
- After acceptance by DFO/CF, Nodal Officer receive compliance report and forward compliance report to State Government on portal.
- After receiving compliance report from Nodal officer, State Government processes this report. If stage-I clearance to the project has been granted by State Government, then stage-II clearance will also be accorded by State Government otherwise the compliance

report will be forwarded to Regional Office/Head Office, New Delhi.

- After receiving compliance report, Regional Office/Head Office Delhi processes it and accord stage-II Clearance.
- This completes the Forest Clearance process.

4.6. PROCESS FOR OBTAINING RoFR CERTIFICATE IN COMPLIANCE TO FRA, 2006 FOR FOREST CLEARANCE PROPOSALS

4.6.1. THE SCHEDULED TRIBES AND OTHER TRADITIONAL FOREST DWELLERS (RECOGNITION OF FOREST RIGHTS) ACT, 2006 (FRA, 2006)

- **Aim of FRA, 2006:** No Member of a Forest Dwelling Scheduled Tribe or other Traditional Forest Dwellers shall be Evicted or Removed from the Forest Land under his Occupation till the Recognition and Verification Procedure is Complete
- FRA, 2006 was enacted on 13th December 2006: It recognises the Rights of Forest-dwelling Tribal Communities and other Traditional Forest Dwellers to Forest Resources on which these communities were dependent for a variety of needs, including Livelihood, Habitation and other Sociocultural needs
- It recognises and vests the forest rights and occupation in forest land in Forest Dwelling Scheduled Tribes (FDST) and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (OTFD) who have been residing in such forests for 3 (three) generations (25 years is considered as One generation)
- The Gram Sabha is the authority to initiate the process for determining the nature and extent of Individual Forest Rights (IFR), Community Forest Rights (CFR), or both that may be given to FDST and OTFD
- **The 5th and the 6th Schedules** of the Constitution protect the claims of indigenous communities over tracts of land or forests they inhabit
- FRA, 2006 ensures rights such as –
 - Right to Ownership for Farming up to 4 hectares of Forest Lands by the Tribals or Forest Dwellers.
 - Rights of the Dwellers for Extracting Minor Forest Produce, Grazing Areas, etc.
 - Rehabilitate in case of eviction or forced displacement associated with developmental works and provide them with basic amenities and the right to protection.
 - Regenerate, conserve, or manage any Community Forest resource that they have been Traditionally Protecting and Conserving for Sustainable use.

4.6.2. PROCESS FLOW FOR OBTAINING RoFR CERTIFICATES FOR FC PROPOSALS

A flowchart showing the process for obtaining RoFR certificates for FC proposals under the purview of FRA, 2006, administrated by MoTA, is given as follows.

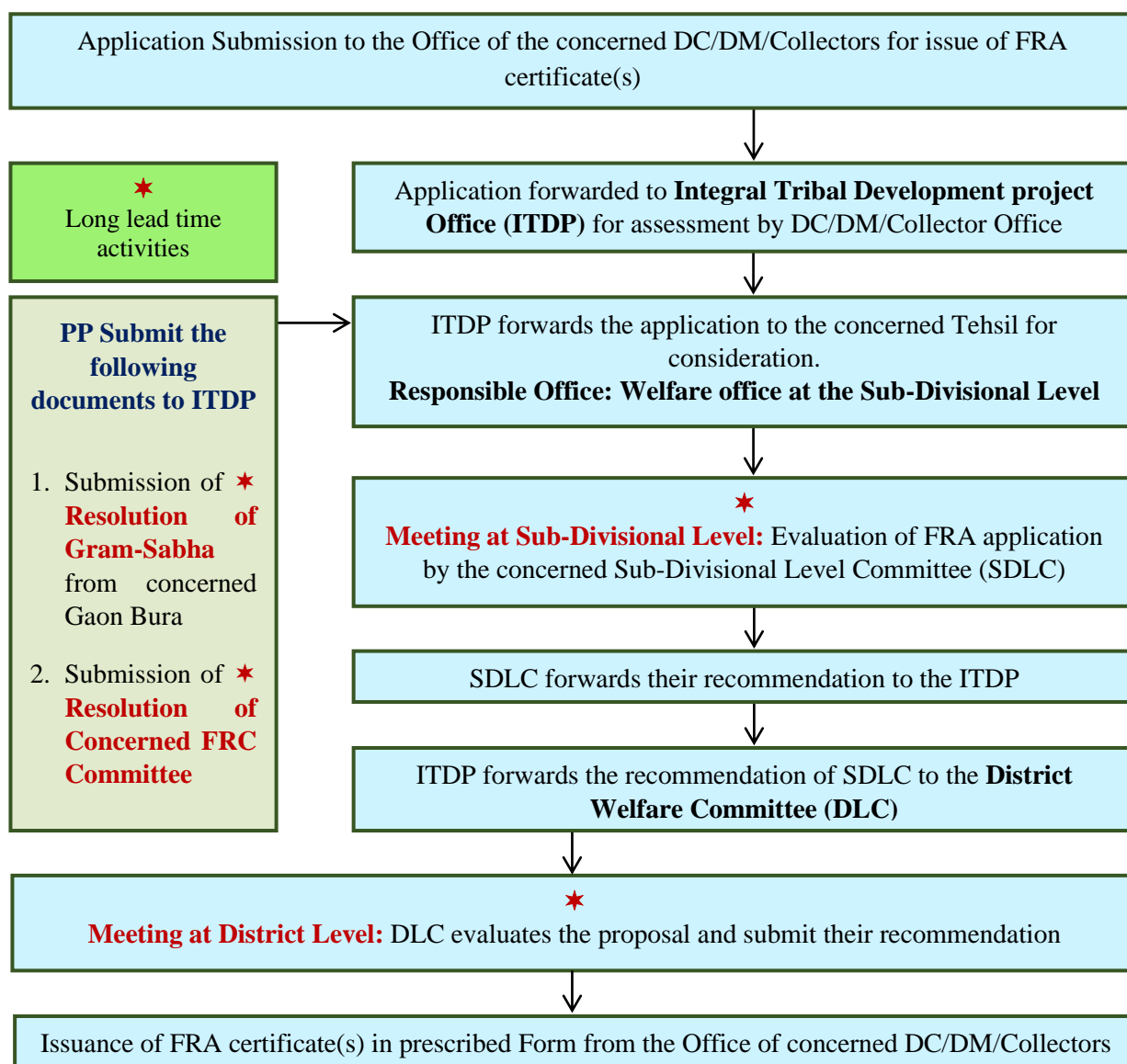


Fig 22: Flow chart showing the process for obtaining ROFR for FC proposals.

4.6.3. COMMITTEES INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS OF ISSUING RoFR CERTIFICATES

There are 3 (three) different committees formed that are involved in the process of issuing FRA certificates for FC proposals. These are:

- **Sub-Divisional Level Committee (SDLC)**
 - **Members of SDLC:** SDO, Forest-in-Charge of the Sub-Division, three members of the Block or Tehsil level Panchayats to be nominated by the District Panchayat
- **District Level Committee (DLC)**
 - **Members of DLC:** DC, DFO, three members of the District Panchayats to be nominated by the District Panchayat and an officer of the Tribal Welfare Department in-charge of the district

- **State Level Monitoring Committee (SLMC): Constituted by the State Government**
 - **Members of SLMC:** Chief Secretary, Secretary, Revenue Department, Secretary, Tribal or Social Welfare Department, Secretary, Forest Department, Secretary, Panchayati Raj, PCCF, 3 Scheduled Tribes member of the Tribes Advisory Council and Commissioner, Tribal Welfare

The SDLC, DLC, and SLMC consist of Officers of the Departments of (Revenue, Forest and Tribal Affairs) of the State Government and three members of the Panchayati Raj Institutions, appointed by the respective Panchayati Raj Institutions, of whom Two shall be the Scheduled Tribe members and at least one shall be a Women.

4.7. SAMPLE FORMS FOR FOREST CLEARANCE (FC) IN PARIVESH-2.0 PORTAL

Sample forms for Forest Clearance (FC) through PARIVESH 2.0 are given in Annexure XI.



CHAPTER 5

Wildlife Clearance (WLC) Process for Upstream O&G E&P Activities





5.1. WILDLIFE CLEARANCE (WLC) - A BRIEF

5.1.1. BACKGROUND

India has a network of 1,014 Protected Areas, including 106 National Parks, 573 Wildlife Sanctuaries, 115 Conservation Reserves and 220 Community Reserves covering a total of 1,75,169.42 sq. km of geographical area of the country, which is approximately 5.32% ¹⁴. National parks in India are IUCN category II Protected areas. As of January 2023, India has 106 national parks covering 44,402.95 square kilometres, roughly 1.35% of the total geographical area of the country ¹⁵. Wildlife sanctuaries of India are classified as IUCN category IV Protected areas. Between 1936 and 2022, 567 wildlife sanctuaries were established in the country, covering 122,564.86 sq. km, roughly 3.73% of the country's geographical area ¹⁶. The Indian government has established 18 biosphere reserves (categories roughly correspondingly to IUCN category V Protected areas) to protect larger areas of natural habitat than a typical National Park or animal sanctuary and that often include one or more national parks or reserves, along with buffer zones that are open to some economic uses ¹⁷.

5.1.2. WILDLIFE CLEARANCE IN ECO-SENSITIVE ZONES (ESZs)

Wildlife Clearance (WLC) plays a crucial role in protecting India's designated protected areas. Wildlife clearances are granted by the Standing Committee of the National Board of Wildlife (SC-NBWL) for various infrastructure and developmental projects. NBWL is a statutory body created under India's Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as per a Supreme Court order to establish any industry or development projects inside or within a 10 km radius Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) area from the boundary of any protected area (since December 2006) or notified Site specific ESZ areas for the individual PAs. Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZs) are also known as Ecologically Fragile Areas (EFAs) and act as "shock absorbers" to the protected areas. ESZ areas act as a Transition Zone from areas of high protection to areas involving lesser protection. The activities in ESZ areas are classified into Three Categories - Permitted, Prohibited and Regulated.

Oil & Gas E&P activities are considered at par with the mining of minerals extracted under the provision of Part-C of the First Schedule of MMDR Act, 1957. Hence, Oil & Gas E&P activities are presently 'Prohibited' in ESZ areas.

5.2. WILDLIFE CLEARANCE (WLC) PROCESS

5.2.1. WLC PROCESS FLOW FOR PROJECTS OUTSIDE PROTECTED AREAS AND IN NOTIFIED ESZ AREAS/ 10 KM ESZ AREA

A flow-chart showing the WLC Process flow for projects outside Protected Areas (PAs) and in Notified ESZ areas/ 10 KM ESZ area as per the most recent guidelines issued by MoEF&CC, is given as follows:

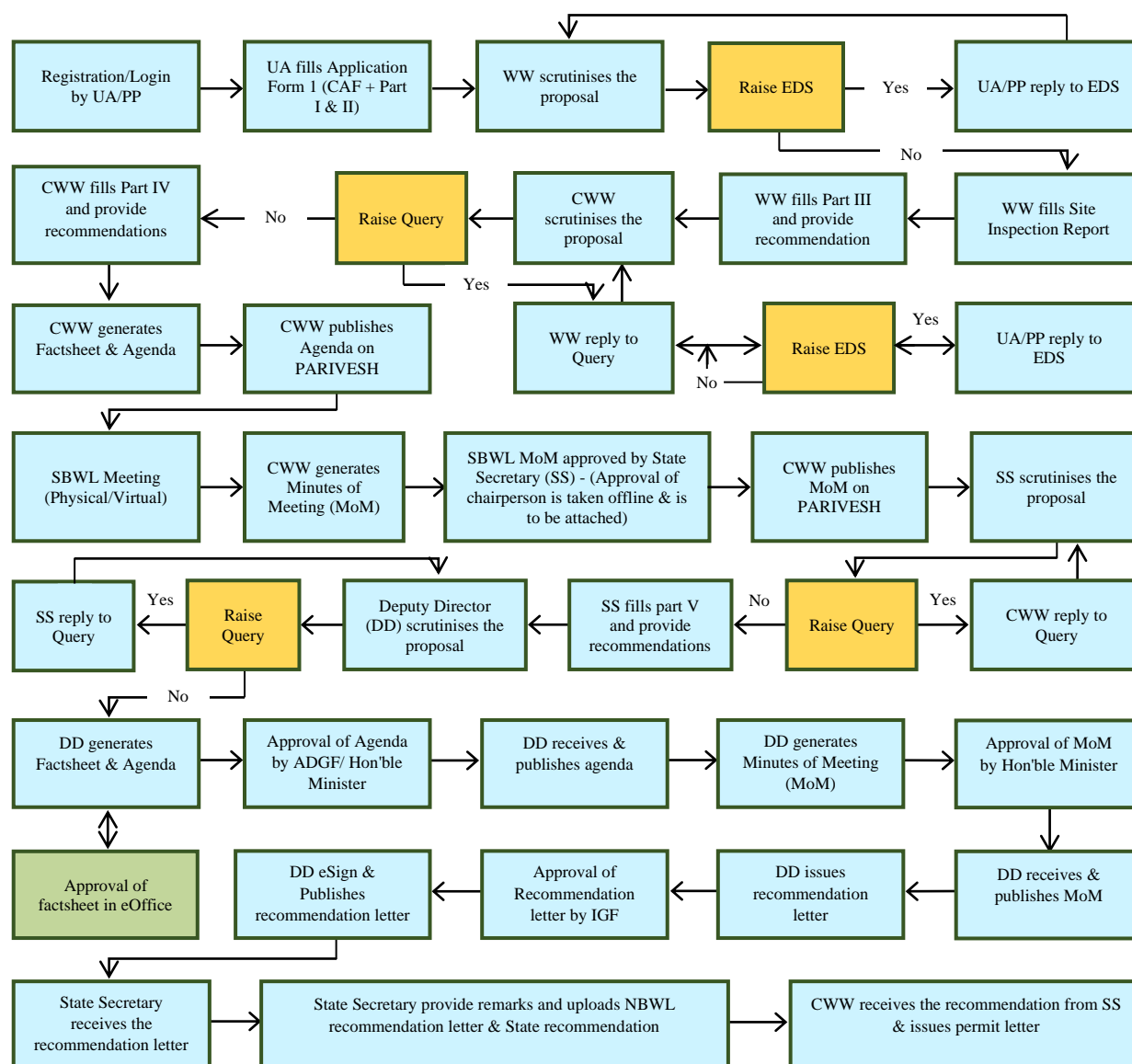


Fig 23: WLC Process flow for projects outside Protected Areas (PAs) and in Notified ESZ areas/ 10 KM ESZ.

5.2.2. PRESCRIBED TIMELINE FOR WILDLIFE CLEARANCE (WLC) PROCESS

A table showing the timeline for the process of Wildlife Clearance and grant of approval is given as follows:

Processing Authorities	Activity	Time (days)
DFO/ Wildlife Warden	Initial scrutiny of the proposal by DFO/ Wildlife Warden	5
	Site inspection, consultation with CF/ CCF/ APCCF and forwarding to CWLW	15
Chief Wildlife Warden	Scrutiny of proposal and recommendation to the State Government for placing before the State Board for Wild Life (SBWL)	15

State Govt.	Consultation with SBWL and recommendation of State Government to MoEF&CC enclosing the copy of the minutes of the SBWL or its Standing Committee as the case may be.	45
MoEF&CC	Initial scrutiny by MoEF&CC	10
SC-NBWL	Consultation with the standing committee of the National Board for Wild Life	Within 3 months

Table 7: Timeline for the grant of WLC approval.

5.3. WILDLIFE CLEARANCE (WLC) PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PROCEDURE AND PROCESS

5.3.1. WILDLIFE PROPOSALS INVOLVING SINGLE DIVISION

- **User Agency (Part-I & Part-II of the Form):** The PP (through User Agency) will have to upload the application in the PARIVESH portal with the enclosures mentioned below and submit hard copies to the concerned DFO/Wild Life Warden.
 - Covering Letter
 - Copy of PML Grant letter
 - MoPNG's circular (if applicable)
 - Project Justification
 - Authorisation Certificate
 - KML File
 - Toposheet
 - Georeferenced Map
 - Google map showing the coordinates
 - Land Use Map in 1: 4,000 scale using DGPS or Total Station
 - Map of the outer boundary of the Mining Lease Area
 - Coordinates of the outer boundary of Mining Lease
 - Biodiversity Study
 - Details of the previous projects executed in PAs/ ESZ areas
 - Details of compliance of conditions against previous approvals (if any)
 - Undertaking for LOI
 - Undertaking for Prospecting License
 - Undertaking for Mining Plan
 - Undertaking for 3D Subsidence Study
 - Undertaking for no drilling activities will be carried out in the core area of NP and its ESZ area
 - Details of Transportation of the minerals raised from the Mining Lease area
 - Details of CSR activities done around the area
- **DFO (Part-III of the Form):** DFO scrutinises the proposal and sends an acceptance letter to the User Agency if all relevant documents are correctly uploaded. If any document is missing or any other information is needed, DFO may ask U.A. (EDS) to

upload those missing information. The timeline will start only if the DFO accepts the proposal and sends the acceptance letter to the U.A.

- The DFO has to carry out a site inspection and upload his recommendation along with the Site Inspection Report and then forward it to the Chief Wildlife Warden (CWLW) by enclosing the following in Part-III of the Form:
 - Conservation Value of the PA
 - Impact due to diversion of area for the use of land for the Project
 - Comprehensive Details of the likely impact of the current proposal in Terms of Section 29 and/or Section 35(6) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
 - Justification for Recommendation
 - Site Inspection Report
- **Chief Wildlife Warden (Part-IV of the Form):** CWLW puts his/her recommendation, and Site Inspection report (*if site inspection is done*), and the proposal is forwarded to the Environment & Forest Department of State Government.
- **State Government (Part-V of the Form):** State Government (SG) reviews the proposal and recommendations of DFO and CWLW, and approval is taken from the competent authority for placing the proposal before the State Board of Wildlife (SBWL).
- After obtaining approval from the Competent Authority, the proposal is placed before the State Board of Wildlife (SBWL), along with the report/recommendation of the State Government in Part (V) of the Form.
- The proposal is then placed before the State Board for Wildlife (SBWL) under the Chairmanship of the State Chief Minister for recommendation to the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL).
- After the recommendation of the proposal by SBWL, the same is forwarded to the Wildlife Division, MoEF&CC, HQ, New Delhi.
- **Wildlife Division, Delhi/ SC-NBWL:** After receiving the proposal from the State Government, it is placed before the competent authority at MoEF&CC.
- After getting approval from the Competent Authority, the proposal is placed before the SC-NBWL for consideration, and the decision of SC-NBWL is intimated to the State Government and uploaded in the PARIVESH portal of MoEF&CC.

5.3.2. WILDLIFE PROPOSALS INVOLVING MULTIPLE DIVISIONS

- Multi Division WL Proposals involve proposals falling under more than one Division. User Agency (UA) has to select multiple Divisions for such proposals while filling Parts I & II of the application. The proposal will then be forwarded to all the Wild Life Wardens (WWs)/DFOs of the Divisions for their scrutiny and recommendations.
- In case of any shortcoming, any concerned WW/ DFO may raise **consolidated EDS**, or they can proceed further for the recommendation part. After getting the EDS reply, the Proposal will be visible to all the WWs of multiple divisions involved for scrutiny and recommendations.

- Any WW/ DFO may fill the **consolidated SIR** and Part-3 after discussion with all the involved Wildlife Warden, and then, automatically, the proposal will be moved to the Chief Wildlife Warden for further processing.

A few additional useful information related to Wildlife Clearance (WLC) is given in **Annexure XII**.

5.4. PARIVESH PORTAL APPROVAL PROCESS OF WILDLIFE CLEARANCE

FIVE ROLES AT VARIOUS LEVELS FOR WILDLIFE CLEARANCE

User Agency
DFO, Wildlife Warden
Chief Wildlife Warden
SBWL/State Government
NBWL/ MoEF&CC

WORKFLOW FOR WILDLIFE CLEARANCE PROCESS

- The User Agency has to register on the PARIVESH portal.
- User Agency/Project Proponent will then have to fill out the application form-1 (Common Application Form and Part-I and II). (*CAF Sl. No. 1-13 & Part-I Sl. No. 14-26*).
- On receipt of the complete proposal, the Wildlife Warden will then scrutinise the proposal.
- After scrutiny of the proposal, the Wildlife Warden will fill out Part-III of the form and the Site Inspection Report and provide necessary recommendations.
- The application is then forwarded to the Chief Wildlife Warden for scrutiny.
- After scrutiny, the Chief Wildlife Warden will fill out the Site Inspection Report along with Part-IV of the form and provide necessary recommendations.
- The proposal is then deliberated in the SBWL meeting.
- The recommendation of SBWL is then forwarded to the State Secretary.
- The State Secretary will fill Part-V of the application and provide necessary recommendations.
- The recommendation of the State Secretary, along with Part-V, is then forwarded to MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
- The proposal is then deliberated in the NBWL meeting.
- The recommendation of NBWL after approval of MoEF&CC is then forwarded to the State Secretary.
- The State Secretary receives the NBWL recommendations, provides remarks, and uploads the NBWL recommendation letter and state recommendation in the PARIVESH portal.
- The Chief Wildlife Warden then receives recommendations from the State Secretary

and issues a permit letter if the project is recommended. Otherwise, a rejection letter is issued.

5.5. SAMPLE FORMS FOR WILDLIFE CLEARANCE (WLC) IN PARIVESH-2.0 PORTAL

Sample forms for Wildlife Clearance (WLC) through PARIVESH 2.0 are given in **Annexure XIII**.



CHAPTER 6

Authorisation and Consent from State Pollution Control Boards and UT Pollution Control Committees (CTE & CTO)





6.1. AUTHORISATION AND CONSENT FROM STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARDS AND UT POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEES

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) was constituted in 1974 under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974 to prevent and control water pollution and maintain the wholesomeness of water. The CPCB is also entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. State Pollution Control Board (SPCB)/ UT Pollution Control Committee (UTPCC) is a statutory organisation established under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, which works under the supervision of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to implement the environmental laws and rules within the respective state for the protection of the environment. The SPCB /UTPCC are also entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. The concerned State Government /UT Administration shall constitute a State Board/UT Committee by notification in the Official Gazette.

Granting Consent under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, and Authorization under Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016, Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, and Bio-medical Waste Management Rules, 2016, are some of the important functions of the State PCBs and UTPCCs.

6.1.1. POLLUTION PREVENTION LEGISLATIONS ADMINSTRATED BY THE STATE PCBS AND UT POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEES (UTPCC)

- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977
- The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
- The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and EIA Notification, 2006
- The Manufacture, Storage & Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989
- The Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989
- The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991
- The Chemical Accidents (Emergency, Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996
- The Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000
- The Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001
- The National Green Tribunal Act, 2010
- The E-Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011
- The Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016
- The Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016

6.1.2. ROLE OF STATE PCBS AND UT POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEES (UTPCC) IN CONNECTION WITH O&G E&P ACTIVITIES

- Requirement of Consent to Establish (CTE) or Consent for Establishment (CFE) - Without CTE/CFE, no preparatory works can be started at the site
- Requirement of Consent to Operate (CTO) or Consent for Operations (CFO) - Mandatory before the start of drilling activities
- Requirement of Hazardous Waste Authorisation
- Organising Public Hearing for 'A' category EC within 45 days in coordination with the concerned DC/ DM/ Collector

6.1.3. POWERS VESTED TO THE STATE PCBs AND UTPCCs UNDER PROVISION OF THE WATER (PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION) ACT, 1974

Sections	Vested Power
Section 20	Power to obtain information
Section 21	Power to take samples of effluents for analysis
Section 23	Power of entry and inspection
Section 25	Power to impose restrictions on new outlets and new discharges
Section 27	Power to refuse or withdraw consent for the establishment of any industry
Section 30	Power to carry out certain works
Section 32	Power to carry out emergency measures in case of pollution of stream or well
Section 33	Power to make application to courts for restraining apprehended pollution of water in streams or wells
Section 33A	Power to give directions

Table 8: List of the powers vested to SPCBs & UTPCBs/ UTPCCs by the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

6.2. PROCESS OF TAKING CONSENT/AUTHORISATIONS (CTE/CTO) FROM THE STATE PCB (SPCB)/UT POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE (UTPCC)

Submit an online application for the required Consent for Establishment/Consent to Establish (CFE/CTE) and Consent for Operation/Consent to Operate (CFO/CTO) and Authorisations with the following documents (*the list may vary as per norms set by the respective SPCB/UTPCCs*):

- Google map of the project site with coordinates at the centre covering a 1 km radius
- Application processing fees for the period as applicable for the respective SPCB/UTPCC with necessary break-ups

- Project Report highlighting the total project cost
- Certificate from Chartered Accountant for the project - Total project cost to be certified by CA and Self Declaration or affidavit regarding project cost to be attached duly countersigned by Financing Bank/Institution, if applicable
- Land Documents/Lease Document with Jamabandi, Affidavit regarding submission of application regarding conversion of the land, etc., as per applicability –
 - Conversion of prime agricultural land to be avoided
 - The land acquired should be sufficiently large to provide space for the appropriate treatment of wastewater
 - The green belt area of 0.5 km wide around the battery limit of the industrial premise is to be provided, and it should be 1 Km if the industrial process has an odour problem
- Site plan showing the distance of the following (*NA if it is within the notified Industrial Estate*):
 - Nearest Residential area from the proposed site - Due certification required from the competent authority
 - Nearest State/National Highway from the site of the unit/project area
 - Nearest Lake/Pond/ River/Sea/Canal/Forest area and any water body
 - Nearest tourist places and places of historical importance
 - Nearest School, College, Temple, Mosque, etc.
- Layout plan showing the location of the:
 - Vents/Stacks/Chimney and emission points
 - Drainage and final disposal of liquid effluent
 - Solid waste collection/storage/disposal facility
 - Total available open land in the premises
 - Area demarcated for plantation.
- List of Partner/Directors (names along with residential address) and telephone number & e-mails
- NOC from Local body.
- Break-up of water uses and water balance chart
- Details of Process Flow Chart with Proposed Capacity indicating chemical uses
- List of Products/By-product with the quantity per month (MT/month) (**also to check whether it attracts Registration with CPCB for disposal*)
- Photograph of the site showing the entire area
- Photographs of Hazardous Waste Storage facilities
- Details of effluent Treatment Plant along with flow diagram
- Letter of membership of common effluent treatment plant (if applicable)
- Membership certificate of common TSDF/Common Incinerator (if applicable)
- List of Raw Material consumption plan indicating quantity per month (MT/month) (**also to check whether it attracts Registration with CPCB*)

- Details of Air Pollution Control Measures planned for flue gas and process emission, viz. Stack/ Chimney/ others
- Analysis report of treated and untreated effluent (Air, water and Hazardous solid waste for Schedule II category from Laboratory specified under HW Rules)
- Annual Environmental statement (Form-V)
- SSI Registration certificate, if enrolled under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) - Required, if desired to avail reduction in Fees for Hazardous Waste Authorization
- Compliance regarding Public Hearing/Environmental Clearance certificate, if applied for Consent to Operate/ Consent for Operation
- Copies of previous Consent order /Authorization order, if applicable
- Compliance with earlier authorisation in case of renewal.
- Properly filled out Form-I as per Hazardous Waste (M&H) amended Rules, 2003.
- Annual Report in Form-IV (in case of renewal application), with documents of disposal complying Generation, Stock and Disposal justifying stock (*Every Year by 31st January*)
- Form-V under Hazardous Waste Rules-1989 in case of accident.
- Form-VI & Form-VII in case of important Hazardous waste under Hazardous Waste Rules-1989
- Undertaking, in case of non-applicability of HW amended Rules, 2003
- Details of steps taken by the applicant for reduction and prevention of the waste generated or for recycling or reuse (*Copy of undertaking for the same*)
- Details of HW as per 2003 amended rules or for all categories with Quantity, for Generation, Collection, Storage, Treatment (*Details of Method*) and Disposal (*Details of Method*)
- Copy of Inter-State Transport NOC under Rule 7(6) in case of selling/ receiving HW to/ from a State other than the project area.
- Environmental Clearance Application Form, if Environmental Clearance is applicable (for CTE/CFE)
- Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) permission for drawl of groundwater, if applicable (required for CTO/CFO)

6.3. PROCESS FLOW FOR OBTAINING CTE/CTO FROM STATE PCBS/UT PCCS

The process for obtaining CTE/CTO differs from state to state, and UTs do not have a common flow chart. However, a flow chart showing the process flow of obtaining CTE/CTO in Assam is given as an example as follows:

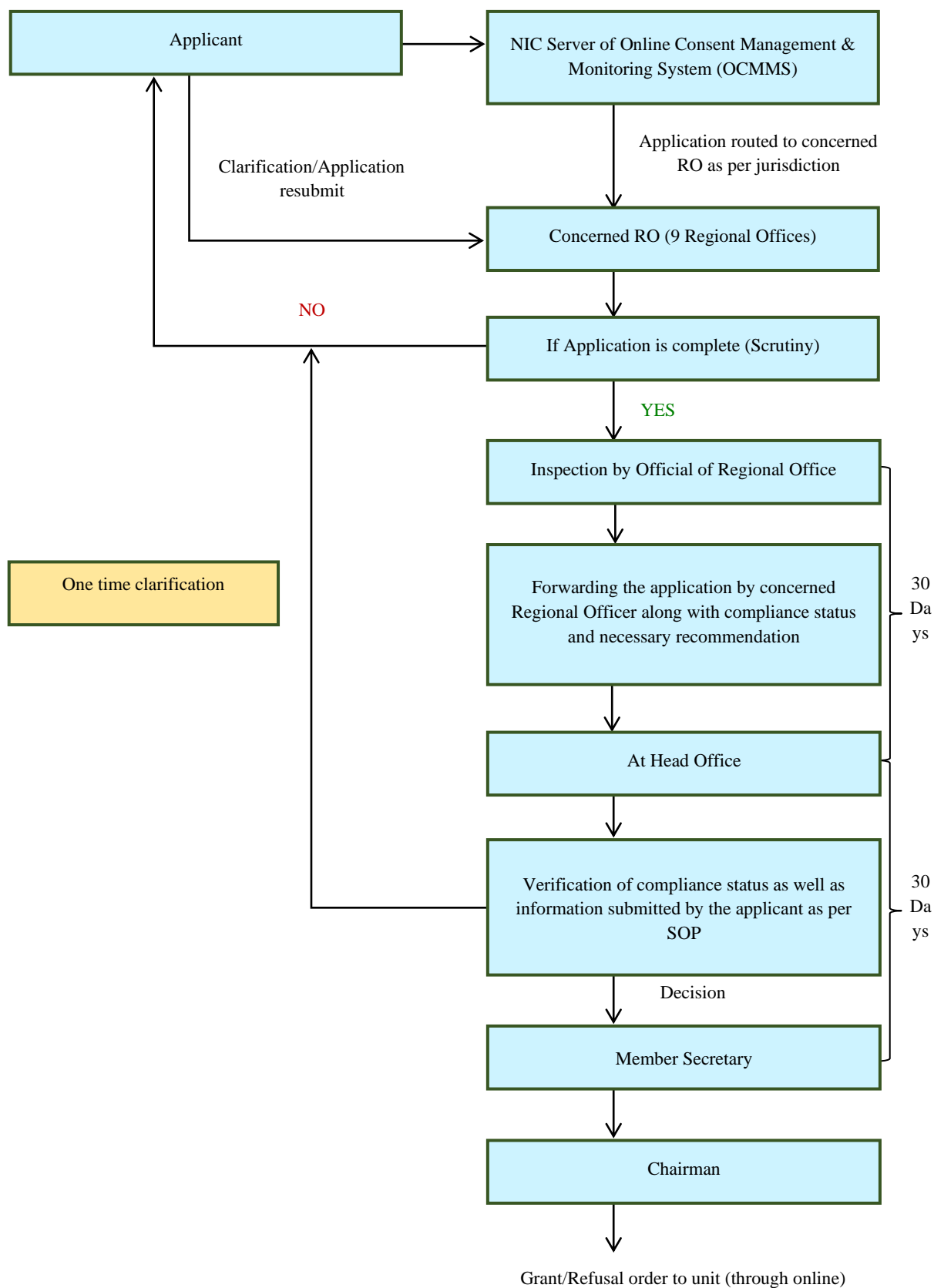


Fig 24: Sample process flowchart for obtaining CTE/CTO in Assam.

A few useful information related to the grant of consent/ authorisation by the State PCBs/UTPCCs (CTE/CTO) are given in **Annexure XIV**.

A few additional information on Oil & Gas E&P activities and their dependency on the District Administrators are given in **Annexure XV**.

A list of Government of India Acts and their Amendments, Rules, Regulations Notifications/Guidelines, Office Memorandums, and Supreme Court Judgments relevant to the clearance process in the O&G sector is given in **Annexure XVI**.



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Annexures





STANDARD TOR FOR CONDUCTING EIA STUDIES FOR O&G OFF-SHORE AND ON-SHORE E&P PROJECTS

A. STANDARD TOR FOR O&G OFF-SHORE E&P PROJECTS

1. Executive summary of the project.
2. No. of exploratory wells for which environmental clearance is accorded and No. of new wells proposed during expansion. Status and No. of the wells that are completed and closed.
3. Project Description and Project Benefits.
4. Cost of project and period of completion.
5. Employment to be generated.
6. Distance from coastline.
7. Details of sensitive areas such as coral reefs, marine water parks, sanctuaries and other co-sensitive areas.
8. Recommendation of SCZMA/CRZ clearance as per CRZ Notification dated 6th January 2011 (if applicable).
9. Details on support infrastructure and vessels in the study area.
10. Climatology and meteorology, including wind speed, wave and currents, rainfall, etc.
11. Details on establishing a baseline on the air quality of the areas immediately affected by the exploratory drilling, particularly concerning hydrogen sulphide, sulphur dioxide, NO_x, and background levels of hydrocarbons and VOCs.
12. Details on estimation and computation of air emissions (such as nitrogen oxides, sulphur oxides, carbon monoxide, hydrocarbon, VOCs, etc.) resulting from flaring, DG sets, combustion, etc., during all project phases.
13. Baseline data collection for surface water for one season, leaving the monsoon season, within 1 km for each exploratory well, particularly concerning oil content in the water and sediments samples.
14. Fisheries study w.r.t. benthos and marine organic material, and coastal fisheries.
15. Source of fresh water. Detailed water balance, wastewater generation and discharge.
16. Noise abatement measures and other measures to minimise disturbance due to light and visual intrusions in case the project site is closed to the coast.
17. Procedure for handling oily water discharges from deck washing, drainage systems, bilges, etc.
18. Procedure for preventing spills and spill contingency plans.
19. Procedure for treatment and disposal of produced water.
20. Procedure for sewage disposal, treatment, and kitchen waste disposal.
21. Details on solid waste management for drill cuttings, drilling mud and oil sludge, produced sand, radioactive materials, other hazardous materials, etc., including its handling and disposal options during all project phases.
22. Storage of chemicals on site.
23. Commitment to using water-based mud (WBW) and synthetic oil-based mud in special cases.

24. Details of blowout preventer Installation.
25. Risk assessment and mitigation measures, including whether any independent reviews of well design, construction and proper cementing and casing practices will be followed.
26. Handling of spent oils from well test operations.
27. H₂S emissions control plans, if required.
28. Details of all environment and safety-related documentation within the company in the form of guidelines, manuals, and monitoring programmes, including the Occupational Health Surveillance Programme.
29. Restoration plans and measures to decommission the rig and restore onshore support facilities on land.
30. Documentary proof for membership of common disposal facilities, if required.
31. Any litigation pending against the project or any directions/order passed by any Court of Law against the project. If so, details thereof.
32. Total capital and recurring cost for environmental pollution control measures.

B. STANDARD TOR FOR O&G ON-SHORE E&P PROJECTS

1. Executive summary of a project.
2. Project description, project objectives and project benefits.
3. Cost of project and period of completion.
4. Topography of the project site.
5. Site details within 1 km of each proposed well, habitation, other installation/activity, flora and fauna, approachability to the site, activities including agriculture/land, and satellite imagery for a 10 km area. All the geological details shall be mentioned in the 1:40000 scale topo-sheet, superimposing the well locations and other structures of the projects.
6. Details of sensitive areas such as National Park. Wildlife Sanctuary and any other eco-sensitive area, along with a map indicating distance.
7. Approval for the forest land from the State/Central Govt. under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, if applicable.
8. Recommendation of SCZMA/CRZ clearance as per CRZ Notification dated 6th January 2011 (if applicable).
9. Distance from nearby critically/severally polluted areas as per Notification dated 6th January 2011 (if applicable).
10. Does the proposal involve rehabilitation and resettlement? If yes, details thereof.
11. Environmental considerations in selecting the drilling locations for which environmental clearance is being sought. Present any analysis suggested for minimising the footprint, giving details of drilling and development options considered.
12. Baseline data collection for air, water and soil for one season, leaving the monsoon season in an area of 10 km radius with the centre of the Oil Field as its centre covering the area of all proposed drilling wells.
13. Climatology and Meteorology, including wind speed, wind direction, temperature, rainfall, relative humidity, etc.
14. Soil sample analysis (physical and chemical properties) at the areas located at 5 locations.

15. Details of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring at 8 locations for PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀, and SO₂. NO_x, CO, VOCs, Methane and Non-methane HC.
16. Ground and surface water quality in the vicinity of the proposed wells site.
17. Measurement of noise levels within a 1 km radius of the proposed wells.
18. Vegetation and land use; flora/fauna in the block area with details of endangered species, if any.
19. Incremental GLC due to DG set operation, flaring, etc.
20. Potential environmental impact envisaged during various stages of project activities such as site activation, development, operation/maintenance and discharge.
21. Actual water source and 'Permission' for the drawl of water from the Competent Authority. Detailed water balance, wastewater generation and discharge.
22. Noise abatement measures and measures to minimise disturbance due to light and visual intrusions.
23. Details on wastewater generation, treatment and utilisation/discharge for produced water/formation water, cooling waters, other wastewater, etc., during all project phases.
24. Details on solid waste management for drill cuttings, drilling mud and oil sludge, produced sand, radioactive materials, other hazardous materials, etc., including disposal options during all project phases.
25. Disposal of spent oil and lube.
26. Storage of chemicals and diesel at the site. Hazardous material usage, storage and accounting.
27. Commitment to the use of water-based mud (WBM) only.
28. Oil spill emergency plans for recovery/reclamation.
29. H₂S emission control.
30. Produced oil/gas handling, processing and storage/transportation.
31. Details of air, water and noise pollution control during the production phase.
32. Measures to protect groundwater and shallow aquifers from contamination.
33. Whether any burn pits are being utilised for well test operation.
34. Risk assessment and disaster management plan for independent reviews of well-designed construction, etc., to prevent blowouts. Blowout preventer installation.
35. Environmental management plan.
36. Total capital and recurring cost for environmental control measures.
37. Emergency preparedness plan.
38. Decommissioning and restoration plan.
39. Documentary proof of membership of common disposal facilities, if any.
40. Details of environmental and safety-related documentation within the company, including documentation and proposed occupational health and safety Surveillance Safety Programme for all personnel at the site. This shall also include a monitoring programme for the environment.
41. A copy of the company's Corporate Environment Policy as per the Ministry's O.M. No. J-11013/ 41/2006-IA. II(I) dated 26th April 2011, available on the Ministry's website.
42. Any litigation pending against the project and/or any direction/order passed by any court of law against the project. If so, details thereof.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY AND REPORT PREPARATION

1. TEN COMMANDMENTS OF A GOOD EIA

- Purposive - *meeting its aims and objectives*
- Focused - *concentrating on the impacts that matter*
- Rigorous - *employing 'best practicable' methodology*
- Practical - *establishing mitigation measures that work*
- Credible - *carried out with objectivity and professionalism*
- Participative - *addresses concerns of the public and stakeholders*
- Defensible - *impacts and risks are supported by facts and valid proofs*
- Efficient - *imposing the least cost burden on proponents*
- Transparent - *clear and easily understood*
- Adaptive - *responding to issues and realities*

2. ATTRIBUTES OF A GOOD EIA REPORT

- Table of contents
- Summary
- Baseline environment
- Includes a complete description of the development proposals
- Makes effective use of maps, photographs and graphics to support the text
- Uses consistent terminology with a glossary
- Has a clear explanation of complex issues
- Contains methodology used for studying each environmental topic
- Covers each environmental topic in a way that is proportionate to its importance
- Provides evidence of good consultations
- Includes a clear discussion of alternatives
- Commits to mitigation and monitoring
- Concise, comprehensive and objective
- Written impartially without bias
- References

3. APPENDICES OF AN EIA REPORT

- Terms of Reference
- Reports of specialised studies
- Consulting team composition
- QCI Accreditation Certificate

4. THE EIA INVOLVES BASELINE STUDY OF THE FOLLOWING PARAMETERS

- Land Use (LU)

- Air Pollution Prevention and Control (AP)
- Air Quality Modelling (AQ)
- Water Pollution Prevention and Control (WP)
- Ecology and Biodiversity (EB)
- Noise and Vibration (NV)
- Socio Economic (SE)
- Hydrology and Hydrogeology (HG)
- Geology (Geo)
- Soil Conservation (SC) Risk and Hazards (RH)
- Solid and Hazardous Wastes (SHW- SW, HW and BMW)

5. GENERIC STRUCTURE OF AN EIA REPORT

SL. NO	CHAPTERS	CONTENTS
1	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose of the report • Identification of project & project proponent • Brief description of nature, size, location of the project and its importance to the country, region • Scope of the study – details of regulatory scoping carried out (As per Terms of Reference)
2	Project Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Condensed description of those aspects of the project (based on project feasibility study) likely to cause environmental effects. • Details should be provided to give a clear picture of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Type of project ➢ Need for the project ➢ Location (maps showing general location, specific location, project boundary & project site layout) ➢ Size or magnitude of operation (incl. Associated activities required by or for the project) ➢ Proposed schedule for approval and implementation ➢ Technology and process description ➢ Project description, including drawings showing the project layout, components of the project, etc. Schematic representations of the feasibility drawings which give information important for EIA purpose ➢ Description of mitigation measures incorporated into the project to meet environmental standards, environmental operating conditions, or other EIA requirements (as required by the scope) ➢ Assessment of New & untested technology for the risk of technological failure
3	Description of the Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study area, period, components & methodology • Establishment of baseline for valued environmental components, as identified in the scope • Base maps of all environmental components
4	Anticipated Environmental Impacts & Mitigation Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of Investigated Environmental impacts due to project location, possible accidents, project design, project construction, regular operations, final decommissioning or rehabilitation of a completed project • Measures for minimising and/or offsetting adverse impacts identified • Irreversible and Irretrievable commitments of environmental components • Assessment of significance of impacts (Criteria for determining significance, Assigning significance) Mitigation measures
5	Analysis of Alternatives (Technology & Site)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In case the scoping exercise results in the need for alternatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Description of each alternative ➢ Summary of adverse impacts of each alternative ➢ Mitigation measures proposed for each alternative and ➢ Selection of alternative

6	Environmental Monitoring Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical aspects of monitoring the effectiveness of mitigation measures (incl. Measurement methodologies, frequency, location, data analysis, reporting schedules, emergency procedures, detailed budget & procurement schedules)
7	Additional Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Consultation • Risk assessment • Social Impact Assessment. R&R Action Plans
8	Project Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements in the physical infrastructure • Improvements in the social infrastructure • Employment potential –skilled; semi-skilled and unskilled • Other tangible benefits
9	Environmental Cost Benefit Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If recommended at the Scoping stage
10	EMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of the administrative aspects of ensuring that mitigative measures are implemented and their effectiveness monitored after approval of the EIA
11	Summary & Conclusion (This will constitute the summary of the EIA Report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall justification for implementation of the project • Explanation of how adverse effects have been mitigated
12	Disclosure of Consultants engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The names of the Consultants engaged with their brief resume and the nature of the Consultancy rendered.

6. CONTENTS FOR THE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE EIA REPORT

- Project Description
- Description of the Environment
- Anticipated Environmental impacts and mitigation measures
- Environmental Monitoring Programme
- Additional Studies
- Project Benefits
- Environment Management Plan
- Executive Summary for the EIA Report

7. EIA REPORT TO HIGHLIGHT FOLLOWINGS

- Risk Assessment for the Project
- Wildlife Management Plan for conservation of Schedule-I species under purview of WP Act, 1972
- Traffic & Transportation surveys
- Socio-Economic Survey
- Green Belt Development Plan in 33% of the total project area: With tree density @ 2,500 Indigenous species trees per hectare and non-indigenous / alien species to be replaced with native species. The plan should have at least 20 varieties of species with the planting of saplings of a minimum of 4-6 feet in height
- Land Subsidence Study
- Bio-Diversity Study
- Oil spillage prevention and mitigation scheme
- Contingency plan for H₂S release

- Plan for Disposal of produced formation water
- Product Evacuation Plan
- Site Restoration plan with plugging of well during the abandonment of the site
- Fire Safety Arrangements
- Coastal & Marine Biodiversity for Offshore Projects: Conservation measures to protect the marine animals/biota
- Water Balancing Chart with total freshwater consumption not exceeding 25 cubic metres per day and indicating the source of water
- To declare in the EIA Report that Solid waste, drill cutting and drilling fluids disposal for onshore drilling operations will be as per guideline GSR. 546(E) dated 30th August, 2005
- Arrangements of housing for construction labour with infrastructure and facilities like- fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, Safe drinking water, medical health care, crèche, etc.
- Details of Environmental Management Cell and laboratory facilities to perform environmental management and monitoring functions.
- Environment Management Plan with allocation of adequate funds for both recurring and non-recurring expenditures along with the implementation schedule during the project life cycle
- Preparation of Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) in consultation with DC/DM with a timeline for implementation in accordance with MoEF&CC's OMs dtd 30.09.2020 & 20.10.2020
- Plan for Trapping/Storing the CO₂ generated during the process and handling
- Plan for Zero Liquid Discharge
- Commitment to the installation of Infrared Camera to detect fugitive emissions of methane
- Commitment for making approach road *pucca*
- Status of Membership of common TSDF to be obtained for the disposal of drill cuttings and hazardous waste - Else create a secured landfill at the site as approved by the CPCB and obtain the authorisation of the SPCB- Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008 [Disposal of drill cuttings (800-1200 tons/well)/ Disposal of unusable drilling fluids (500-700 tons /well)]
- Declaring total freshwater requirement and source of Water- Not to exceed 25 cubic metres per day and furnishing Water Balancing Flow Chart
- ETP coupled with RO to be installed to treat effluent water and reuse them
- Installation of Mobile STP at the site
- Commitment to the preparation of an operating manual concerning all activities, which would cover all safety & environment-related issues and measures to be taken for protection.

8. POTENTIAL DATA SOURCES FOR EIA STUDIES

- Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi - Inventory of monuments and sites of national importance.
- Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata - Photo diversity documentation of flora at national, state, and district levels and flora of protected areas, hotspots, fragile ecosystems, sacred groves, etc.
- Bureau of Indian Standards, New Delhi - Bureau of Indian Standards Committees on Earthquake Engineering and Wind Engineering have a Seismic Zoning Map and a Wind Velocity Map, including cyclonic winds for the country.
- Central Water Commission (CWC), New Delhi - Hydrological, Hydro-meteorological, Sediment and Water Quality data.
- Central Ground Water Board, Faridabad [ROs- Guwahati, Chandigarh, Ahmedabad, Trivandrum, Kolkata, Bhopal, Lucknow, Bangalore, Nagpur, Jammu, Bhubneshwar, Raipur, Jaipur, Chennai, Hyderabad, Patna] - Surveys, exploration, monitoring of groundwater development.
- Central Pollution Control Board, New Delhi - National Air Quality Monitoring Programme/ National River Water Quality Monitoring Programme- Global Environment Monitoring, MINARS/ Zoning Atlas Programme/ Information on 17 polluting category industries (inventory, category-wise distribution, compliance, implementation of pollution control programmes.
- Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur - AGRIS database on all aspects of agriculture from 1975 to date.
- Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore - Ecology and fisheries of major river systems of India.
- Central Institute of Brackish Water Aquaculture, Chennai - Repository of information on brackish water fishery resources with a systematic database of coastal fishery resources for ARIS.
- Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Cochin - Exploited and un-exploited fish stocks in Indian EEZ.
- Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune - Numerical and Physical models for hydrodynamic simulations.
- Central Institute of Road Transport, Pune - Road transport parameters.
- Department of Ocean Development - Assessment of environment parameters and marine living resources (primary and secondary) in Indian EEZ (Nodal Agency NIO Kochi).
- Environment Protection Training and Research Institute, Hyderabad - Environment Information Centre.
- Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun - National Forest Vegetation Map
- Geological Survey of India, Kolkata - Lineament and geomorphological map of India on 1:20,000 scale.

- Indian Council of Agriculture, Research, New Delhi- Detailed soil maps of the Country (1:7 million), State (1:250,000) and district map (1:50,000) depicting the extent of degradation (1:4.4 million) have been prepared.
- Indian Bureau of Mines, Nagpur - Mining and mineral beneficiation operations.
- Indian Meteorology Department, Pune - Meteorological data.
- INTACH, New Delhi- Heritage sites identified by municipalities and local bodies (excluding the sites and buildings under the purview of the Archaeological Survey of India and the State Departments of Archaeology).
- Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, Lucknow - health survey on occupational diseases in industrial workers, air and water quality monitoring studies, ecotoxicological impact assessment, toxicity of chemicals, human health risk assessment.
- Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal - Consultancy and research on joint forest management.
- Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun - Fuel quality characterisation and Emission Factor.
- Mumbai Metropolitan Regional Development Authority - Mumbai Urban Transport, Rehabilitation Projects.
- Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai - Air Quality Data for Mumbai Municipal Area.
- Ministry of Urban Development Disaster Mitigation and Vulnerability Atlas of India - Details on Hazard prone areas.
- Natural Disaster Management Division in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation - Weekly situation reports on recent disasters, reports on droughts, floods, cyclones and earthquakes.
- National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning, Nagpur - Research in weathering and soil formation, soil morphology, soil mineralogy, physicochemical characterisation, pedogenesis, and landscape climate-soil relationship.
- National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai - Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management.
- National Institute of Oceanography, Goa - Monitoring coastal waters for physicochemical and biological parameters.
- National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow - Heavy metal accumulation potential of aquatic plants, which is supposedly useful as an indicator of heavy metal pollution in water bodies and capable of reducing the toxic metals from water bodies.
- National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad - Exploration, assessment and management of groundwater resources, including modelling and pollution studies.
- National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur - National Air Quality Monitoring (NAQM) for CPCB.
- National Hydrology Institute, Roorkee - Basin studies, hydro-meteorological network improvement, hydrological yearbook, hydrological modelling, regional flood

formulae, reservoir sedimentation studies, environmental hydrology, watershed development studies, tank studies, and drought studies.

- National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi - Urban Statistics.
- National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad - Epidemiological studies and surveillance of hazardous occupations, including air pollution, noise pollution, agricultural hazards, industrial hazards in organised sectors as well as small-scale industries, carcinogenesis, pesticide toxicology, etc.
- NRSA Data Centre, Department of Space, Hyderabad - Satellite data products (raw data, partially processed (radiometrically corrected but geometrically uncorrected), standard data (radiometrically and geometrically corrected), geocoded data (1:50,000 and 1:25,000 scale), special data products like mosaiced, merged and extracted) available on photographic (B/W and FCC in form of film of 240 mm × 240 mm or enlargements/paper prints in scale varying between 1:1M and 1:12,500 and size varying between 240 mm and 1000 mm) and digital media (CD-ROMs, 8 mm tapes).
- Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM) of the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment - Database for groundwater using remote sensing technology.
- Space Application Centre, Value Added Services Cell (VASC) Remote Sensing Application Area, Ahmedabad - National Natural Resource Information System and Land use mapping for coastal regulation zone (construction setback line) up to 1:12,500 scale.
- Survey of India - Topographical surveys on 1:250,000 scales, 1:50,000 and 1:25,000 scales.
- Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun - National Wildlife Database.
- Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata - Listing of endemic species and faunal resources.
- Town and Country Planning Organisations.
- State Pollution Control Boards/ UT Pollution Committees.
- State Ground Water Boards.
- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

9. CHOICE OF MODELS FOR IMPACT PREDICTION

9.1. AIR ENVIRONMENT

- ISCST 3 Model
- AERMOD with AERMET Model
- PTMAX Model
- PTDIS Model
- MPTER Model
- CTDM PLUS (Complex Terrain Dispersion Model)
- UAM (Urban Airshed Model)
- RAM (Rural Airshed Model)

- CRESTER Model
- OCD (Offshore and coastal Dispersion Model)
- FDM (Fugitive Dust Model)
- RTDM (Rough Terrain Diffusion Model)
- CDM (Climatologically Dispersion Model)
- PLUVUE-II (Plume Visibility Model)
- MESO-PUFF II (Meso scale Puff Model)

9.2. SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS

- Extrapolative Methods
- Intuitive Forecasting (Delphi techniques)
- Trend extrapolation and correlation
- Metaphors and analogies
- Scenarios
- Dynamic modelling (Input- Out model)
- Normative Methods

10. CHOICE OF MODELS FOR IMPACT MODELLING

10.1. WATER ENVIRONMENT

- QUAL-II E
- DOSAG-3, USEPA: (1-D)
- Explore-I, USEPA
- HSPE, USEPA
- RECEIVE-II, USEPA
- Stanford watershed model
- Hydrocomp model
- Stormwater Management Model (SWMM)
- Battelle Reservoir model
- TIDEP (Turbulent diffusion temperature model reservoirs)
- BIOLAKE
- Estuary models/ estuarial Dynamic model
- Dynamic Water Quality Model
- HEC -2
- SMS
- RMA2
- RMA4
- SED2D-WES
- HIVEL2D
- MIKE-II, DHI

10.2. NOISE ENVIRONMENT

- FHWA (Federal Highway Administration)
- Dhvani
- Hemispherical sound wave propagation air port

10.3. LAND ENVIRONMENT

- Digital Analysis Techniques
- Ranking analysis for soil suitability criteria

10.4. BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT (FLORA)

- Sample plot methods
- Transects & line intercepts methods
- Quadrat sampling methods
- Plot-less sampling methods

10.5. BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT (FAUNA)

- Species list methods
- Direct Contact Methods
- Count indices methods (Roadside and aerial count methods)
- Removal methods
- Market capture methods

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PUBLIC CONSULTANCY

- Under the provision of Clause 7(ii) of EIA Notification, 2006, EAC has been empowered to exempt Public Hearings depending upon the merit of the Proposal. Such is applicable for all cases, viz. expansion, modernisation or change of product mix in existing projects, increase in the production capacity beyond the capacity for which prior environment clearance has been granted or with increase in either lease area or production capacity in the case of mining projects or for the modernisation of an existing unit with increase in the total production capacity beyond the threshold limit prescribed in the Schedule to the EIA Notification through change in process and or technology or involving a change in the product mix, etc.
- Public Hearings are Exempted for Following Cases:
 - All projects or activities located within industrial estates or parks approved by the concerned authorities and which are not disallowed in such approvals (OM No. J-11013/36/2014-IA-I dtd. 16.05.2014)
 - All Category B2 Projects
 - All projects/ activities concerning national defence and security or other strategic considerations as determined by the Central Government.
 - All linear projects, such as highways, pipelines, etc., in border states
 - Modernisation and Expansion of Irrigation projects
 - Construction projects
 - Offshore projects beyond 12 nautical miles
- PH proceedings to be signed jointly by DM/ADM and PCB Officials
- Display of PH Proceedings on the website of the Company and other Govt. offices
- Incorporation of public concerns in Final EIA report before submission of Part-C of Common Application Form for grant of EC
- Action Plan for Implementation of the issues raised during the Public Hearing to be incorporated in the Final EIA report with timeline and budget allocation
- Translation of PH Proceedings in local Languages is a must
- The District Magistrate/ District Collector/ Deputy Commissioner or his or her representative not below the rank of SDO/SDMs assisted by a representative of SPCB or UTPCC shall supervise and preside over the entire public hearing process- But if it involves more than one Tehsil, this has to be Chaired by Officer not below the rank of ADM/ADC
- The SPCB or UTPCC shall arrange to film the entire proceedings. A copy of the videotape or a CD shall be enclosed with the public hearing proceedings while forwarding it to the Regulatory Authority concerned.
- SPCB or UTPCC concerned shall send the public hearing proceedings to the concerned regulatory authority within 8 (eight) days of the completion of the public hearing.

Simultaneously, a copy will also be provided to the project proponent. The applicant may also directly forward a copy of the approved public hearing proceedings to the regulatory authority concerned along with the final Environmental Impact Assessment report or supplementary report to the draft EIA report prepared after the public hearing and public consultations incorporating the concerns expressed in the public hearing along with action plan and financial allocation, item wise, to address these concerns.

- If the SPCB or UTPCC fails to hold the public hearing within the stipulated 45 (forty-five) days, the Central Government in the Ministry of Environment and Forests for Category 'A' project or activity and the State Government or Union Territory Administration for Category 'B' project or activity at the request of the SEIAA, shall engage any other agency or authority to complete the process, as per procedure laid down in this Notification.

PPT FORMAT PRESCRIBED BY MoEF&CC FOR PRESENTATION BEFORE EAC
(INDUSTRY-2) FOR GRANT OF EC

SLIDE - 1

Agenda No:

Name of the Project (Including Company's Name):

- Date of Application Submission
- ADS, if any, including the date of reply
- Date of Acceptance
- New Project/Expansion Project
- Product Mix or Change in Technology
- Existing & Proposed Capacity
- Forest Area/Wildlife/ESZ if any
- **Name of EIA Coordinator**
- **CONSULTANT:**
 - Name
 - NABET Registration No. and Validity
- Date of Public Hearing (P.H.) Conducted
- Level of Officer conducted P.H.
- Status of Forest Clearance (FC)
- Applicability of Coastal Regulatory Zone (CRZ), if any
- Whether located in a Critically Polluted Area (CPA).
- Certified Compliance Report submission

SLIDE - 2

- Details of Earlier ECs with Past Productions Details
- Details of Earlier CTOs with Past Productions Details
- Details of Certified Compliance of Earlier EC/CTO

SLIDE - 3

Introduction of The Project

- Brief Description of the project
- Plot area
- Estimated Project Cost
- EMP Cost
- CER Cost
- Manpower
- Land use change required
- Sources of Air (+Noise) Pollution
- Details of Environment Officers with qualifications

SLIDE - 4

Introduction of The Project

- Water consumption/day
- Source of water
- Permission from CGWA or any other agency
- Wastewater generated/day
- Treatment facility with capacity and current operational capacity
- Mode of discharge
- Energy consumption
- Kind of fuel used
- Quantity of fuel used

SLIDE - 5

Map showing the Location of the Project and Connectivity Water consumption/day

<u>SLIDE - 6</u>
Topographical Map
<u>SLIDE - 7</u>
Project Site to be shown on Google Earth/DSS through KML/SHP File
<u>SLIDE - 8</u>
Engineering layout of the Project site
<u>SLIDE - 9</u>
<p align="center"><u>Baseline Environment Details</u></p> <p align="center">1. Air Quality (<i>To attach a copy of NABL or MoEF&CC approval</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Period of monitoring • Table of Parameters Monitored as per TOR, including Noise. • Comparison of AQM data from Upstream & downstream Station. • Minimum detectable Limit of various methods. • Prediction of max. GLC (DG sets & from other sources) • Incremental Pollution load. • Wind Rose / Impact • Location-specific Wind Rose to be given based on which AQM station is set up. • Map of AQM Station to be given superimposed with respective monitored values + wind rose on one corner of the map. • Impact of dust, smoke, gas, fumes & odour
<u>SLIDE - 10</u>
<p align="center"><u>Baseline Environment Details</u></p> <p align="center">2. Water (<i>Surface + Ground</i>) Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date of monitoring • Table of Parameters • Monitored as per TOR/CPCB • Comparison of data from Upstream & downstream sampling Station • Incremental pollution Load from wastewater generation. • Sampling Location Map • Map of sampling area with specific location of collection. Superimposed with respective monitored value. • Attach a copy of NABL or MOEF approval. • Freshwater reduction due to recycling/reuse of wastewater.
<u>SLIDE - 11</u>
<p align="center"><u>Baseline Environment Details</u></p> <p align="center">3. Soil & Biological Environment</p> <p><u>Soil</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location Map of Sampling points • Sampling result • To describe the quality of soil as per the standard (IARC) method <p><u>Biological</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A map of the study area to be attached. • Biodiversity index with its interpretation to be given
<u>SLIDE - 12</u>
<p align="center"><u>Baseline Environment Details</u></p> <p align="center">4. Socio-Economic Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas visited & date • Report on the collection of Primary & Secondary Data • Identification of social requirements based on interviews & discussions with the residents of the area <p><u>Social Action Plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of social action plan • Time frame for completion • Estimated budget to be spent year-wise

SLIDE - 13**Baseline Environment Details**
5. Risk Studies and Disaster Management**Hazardous Substances**

- List hazardous substances and the quantity stored.
- Assumptions and Worst-case scenario.
- Risk assessment done using 3-D (CFD) Capable Software.

Biological

- Prevailing Risk from existing facilities
- Perceived risk from the proposed facilities.
- Societal Risk
- Cumulative risk
- Details of Onsite mitigation measures/DMP

SLIDE - 14

Details of National Park/ Sanctuary/ Forest Land/ Schedule-I Species/ ESZ Notification/ No Development Zone (*If any*)

SLIDE - 15

Process Flow Chart

SLIDE - 16

- Water Requirement and its approval status
- Water Balance

SLIDE - 17

Waste Water Treatment Technology/ Details of ZLD Details of STP and how treated water is reused

SLIDE - 18

Product-wise Raw Material Consumption

SLIDE - 19

Details of the Green Belt Development Plan

SLIDE - 20

Transportation Plan - Study as per IRC Guidelines

SLIDE - 21

Budget for CER as per Ministry's Circular along with Activities and its timelines for commitments

SLIDE - 22**Environment Management Plan**

Shall cover details on the following pollution control measures linked with baseline studies, raw materials and products with involved risk:

- Air Pollution Control measures, including devices proposed with capacities & cost.
- Water and Waste Water treatment and disposal, if any
- Solid Waste / Sludge Disposal, if any.
- % reduction due to proposed devices
- Details of Environment Personnel (Environment Engineers and Environment Scientists) posted in the Environment Management Cell.

SLIDE - 23**TOR-wise Compliance Presentation**

- TOR Point 1:
- TOR Point 2:, etc.

SLIDE - 24**Hazardous Waste Management and Disposal**

- List of hazardous waste generation and quantity
- Disposal - In-house or CHWTDF
- Agreement for hazardous waste management and disposal

SLIDE - 25**Public Consultation**

- Public consultation for this project was conducted on at A.M. at, which was presided over by the and attended by officers of
- The public hearing was attended by
- Requisite publicity through local newspapers/media, i.e. Dated was given 30 days in advance of the date.
- The project proponent has committed to fulfilling the environmental and social responsibility for the development of communities of nearby villages.

SLIDE - 26**Public Hearing Minutes, its Action Plan with Budget, Timeline**

Sl. No	Issues raised by the Public	Points Represented by the Public	Response/ Commitment of Project Proponents along with budget and timelines
1	Mr./Ms. X		
2	Mr./Ms. Y		
3	Mr./Ms. Z		

SLIDE - 27

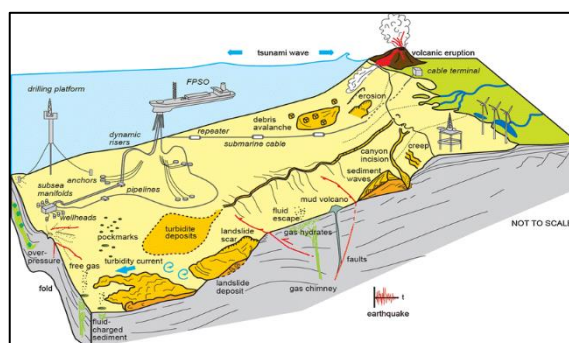
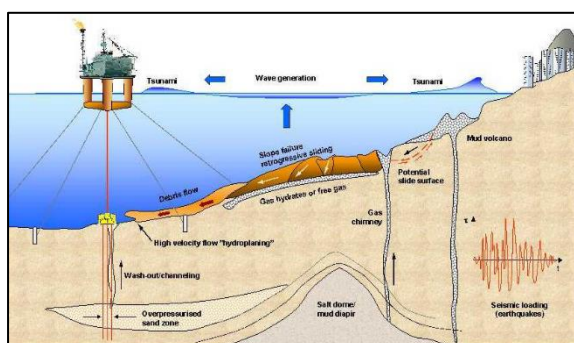
Public Consultation/ Hearing Photographs

NOTE: Videography of Public Consultation/ Hearing may have to be shown on demand during EAC meeting for Grant of EC

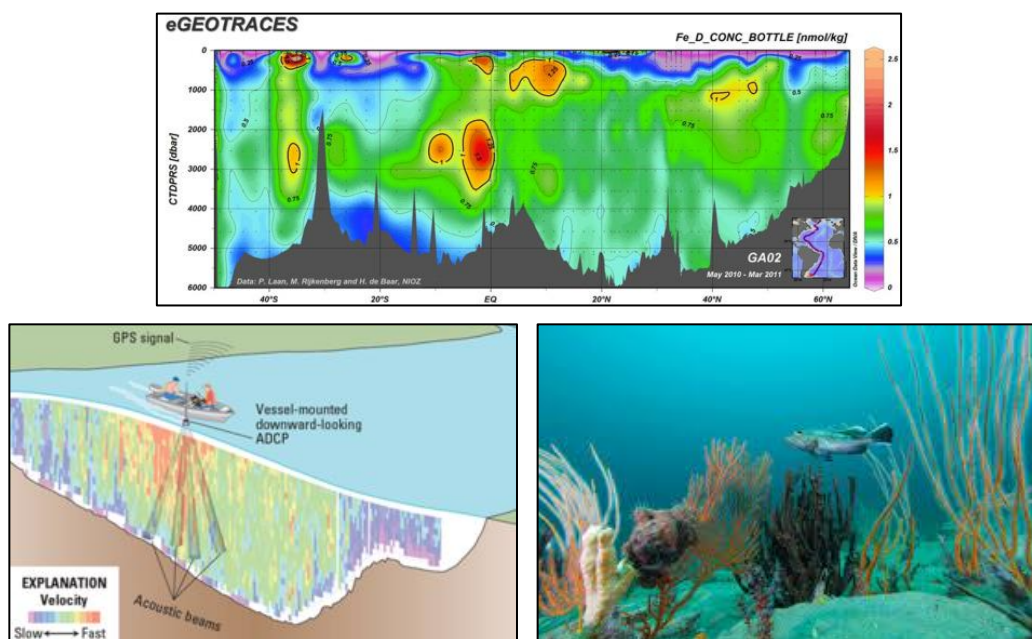
OFFSHORE O&G E&P ACTIVITY RELATED FEW USEFUL INFORMATION



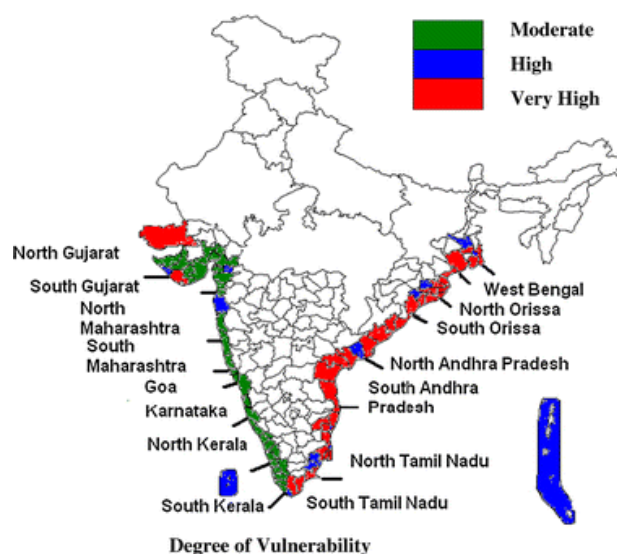
- The coastal Land up to 500 m from the High Tide Line (HTL) and a stage of 100 m along banks of Creeks, Estuaries, Backwaters and Rivers subject to Tidal Fluctuations is called the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ).
- CRZ Clearance is required for projects within 12 Nautical Miles under the purview of CRZ Notification, 2011 and IPZ Notification, 2011.
- ***Geohazard & Geotechnical Studies to be undertaken for Offshore Blocks***
 - Wellsite drilling geohazard assessment and geo-pressure prediction.
 - Marine slope stability analysis, including probabilistic modelling using GIS-based analytic tools.
 - Geohazard core logging and geological mapping.
 - Identification, evaluation, analysis, modelling and mitigation of marine geohazards.



- Subsidence Study must be conducted for Baseline data for KG Block in Andhra Pradesh/others - IIT, Banaras or ISM, Dhanbad preferred.
- ***Bathymetric Survey to be undertaken for Offshore Blocks:***
 - Measurement of the depth of a water body as well as mapping of the underwater features of the sea/ocean.

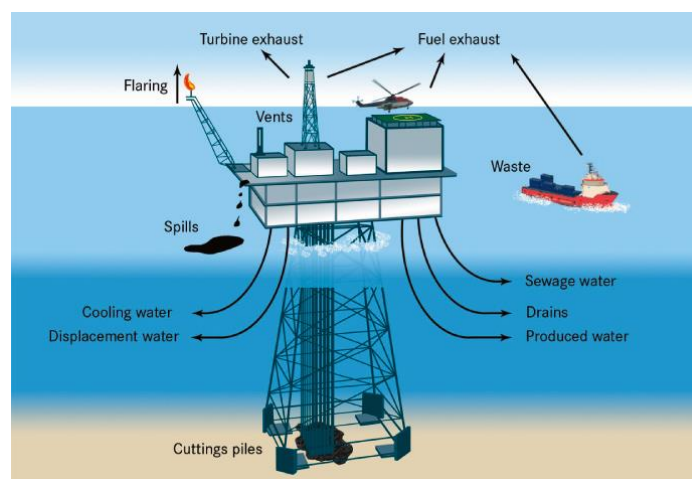


- Find out about the Cyclone Prone area of the Project location In the Indian Disaster Map and plan preventive measures.



- Consent for Establishment (CFE)/ Consent for Operation (CFO)/ Hazardous Waste Authorisation must be obtained from Andhra Pradesh State PCB for locations falling within 4.8 km from shore.
- Collect eco-sensitive zone map from local DFO, which is required for oil spill response planning and obtaining CRZ clearance.
- Coast Guard amended National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOS-DCP) guidelines of 2015 vide notification dtd 19th December 2018 (Nodal Agency for Oil Spill Management) - Oil Spill Response Equipment Inventory Increased by Three folds in 2018 for each Category of Risks -Super-A/ A/ B & C as compared to those stipulated in NOS-DCP of 2015.

- Annex-IV of MARPOL 73/78 Regulation, Resolutions: MEPC.157(55)/ MEPC.200(62)/ MEPC.227(64)/ MEPC.275 (69) should be available with the Offshore crew.
- Discharge of Drill Cutting (DC) and Drill fluid (DF) - only 50 bbl/hr is permissible as per GSR 546(E) dtd 30.08.2005.
- To report marine Pollution incidents - Indian Coast Guard (Nodal Agency for Oil Spill Management)/ Port Authorities (Implements Crisis Management Plan (CMP) for the Port considering the gravity of pollution incident)/ Mercantile Marine Department office of Maritime State/UT Board (under Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways (Department of Shipping), Mercantile Marine Dept, GoI).



- **Regulatory Framework concerning Offshore Installation under the purview of “The Petroleum & Natural Gas (safety in Offshore Operations) Rules. 2008” framed under the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948:**
 - Intimation concerning offshore installation at commencement and cessation of operations in Form-1 (Rule 9).
 - Design Intimation for fixed offshore installation (Schedule I) - Rule 13.
 - Consent to operate for new fixed offshore installation (Schedule II) - Rule 14.
 - The competent authority shall, within 60 days of the receipt of the application for consent, convey its consent or require the operator to take specific actions and submit a revised application for consent.
 - The competent authority shall convey its consent within 30 days of **receiving the revised application** for consent.
 - If the operator fails to submit the revised application as referred to rule, the application for consent **shall be deemed rejected**.
 - Consent to operate for existing fixed offshore installation (Schedule III) - Rule 15.
 - Consent to operate for mobile offshore installation (Schedule IV) - Rule 16.
 - The competent authority shall, within 15 days of the receipt of the application for consent, convey its consent or require the operator to take specific actions and submit a revised application for consent.

- The competent authority shall convey its consent within 15 days of **receiving the revised application** for consent.
 - If the operator fails to submit the revised application as referred to rule, the application for consent shall be deemed rejected.
- Consent to operate for already operating mobile offshore installation (Schedule V) - Rule 17.
- For removal of abandoned or disused offshore installation in accordance with International Maritime Organization (IMO) 1989 guidelines on decommissioning, a Decommissioning Plan has to be approved by OISD (Rule 12) by furnishing details of risk during and following a possible removal/ methods intended to be used for removal/ operations planned to be carried out in the event of a possible removal/ consequences of a possible removal in respect of adjacent fields and facilities/ measures to secure the area against possible future pollution.
- * Requires complete removal of all structures in water less than 100m, and substructures weighing less than 4,000 tons/ partially removed in deeper waters, leaving a minimum of 55m clear water for the safety of navigation/ All structures installed after January 1, 1998, must be designed to be removed entirely.*
- **Though not Mandatory, it is better to train the Offshore Team personnel on the following:**
 - **BOSIET Certificate course** (Basic Offshore Safety Induction Emergency Training) having a validity of 4 years: It consists of training on Helicopter survival, Emergency first aid, Sea Survival, Firefighting, Self-rescue and TEMPS(C) (Totally Enclosed Motor Propelled Survival Craft/Capsule) like- fixed Offshore Oil & Gas Production Platform floating installations (Floating Production Storage and Offloading), TLP (Tension Leg Platform), SPAR, MODU (Movable Offshore Drilling Units) and drilling ships, etc. (course of 3-5 days approx. costs Rs 40,000/- per pax).
 - **IMO Certified Oil Spill Response Personnel of Level-I & Level-II:** Level-I personnel are those who are supposed to handle the incidents directly, and Level-II is the next category of personnel. There is also a Level III course for the higher category.
- **Few of the Regulatory Officials/ Dept./Organisations Regulates & Monitor O&G Offshore E&P activities:**
 - **DG, Shipping (under Ministry of Shipping, GoI)** - Regulatory authority under Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 (MS Act, 1958) and National Contact Points for the receipt of reports on marine pollution incidents under the provision of (MEPC. 6/ Circular 5 dtd 31.03.09). They also Administer payment against damage to the Ports & Public authorities under the provision of the IOPC claims manual and the Fund 1992 Convention of IOPC.
 - **Chief Hydrographer, Dehradun [o/o The Indian Naval Hydrographic Department (INHD)]:** Nodal agency for providing fortnightly Navigation Warnings of Navarea VIII, Weather Bulletins and Coastal and high seas warnings-

To Submit Bathymetric & Oceanographic parameters to them and also submit coordinates indicating the locations where offshore platform installations are erected, and rig, vessel, and mobile installations are deployed.

- **Flag Officer of Offshore Defence Advisory Group (FODAG) and Flag Officer Commanding in Chief (FOC-in-C) of Zonal Naval Command of Indian Navy:** Carry out Vessel Inspection before deployment. Also, they must submit coordinates indicating the locations where offshore platform installations are erected, and rig, vessel, and mobile installations are deployed.
- **Naval HQ, Delhi:** Submission of Bathymetric & Oceanographic parameters and furnish details of the Contractor engaged to the Directorate of Naval Intelligence-Integrated HQ, MoD (Navy), New Delhi.
- **DG Communication Centre, Mumbai:** Provides MAS (Maritime Assistance Services) on a 24x7 basis/ Receives First Report of Marine Casualty/ Incident (Annexure- 1 format) on Pollution Incidents from Concerned Port Authorities, Indian Coast Guard, Maritime State Board of the respective State/UT, DG, Shipping, Mumbai.
- **International Maritime Organisation (IMO):** Discharge of sewage in the sea as per Annex IV of MARPOL 73/78 Regulation & Resolutions: MEPC.157(55), MEPC.200(62), MEPC.227(64), MEPC.275 (69)/ Vessels used for Offshore operation have to comply with IMO instruments, viz. IMO Resolution A.962 (23) / A. 980(24)/ A. 981(24) / MEPC- Circular 466/ Maintenance, Training & Certification of crew has to be complied with as stipulated in the relevant IMO instruments.
- **I.M.D. (Indian Meteorological Department), New Delhi:** Provides fortnightly Navigation Warnings of Navarea VIII and weather bulletins/ To submit Bathymetric & Oceanographic parameters.
- **Surveyor Appointed in the Port under provision of MS Act, 1958** (Holding due certificate under section 449 of MS Act, 1958 and appointed by Central Government through Gazette notification): Authorized to board at any reasonable time of a ship/vessel and may inspect the Ship/Vessel and any part thereof, and the machinery, equipment or articles on board thereof under provision of section (9) Of MS Act, 1958. Suppose the Owner/ Agent/ Master/ Manager is dissatisfied with the inspection report of the surveyor/ declines to give a certificate under the Act. In that case, they may appeal to a Court of Survey under provisions of sub-section (2) and of section 387.
- **Radio Inspector in the Port under provision of MS Act, 1958** (appointed through Gazette notification from Govt. of India under provision of section 10 of MS Act, 1958): Appointed to ensure the compliance of Rules and Regulations relating to Radio Telegraphy, Radio Telephony and Direction Finders as stipulated in the Act.
- **Shipping Masters, Deputy Shipping Masters and Assistant Shipping Masters of Shipping Offices in a Port** (notified by Central Government through Gazette): Administrates general control of MS ACT, 1958 on behalf of the Central

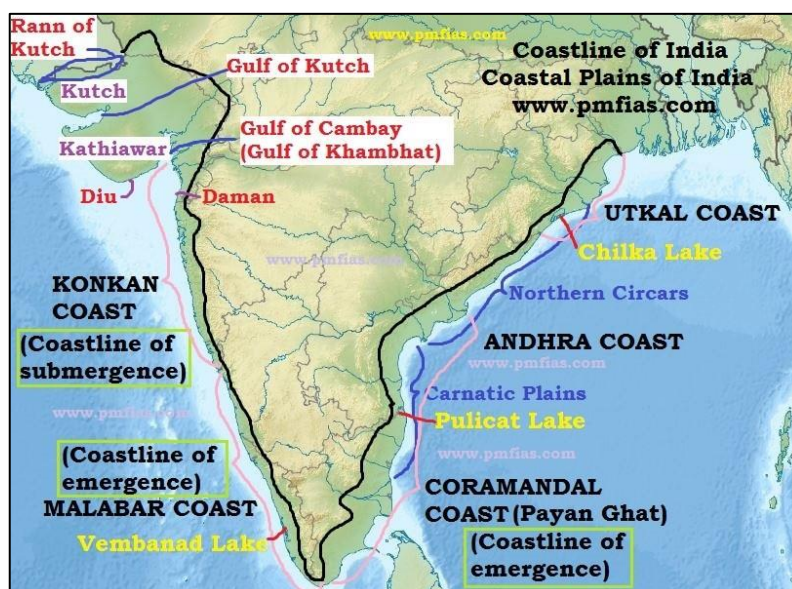
Government as spelt in section 11(1 to 4)- In the absence of the Shipping Office at Port the business would be conducted from Custom House or at the office of the Port Officer or other office as specified by the Central Government.

- **Director/ Deputy Directors/ Assistant Director, Seamen's Employment Office in a Port** (notified by Central Government through Gazette): Administers general control of MS ACT, 1958 on behalf of the Central Government as spelt in section 12(1 to 4).
- **Seamen's Welfare Officer in a Port** [Appointed by Central Govt. under sub-section (1)]: To look after the welfare of seamen under the provision of MS Act, 1958.
- **PSC (Port State Control)/ FSI (Flag State Implementation)**: Inspect the vessel before deployment.
- **Wireless Planning & Coordination Wing**, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, Dept. of Telecommunications, GoI: For obtaining Wireless/ Radio /Unified Communication Licenses.

COASTAL REGULATION ZONE (CRZ), ISLAND PROTECTION ZONE (IPZ) AND THEIR NOTIFICATIONS RELATED FEW USEFUL INFORMATION

1. COASTAL REGULATION ZONE AND ISLAND PROTECTION ZONE OF INDIA

India has a total of 7,516.6 km of Coastline, including 2,094 km of Island territories and 5,422 km of mainland coastline. Indian Coastline stretches across 9 States and 4 Union Territories, and it is bordered to the west by the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean and to the East by the Bay of Bengal. Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and West Bengal are the Nine States, and Daman & Diu, Puducherry, Lakshadweep Islands, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands are the coastal Union Territories. Gujarat has the longest Coastline among states, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands have the longest Coastline among UTs.



The coastal areas of Seas, Bays, Creeks, Rivers, and Backwaters, which are influenced by tides up to 500 m from the high tide line (HTL) and the land between the low tide line (LTL) and the high tide line were declared as Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) in 1991 by MoEF&CC under the purview of the Environment Protection Act 1986. Coastal Regulation Zone has been categorised into four groups in India- CRZ-I, CRZ-II, CRZ-III & CRZ-IV.

2. COASTAL REGULATION ZONE (CRZ) NOTIFICATION, 2011 & ISLAND PROTECTION ZONE (IPZ) NOTIFICATION, 2011

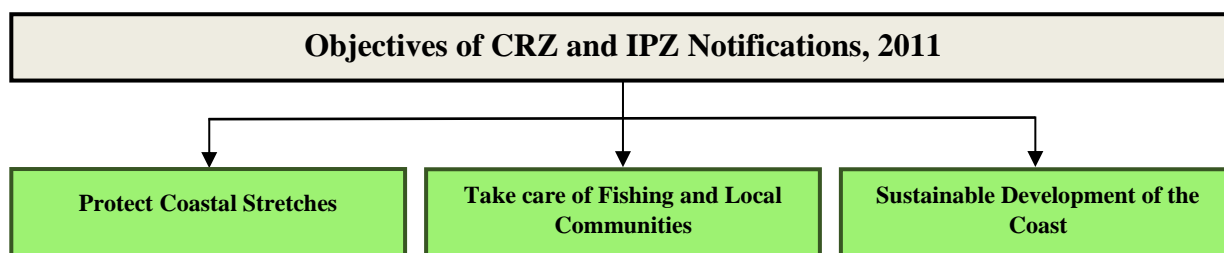
Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) notification was first issued in 1991 by MoEF&CC. CRZ 2011 notification was issued subsequently with several amendments to the CRZ 1991 notification. In December 2018, the Union cabinet approved more amendments, followed by subsequent CRZ Notification in 2019.

The Island Protection Zone (IPZ) notification was issued by MoEF&CC in 2011 to provide livelihood stability to local groups like fisher folk and tribals, protect the islands' distinctive nature, and promote sustainable development based on scientific principles. The terms of the notification are based on the size of the islands, the restrictions on resources like groundwater, fish, and construction material, and the islands' vulnerability to natural calamities

MoEF&CC makes CRZ/IPZ Rules; implementation is to be ensured by State governments/ UT Administrations through their Coastal Zone Management Authorities (CZMA).

3. IMPORTANCE OF REGULATION OF COASTAL ZONES

- Protection of ecologically Sensitive Areas like Mangroves, Coral Reefs which act as a shield against Tsunami and Cyclone
- Improving the lives of coastal communities like fishing communities
- Resilient measures for mitigating impacts of Climate Change and high-intensity Cyclones
- To balance development with conservation of the coastal environment



4. FOUR CRZ CATEGORIES CLASSIFIED IN CRZ NOTIFICATION, 2011

i. CRZ-I

Ecologically Sensitive areas like Mangroves, Coral Reefs, Biosphere reserves, etc

In CRZ Notification, 2019, CRZ-I is further classified as **CRZ-IA** (Ecologically Sensitive Areas) and **CRZ-IB** (Intertidal Zone)

- No new construction shall be permitted in CRZ-I except
 - *Projects relating to the Department of Atomic Energy;*
 - *Construction of trans-harbour sea links and roads without affecting the tidal water flow between LTL and HTL. Etc.*
- Between Low Tide Line and High Tide Line in areas that are not ecologically sensitive, the following may be permitted;
 - *Oil & Gas Exploration and Production activities*
 - *Construction of basic amenities like schools, roads, etc., for traditional inhabitants living within the biosphere reserves;*
 - *Salt harvesting by solar evaporation of seawater;*
 - *Desalination plants;*
 - *Storage of non-hazardous cargo such as edible oil and fertilisers within notified ports.*

ii. CRZ-II

Areas which are developed up to the shoreline and falling within the municipal limits; includes built-up area – villages and towns are that are already well established - Developed Land Areas (Municipal Limit/ Urban Areas)

- Buildings are permissible on the landward side of the hazardous line.
- Other activities such as desalination plants are also permissible.
- Some construction is permitted only as per guidelines specified by the notification.

iii. CRZ-III

Areas that are relatively undisturbed and do not fall under either in Category I or II and also include rural and urban areas that are not substantially developed.

In CRZ Notification, 2019, **CRZ-III is further classified** as follows:

CRZ-IIIA - Undeveloped rural areas where the population density is more than 2,161 per square kilometre as per census of 2011 and area up to 50 meters from the HTL on the landward side shall be earmarked as the “No Development Zone (NDZ)”

CRZ-IIIB - Undeveloped rural areas where the population density of less than 2,161 per square kilometre, as per census of 2011 and the area up to 200 meters from the HTL on the landward side shall be earmarked as the “No Development Zone (NDZ)”

- In No Development Zone where no construction shall be permitted:
 - *Only certain activities relating to agriculture, forestry, projects of Department of Atomic Energy, mining of rare minerals, salt manufacture, regasification of petroleum products, non-conventional energy sources and certain public facilities may be permitted in this zone.*
- Between 200-500 metres of HTL, those permitted in 0-200 metres zone, construction of houses for local communities and tourism projects are permissible.

iv. CRZ-IV

The aquatic area from low tide line up to territorial limits is classified as CRZ-IV including the area of the tidal influenced water body.

In CRZ Notification, 2019, **CRZ-IV is further classified** as follows:

CRZ-IVA - The water area and the sea bed area between the Low Tide Line up to twelve nautical miles on the seaward side shall constitute CRZ-IV A.

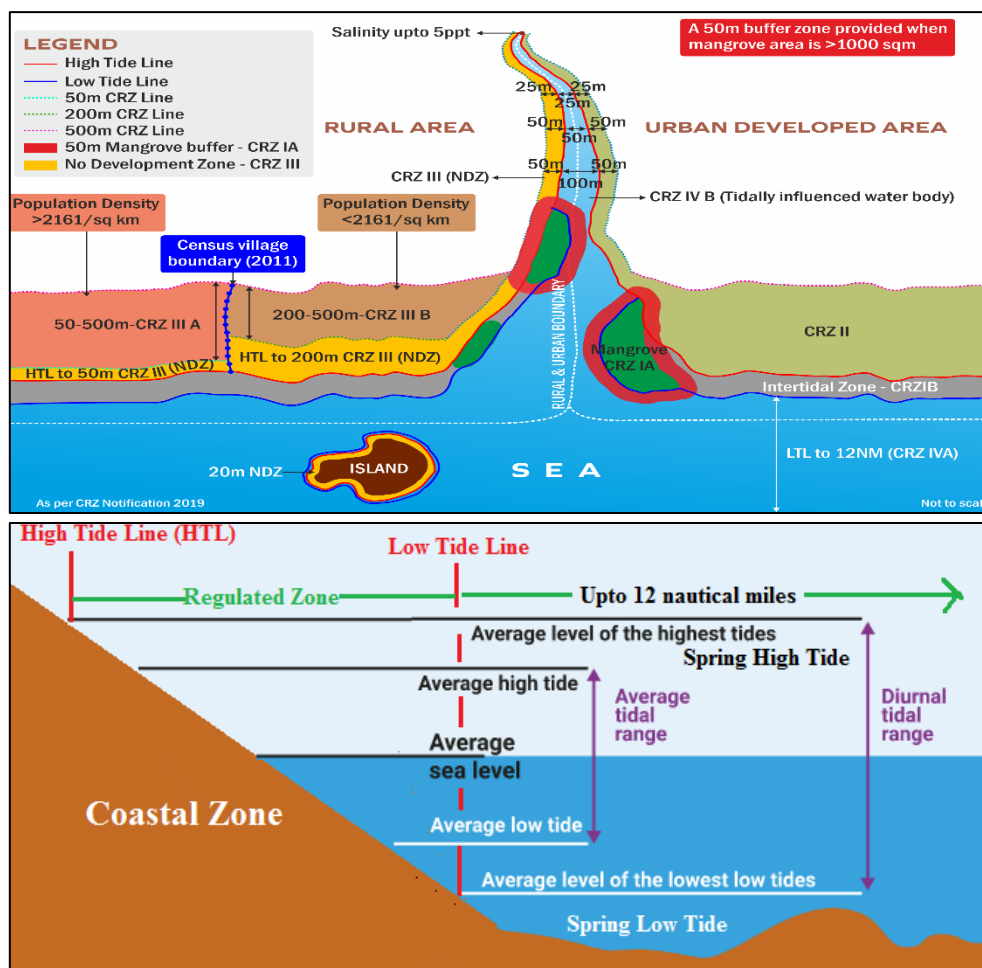
CRZ-IVB - areas shall include the water area and the bed area between LTL at the bank of the tidal influenced water body to the LTL on the opposite side of the bank, extending from the mouth of the water body at the sea up to the influence of tide, i.e., salinity of five parts per thousand (ppt) during the driest season of the year.

- There is no restriction on the traditional fishing undertaken by local communities.

- No untreated sewage or solid waste shall be let off or dumped in these areas.

5. ECOLOGICALLY SENSITIVE AREAS (ESA) GIVEN SPECIAL DISPENSATIONS UNDER CRZ, 2011 AND CRZ, 2019

- Sundarbans, Gulf of Khambat and Gulf of Kutch, Malvan, Achra-Ratnagiri in Maharashtra, Karwar and Coondapur in Karnataka, Vembanad in Kerala, Bhaitarkanika in Orissa, Coringa in East Godavari and Krishna in Andhra Pradesh would be declared as Critical Vulnerable Coastal Areas (CVCA) and the integrated management plan would be prepared for each of these areas in consultation with the local communities.
- Beaches such as Mandrem, Morjim, Galgiba and Agonda in Goa have been designated as Turtle nesting sites and protected under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- *No Developmental activities shall be permitted in these areas.*






- **High Tide Line (HTL):** HTL means the line on the land up to which the highest water line reaches during the spring tide.
- **Low Tide Line (LTL):** Similarly, it means the line on the land up to which the lowest water line reaches during the spring tide.
- **Spring Tides:** The position of both the sun and the moon in relation to the earth has direct bearing on tide height. When the sun, the moon and the earth are in a straight line, the height of the tide will be higher. These are called spring tides and they occur twice a month, one on full moon period and another during new moon period.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE (EC)

- O&G Seismic surveys (not involving drilling) are exempted from EC.
- EC Validity of EC for O&G E&P Projects is 10 years and extendable by another one year
- Stage-I FC to be submitted within 12 months with the provision of max permissible extension by another 6 months, failing which the EC application process has to be initiated afresh/ de-novo [MoEF&CC's OM No. J-11013/41/2006-IA-11 (I) (Part) dtd 09.09.2011]
- PH not required for offshore oil & gas E&P projects beyond 12 nautical miles
- Separate EC required for developmental activities if EC was taken for exploration activities
- No further expansion or modification in the project can be carried out without obtaining fresh EC
- For any expansion project for which EC was accorded earlier - A Certified Compliance Report (CCR) is to be obtained from RO, MoEF&CC in connection with the conditions stipulated in earlier EC [MoEF&CC's OM No. J-11011/618/2010-IA-11 (I) dtd 30.05.2012]
- Six monthly compliance reports to be submitted (i.e. as of 1st June and 1st December) both in hard copies as well as by e-mail to the ROs of MoEF&CC, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the SPCB - The same to be uploaded in website site of the company with the monitoring data
- The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V to be submitted to the concerned SPCB /UTPC as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986
- Change in location after completion of Public Hearing will be treated as a new project, and the process for obtaining EC has to be started afresh [MoEF&CC's OM No. J-11013/41/2006-IA-11 (I) dtd 22.01.2010]
- The EC proposal would get auto-delisted if the EDS query against it is not replied to within 30 days (MoEF&CC OM No. F.22-35/2020-IA-III dtd 15.03.2021)
- Guideline from Central Ground Water Authority (CGW) to be complied for drawl of groundwater for Oil & Gas E&P activities: Guidelines issued by the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation to regulate and control Groundwater Extraction in the country - Gazette Notification S.O. 3289(E) dtd 24.09.2020
- The 'CER' in connection with EC has been abolished. Only the issues addressed during PH are to be taken care of by the PPs. The latest Guidelines in this context are the OMs dtd 01.05.2018, 30.09.2020, 20.10.2020 and 25.02.2021
- To be complied with all EC (Specific and General conditions)

SAMPLE FORMS FOR ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE (EC) IN PARIVESH-2.0
PORTAL

1. APPLICATION FORM FOR “A” CATEGORY EC

 PARIVESH Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Government of India	Form 2	 
<u>APPLICATION FOR PRIOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE</u>		
S. No.	Item	Details
1.	Whether it is a violation case and application is being submitted under Notification No. S.O.804(E) dated 14.03.2017? Details of Project: (a) Name of the project(s) (b) Name of the Company/Organisation (c) Registered Address (d) Legal Status of the Company	
2.	Address for the correspondence: (a) Name of the Applicant (b) Designation (Owner/Partner/CEO) (c) Address (d) Pin code (e) E-mail (f) Telephone No. (g) Fax No. (h) Copy of documents in support of the competence/authority of the person making this application to make application on behalf of the User Agency	
3.	Category of the Project/Activity as per Schedule of EIA Notification, 2006: (a) Major Project/Activity (b) Minor Project/Activity (c) Category (d) Proposal Number (e) Master Proposal Number (Single Window) (f) EAC concerned (for category A Projects only) (g) Project Type	
4.	Location of the Project: (a) Plot/Survey/Khasra No. (b) Pincode (c) Bounded Latitudes (North) From Degree Minutes Second From Degree	

	Minutes Second (d) Bounded Longitudes (East) From Degree Minutes Second From Degree Minutes Second (e) Survey of India Topo Sheet No. (f) Uploaded Topo Sheet File (g) Maximum Elevation Above Means Sea Level (AMSL) (h) Uploaded (kml) File (i) Distance of Nearest HFL from the project boundary within the study area (j) Seismic Zone							
5.	(a) Number of States in which Project will be Executed (b) Main State of the project							
Details of State(s) of the project								
S. No	State Name	District Name	Tehsil Name	Village Name				
6.	Details of Terms of Reference (TOR)/EC: (a) MoEF&CC/SEIAA File Number (b) Date of Issue of TOR (c) Previous TOR Letter (d) Date of Apply of EC (e) Date of Issue of EC (f) Previous EC Letter							
7.	Details of Public Consultation: (a) Whether the Project Exempted from Public Hearing? (b) Whether details of Public Hearing available? (c) Whether Public hearing was presided over by an officer of the rank of Additional District Magistrate or above							
7.1. Details of Public Hearing								
S. No	Details of Ad	Details of Public Hearing	Venue	Location Details	No. of People Attended	Issues Raised	Designation of Presiding Officer	Other Designation of Presiding Officer
8.	Details of Project Configuration/Product:							

9.	In case of Expansion / Modernisation / One Time Capacity Expansion (only for Coal Mining) / Expansion under Clause 7(ii) / Modernisation under Clause 7(ii) / Change of Product Mix under Clause 7(ii): (a) Details of Project Configuration/Product: (i) Certified Compliance By compliance of earlier environmental clearance condition (ii) Details of Regional Office of MoEF&CC/Zonal Office of CPCB/SPCB/UTPCC from which certified report on (iii) Letter No. (iv) Status of Compliance (v) Certified report on compliance of earlier environmental clearance conditions (Including Monitoring Report) (vi) Date of site visit (b) Details of Capacity expansion							
S. No	Product/ Activity (Capacity/ Area)	Quantity From	Quantity To	Total	Unit	Other Unit	Mode of Transport/ Transmission of Product	Other Mode of Transport/ Transmission of Product
(c) Details of Configuration								
S. No	Plant/ Equipment/ Facility	Existing Configuration	Proposed Configuration	Final configuration after expansion			Remarks	
9.1.	Details of Consent to Operate: (i) Whether Consent to operate obtained? (ii) Copies of all Consent to operate obtained since (iii) Date of Issue (iv) Valid Upto (v) File No. (vi) Application No. (vii) Copy of Consent to operate valid as on date							
10.	Project Cost: (a) Total Cost of the Project at current price level (in crores) (b) Funds Allocated for Environment Management (Capital) (in crores) (c) Funds Allocated Towards ESC (Entrepreneur Social Responsibility) (in crores) (d) Funds Allocated for Environment Management Plan (EMP) (Recurring per Annum) (in crores) (e) Funds Allocated for Environment Management							
11.	Whether project attracts the General Condition specified in the Schedule of EIA Notification?							
12.	Whether project attract the Specific Condition specified in the Schedule of EIA Notification?							

13.	Raw Material/ Fuel Requirement:										
	(a) Proposed quantity of raw material/fuel (b) Existing quantity of raw material/fuel (c) Total quantity of raw material/fuel										
13.1. Raw Material/ Fuel Profile											
S. No	Raw Material/ Fuel	Quantity	Unit	Other Unit	Source (In case of Import. please specify country and Name of the port from which Raw Material / Fuel is received)	Mode of Transport	Other Mode of Transport	Distance of Source from Project Site (in Kilometres) (In case of import, distance from the port from which the raw material / fuel is received)	Type of Linkage	Other Type of Linkage	Upload Copy of Linkage
14.	Baseline Data:										
	(a) Period of Base Line Data Collection (b) Season										
14.1. No. of ambient Air Quality (AAQ) Monitoring Locations:											
S. No	Criteria Pollutants	Other Criteria Pollutants	Unit	Maximum Value	Minimum Value	98 Percentile Value	Prescribed Standard				
14.2. No. of Ground Water Monitoring Locations:											
S. No	Criteria Pollutants	Other Criteria Pollutants	Heavy Metal	Unit	Other Unit	Maximum Value	Minimum Value	Desirable Limit	Maximum Permissible Limit		
14.3. No. of Surface Water Monitoring Locations:											
S. No	Criterial Pollutants	Other Criteria Pollutants	Unit	Other Unit	Maximum Value	Minimum Value	Classification of inland water body				
14.4. No. of Ambient Noise Monitoring Locations:											
S. No	Parameter		Unit	Maximum Value	Minimum Value	Prescribed Standard					
14.5. No. of Soil Sample Monitoring Locations:											
S. No	Parameter		Unit	Maximum Value	Minimum Value	Prescribed Standard					

14.6	Details of Ground Water Table:											
	(a) Range of Water Table Pre-Monsoon Season (Meters Below Ground Level (m bgl))											
	(b) Range of Water Table Post-Monsoon Season (Meters Below Ground Level (m bgl))											
	(c) Whether Ground Water Intersection will be there?											
15. Details of Water Requirement (During Operation):												
S. No	Source	Source Other	Required Quantity	Distance from Source	Copy of Permission from Competent Authority	Mode of Transport	Other Mode of Transport	Method of Water Withdrawal	Other Method of Water Withdrawal	Letter No.	Date of Issue	Permitted Quantity
15.1	(c) Whether Desalination is proposed:											
16. Waste Water Management (During Operation):												
S. No	Type/ Source	Quantity of Waste Water Generated (Kilolitre per Day)	Treatment Capacity (Kilolitre per Day)	Treatment Method	Mode of Disposal	Other Mode of Disposal	Quantity Of Treated Water Used in Recycling/Reuse (Kilolitre per Day)	Quantity Of Discharged Water (Kilolitre per Day)				
16.1	(d) Total waste water Generation (kiloliter per day)											
	(e) Total discharged water (kiloliter per day)											
	(f) Total reused water (kiloliter per day)											
17. Solid Waste Generation/ Management												
S. No	Name of Waste	Item	Quantity per Annum	Unit	Mode of Transport	Other Mode of Transport	Mode of Disposal	Other Mode of Disposal				
18.												
18.1. Air Quality Impact Prediction												
S. No	Criteria Pollutants	Other Criteria Pollutants	Unit	Baseline Concentration	Distance GLC	Incremental Concentration	Total GLC	Prescribed Standard				
18.2. Stack Details												
S. No	Source	Fuel	Stack Height(m)	Stack Diameter(m)	Pollutants	Other Pollutants	Emission (GLS)					

19.	Power Requirement:				
	(a) Quantity (Kilo Volt Amps (kVA))				
	(b) Source				
	(c) Uploaded Copy of Agreement				
	(d) Standby Arrangement (Details of DG Sets)				
	(e) Stack Height (in m)				
20.	Land Ownership pattern:				
	(a) Forest Land (ha.)				
	(b) Private Land (ha.)				
	(c) Government Land (ha.)				
	(d) Revenue Land (ha.)				
	(e) Other Land (ha.)				
	Total Land (ha.)				
21.	Present Land Use Breakup of the Study Area in Ha:				
	(a) Agriculture Area (ha.)				
	(b) Waste/Barren Land (ha.)				
	(c) Grazing/ Community Land				
	(d) Surface Water Bodies (ha.)				
	(e) Settlements (ha.)				
	(f) Industrial(ha.)				
	(g) Forest (ha.)				
	(h) Mangroves (ha.)				
	(i) Marine Area (ha.)				
	(j) Others: (ha.) tea garden, road network, brick klin, railway trac				
	Total (ha.)				
22.	Land Requirement for Various Activities:				
S. No.	Description of Activity / Facility / Plant / Others	Others	Land Requirement	Remarks	
	Total (ha.)				
23.	Ecological and Environmental Sensitivity (Within 10 Km): - WLS-Wild Life Species; NPA-Notified Protected Area; ESAS-Eco Sensitive Areas; ESZs-Eco Sensitive Zones:				
23.1.	Details of Ecological Sensitivity:				
S. No.	Details of Ecological Sensitivity	Name	Distance from the project (Km)	Remarks	
23.2.	Details of Environmental Sensitivity:				
S. No.	Details of Environmental Sensitivity	Other Details of Environmental Sensitivity	Name	Distance from the project (Km)	Remarks

23.3	(a) Whether Noc/ Permission from the competent authority is required? (b) Whether NBWL recommendation is required?	
24.	Forest Land: Whether any Forest land involved?	
25.	Tree cutting: (a) No. of Trees Cut for the Project (if Forest Land not Involved) (b) Details of Tree Cutting and Planting of Trees	
26.	Land Acquisition Status: (a) Acquired Land (Ha) (b) Land yet to be acquired (Ha) (c) Status of Land acquisition if not acquired	
27.	Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R): (a) No. of Villages (b) No. of Households (c) No. of PDFs (Project Displaced Families) (d) No. of PAFs (Project Affected Families) (e) Funds Allocated for R&R (in Rs) (f) Status of R&R	
28.	Details of Presence of Schedule-I Species: (a) Whether there is Presence of Schedule-1 Species? (b) Whether conservation plan for Schedule-I Species has been prepared? (c) Whether conservation plan for Schedule-I Species has been approved by competent authority?	
29.	Details of Presence of Water Bodies in Core Area: (a) Whether there is Presence of Water Bodies in Core Area? (b) Whether there is Diversion Required? (c) Whether permission has been obtained from competent authority?	
30.	Details of Presence of Water Bodies in Buffer Area: (a) Whether there is Presence of Water Bodies in Buffer Area? (b) Details of Water Bodies in Buffer Area (c) Direction of Water Bodies in Buffer Area (d) Distance of Water Bodies in Buffer Area	
31.	Manpower Requirement: (a) Permanent Employment-During Construction (b) Permanent Employment-During Operation (c) Temporary Employment-During Construction (d) Temporary Employment- During Operation (e) No. of working days (f) Total Manpower	
32.	Green Belt in Ha: (a) Uploaded Green Belt Plan	



S. No.	Description	Existing	Proposed	Total
33. Project Benefits				
S. No	Type of Project Benefit	Details of Project Benefits		
34.	CRZ Specific Details:			
35.	Sector Specific Details:			
36.	Sector Specific Details for Industrial Projects - 2:			
S. No	Item	Details		
37.	Details of Court Cases: (a) Whether there is any Court Cases pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up?			
38.	Details of Direction Issued under Environment (Protection) Act / Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution)) Act/Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act: (a) Whether any Direction issued under EPA Act/Air Act/Water Act?			
39.	Details of EIA Consultant: (a) Have you hired Consultant for preparing document? (i) Accreditation No. (ii) Name of the EIA Consultant (iii) Address (iv) Mobile No. (v) Landline No. (vi) Email Id (vii) Category of Accreditation (viii) Sector of Accreditation (ix) Validity of Accreditation (x) Uploaded Certificate of Accreditation certified by QCI/NABET			
Essential Details Sought:				
S. No.	EDS Letter	Remarks		Date of EDS
Additional Details Sought:				
S. No.	ADS Letter	Remarks		Date of ADS

Undertaking

☐ I hereby give undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to be best of my knowledge and belief and I am aware that if any part of the data and information is found to be false or misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and clearance given if any to the project will be revoked at our risk and cost. In addition to the above, I hereby give undertaking that no activity/construction/expansion has been taken up.

Name of the Applicant	
Designation	
Name of Company (Applicant Name should not be given here)	
Address	

2. APPLICATION FORM FOR “B” CATEGORY EC

	PARIVESH Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Government of India	Form 2	
<u>APPLICATION FOR PRIOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE</u>			
S. No.	Item	Details	
1.	Whether it is a violation case and application is being submitted under Notification No. S.O.804(E) dated 14.03.2017? Details of Project: (a) Name of the project(s) (b) Name of the Company/Organisation (c) Registered Address (d) Legal Status of the Company		
2.	Address for the correspondence: (a) Name of the Applicant (b) Designation (Owner/Partner/CEO) (c) Address (d) Pin code (e) E-mail (f) Telephone No. (g) Fax No. (h) Copy of documents in support of the competence/authority of the person making this application to make application on behalf of the User Agency		
3.	Category of the Project/Activity as per Schedule of EIA Notification, 2006: (a) Major Project/Activity (b) Minor Project/Activity (c) Category (d) Proposal Number (e) Master Proposal Number (Single Window) (f) EAC concerned (for category A Projects only) (g) Project Type		
4.	Location of the Project: (a) Plot/Survey/Khasra No. (b) Pincode (c) Bounded Latitudes (North) From Degree Minutes Second From Degree		

	Minutes Second (d) Bounded Longitudes (East) From Degree Minutes Second From Degree Minutes Second (e) Survey of India Topo Sheet No. (f) Uploaded Topo Sheet File (g) Maximum Elevation Above Means Sea Level (AMSL) (h) Uploaded (kml) File (i) Distance of Nearest HFL from the project boundary within the study area (j) Seismic Zone					
5.	(a) Number of States in which Project will be Executed (b) Main State of the project					
Details of State(s) of the project						
S. No	State Name	District Name	Tehsil Name	Village Name		
6.	Details of Terms of Reference (TOR)/EC:					
7.	Details of Public Consultation:					
	(a) Whether the Project Exempted from Public Hearing (b) Reason (c) Supporting Document					
8.	Details of Project Configuration/Product:					
8.1. Project Configuration						
S. No	Plant/Equipment/Facility	Configuration		Remarks		
8.2. Product						
S. No	Product/ Activity (Capacity/ Area)	Quantity	Unit	Other Unit	Mode of Transport / Transmission of Product	Other Mode of Transport / Transmission of Product

9.	In case of Expansion / Modernisation / One Time Capacity Expansion (only for Coal Mining) / Expansion under Clause 7(ii) / Modernisation under Clause 7(ii) / Change of Product Mix under Clause 7(ii):										
9.1.	Details of Consent to Operate: (i) Whether Consent to operate obtained? (ii) Copies of all Consent to operate obtained since (iii) Date of Issue (iv) Valid Upto (v) File No. (vi) Application No. (vii) Copy of Consent to operate valid as on date										
10.	Project Cost: (a) Total Cost of the Project at current price level (in crores) (b) Funds Allocated for Environment Management (Capital) (in crores) (c) Funds Allocated Towards ESC (Entrepreneur Social Responsibility) (in crores) (d) Funds Allocated for Environment Management Plan (EMP) (Recurring per Annum) (in crores) (e) Funds Allocated for Environment Management Capital (%)										
11.	Whether project attracts the General Condition specified in the Schedule of EIA Notification?										
12.	Whether project attract the Specific Condition specified in the Schedule of EIA Notification?										
13.	Raw Material/ Fuel Requirement: (a) Proposed quantity of raw material/fuel (b) Existing quantity of raw material/fuel (c) Total quantity of raw material/fuel										
13.1. Raw Material/ Fuel Profile											
S. No	Raw Material/ Fuel	Quantity	Unit	Other Unit	Source (In case of Import. please specify country and Name of the port from which Raw Material / Fuel is received)	Mode of Transport	Other Mode of Transport	Distance of Source from Project Site (in Kilometres) (In case of import, distance from the port from which the raw material / fuel is received)	Type of Linkage	Other Type of Linkage	Upload Copy of Linkage
14.	Baseline Data: (a) Period of Base Line Data Collection (b) Season										
14.1. No. of ambient Air Quality (AAQ) Monitoring Locations:											
S. No	Criteria Pollutants	Other Criteria Pollutants	Unit	Maximum Value	Minimum Value	98 Percentile Value	Prescribed Standard				

14.2. No. of Ground Water Monitoring Locations:												
S. No	Criteria Pollutants	Other Criteria Pollutants	Heavy Metal	Unit	Other Unit	Maximum Value	Minimum Value	Desirable Limit	Maximum Permissible Limit			
14.3. No. of Surface Water Monitoring Locations:												
S. No	Criteria Pollutants	Other Criteria Pollutants	Unit	Other Unit	Maximum Value	Minimum Value	Classification of inland water body					
14.4. No. of Ambient Noise Monitoring Locations:												
S. No	Parameter		Unit	Maximum Value	Minimum Value	Prescribed Standard						
14.5. No. of Soil Sample Monitoring Locations:												
S. No	Parameter		Unit	Maximum Value	Minimum Value	Prescribed Standard						
14.6 Details of Ground Water Table:												
(a) Range of Water Table Pre-Monsoon Season (Meters Below Ground Level (m bgl))												
(b) Range of Water Table Post-Monsoon Season (Meters Below Ground Level (m bgl))												
(c) Whether Ground Water Intersection will be there?												
15. Details of Water Requirement (During Operation):												
S. No	Source	Source Other	Required Quantity	Distance from Source	Copy of Permission from Competent Authority	Mode of Transport	Other Mode of Transport	Method of Water Withdrawal	Other Method of Water Withdrawal	Letter No.	Date of Issue	Permitted Quantity
15.1 (a) Whether Desalination is proposed:												
16. Waste Water Management (During Operation):												
S. No	Type/ Source	Quantity of Waste Water Generated (Kilolitre per Day)	Treatment Capacity (Kilolitre per Day)	Treatment Method	Mode of Disposal	Other Mode of Disposal	Quantity Of Treated Water Used in Recycling/Reuse (Kilolitre per Day)	Quantity Of Discharged Water (Kilolitre per Day)				

16.1	(a) Total waste water Generation (kiloliter per day) (b) Total discharged water (kiloliter per day) (c) Total reused water (kiloliter per day)									
17. Solid Waste Generation/ Management										
S. No	Name of Waste	Item	Other Item	Quantity per Annum	Unit	Distance from Site (Km)	Mode of Transport	Other Mode of Transport	Mode of Disposal	Other Mode of Disposal
18.										
18.1. Air Quality Impact Prediction										
S. No	Criteria Pollutants	Other Criteria Pollutants	Unit	Baseline Concentration	Distance GLC	Incremental Concentration	Total GLC	Prescribed Standard		
18.2. Stack Details										
S. No	Source	Fuel	Stack Height(m)	Stack Diameter(m)	Pollutants	Other Pollutants	Emission (GLS)			
19.	Power Requirement: (a) Quantity (Kilo Volt Amps (kVA)) (b) Source (c) Uploaded Copy of Agreement (d) Standby Arrangement (Details of DG Sets) (e) Stack Height (in m)									
20.	Land Ownership pattern: (a) Forest Land (ha.) (b) Private Land (ha.) (c) Government Land (ha.) (d) Revenue Land (ha.) (e) Other Land (ha.) Total Land (ha.)									
21.	Present Land Use Breakup of the Study Area in Ha: (a) Agriculture Area (ha.) (b) Waste/Barren Land (ha.) (c) Grazing/ Community Land (d) Surface Water Bodies (ha.) (e) Settlements (ha.) (f) Industrial(ha.) (g) Forest (ha.) (h) Mangroves (ha.) (i) Marine Area (ha.)									

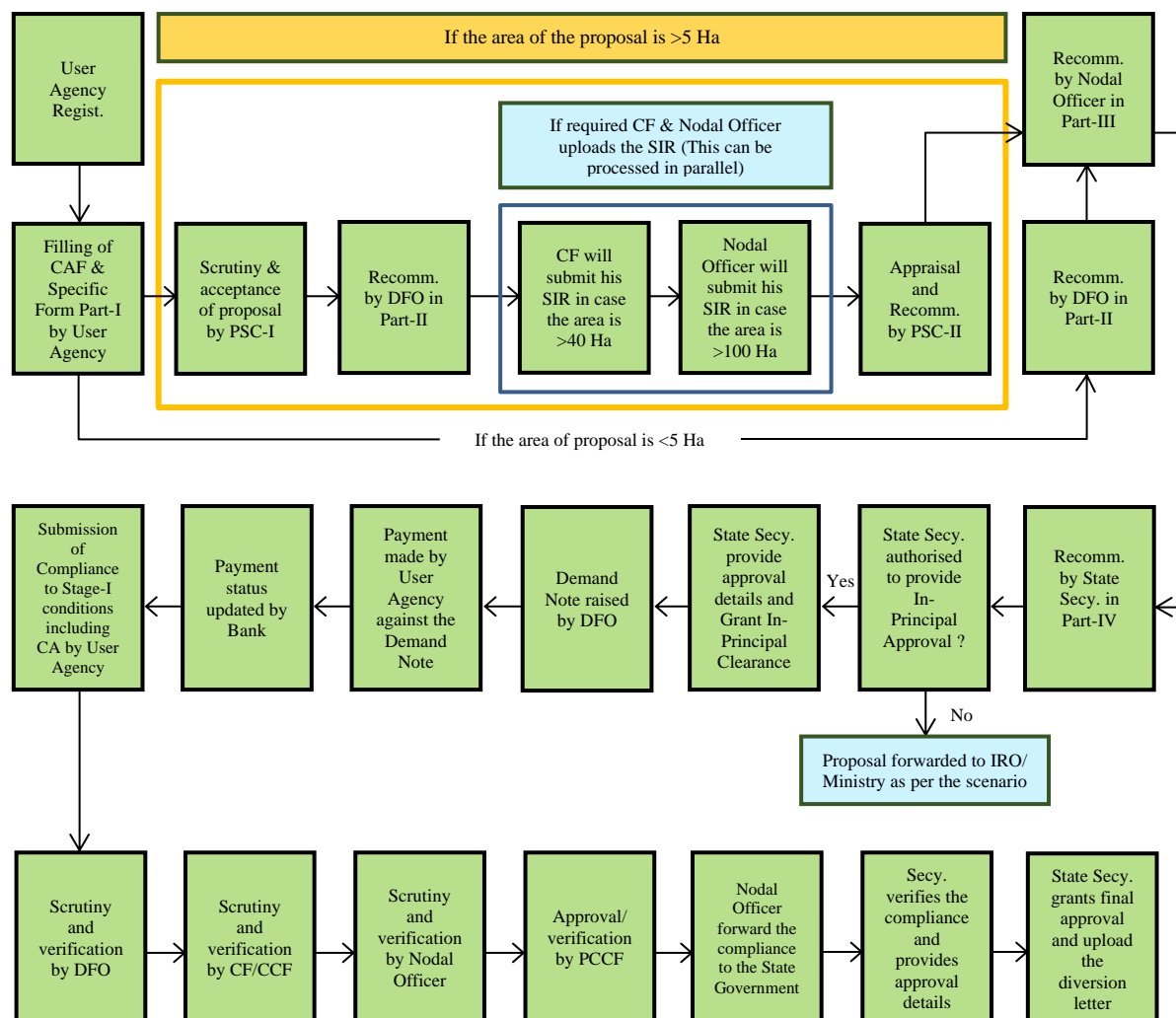
	(j) Others: (ha.) tea garden, road network, brick klin, railway trac Total (ha.)				
22. Land Requirement for Various Activities:					
S. No.	Description of Activity / Facility / Plant / Others	Others	Land Requirement	Remarks	
	Total (ha.)				
23.	Ecological and Environmental Sensitivity (Within 10 Km): - WLS-Wild Life Species; NPA-Notified Protected Area; ESAS-Eco Sensitive Areas; ESZs-Eco Sensitive Zones:				
23.1. Details of Ecological Sensitivity:					
S. No.	Details of Ecological Sensitivity	Name	Distance from the project (Km)	Remarks	
23.2. Details of Environmental Sensitivity:					
S. No.	Details of Environmental Sensitivity	Other Details of Environmental Sensitivity	Name	Distance from the project (Km)	Remarks
23.3	(a) Whether Noc/ Permission from the competent authority is required? (b) Whether NBWL recommendation is required?				
24.	Forest Land: Whether any Forest land involved? (a) No. of Trees Cut for the Project (if Forest Land not Involved) (b) Details of Tree Cutting and Planting of Trees				
25.	Tree cutting: (a) No. of Trees Cut for the Project (if Forest Land not Involved) (b) Details of Tree Cutting and Planting of Trees				
26.	Land Acquisition Status: (a) Acquired Land (Ha) (b) Land yet to be acquired (Ha) (c) Status of Land acquisition if not acquired				
27.	Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R): (a) No. of Villages (b) No. of Households (c) No. of PDFs (Project Displaced Families) (d) No. of PAFs (Project Affected Families) (e) Funds Allocated for R&R (in Rs) (f) Status of R&R				

28.	Details of Presence of Schedule-I Species:		
	(a) Whether there is Presence of Schedule-1 Species? (b) Whether conservation plan for Schedule-I Species has been prepared? (c) Whether conservation plan for Schedule-I Species has been approved by competent authority?		
29.	Details of Presence of Water Bodies in Core Area:		
	(a) Whether there is Presence of Water Bodies in Core Area? (b) Whether there is Diversion Required? (c) Whether permission has been obtained from competent authority?		
30.	Details of Presence of Water Bodies in Buffer Area:		
	(a) Whether there is Presence of Water Bodies in Buffer Area? (b) Details of Water Bodies in Buffer Area (c) Direction of Water Bodies in Buffer Area (d) Distance of Water Bodies in Buffer Area		
31.	Manpower Requirement:		
	(a) Permanent Employment-During Construction (b) Permanent Employment-During Operation (c) Temporary Employment-During Construction (d) Temporary Employment- During Operation (e) No. of working days (f) Total Manpower		
32.	Green Belt in Ha:		
	(a) Total Area of Green Belt (in hectare) (b) Percentage of Total Project Area (c) No. of Plants to be Planted (d) Funds Allocated for Plantation (e) Uploaded Green Belt Plan		
33.	Project Benefits		
S. No	Type of Project Benefit	Details of Project Benefits	
34.	CRZ Specific Details:		
35.	Sector Specific Details:		
36.	Sector Specific Details for Industrial Projects - 2:		
S. No	Item	Details	
37.	Details of Court Cases:		
	(a) Whether there is any Court Cases pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up?		

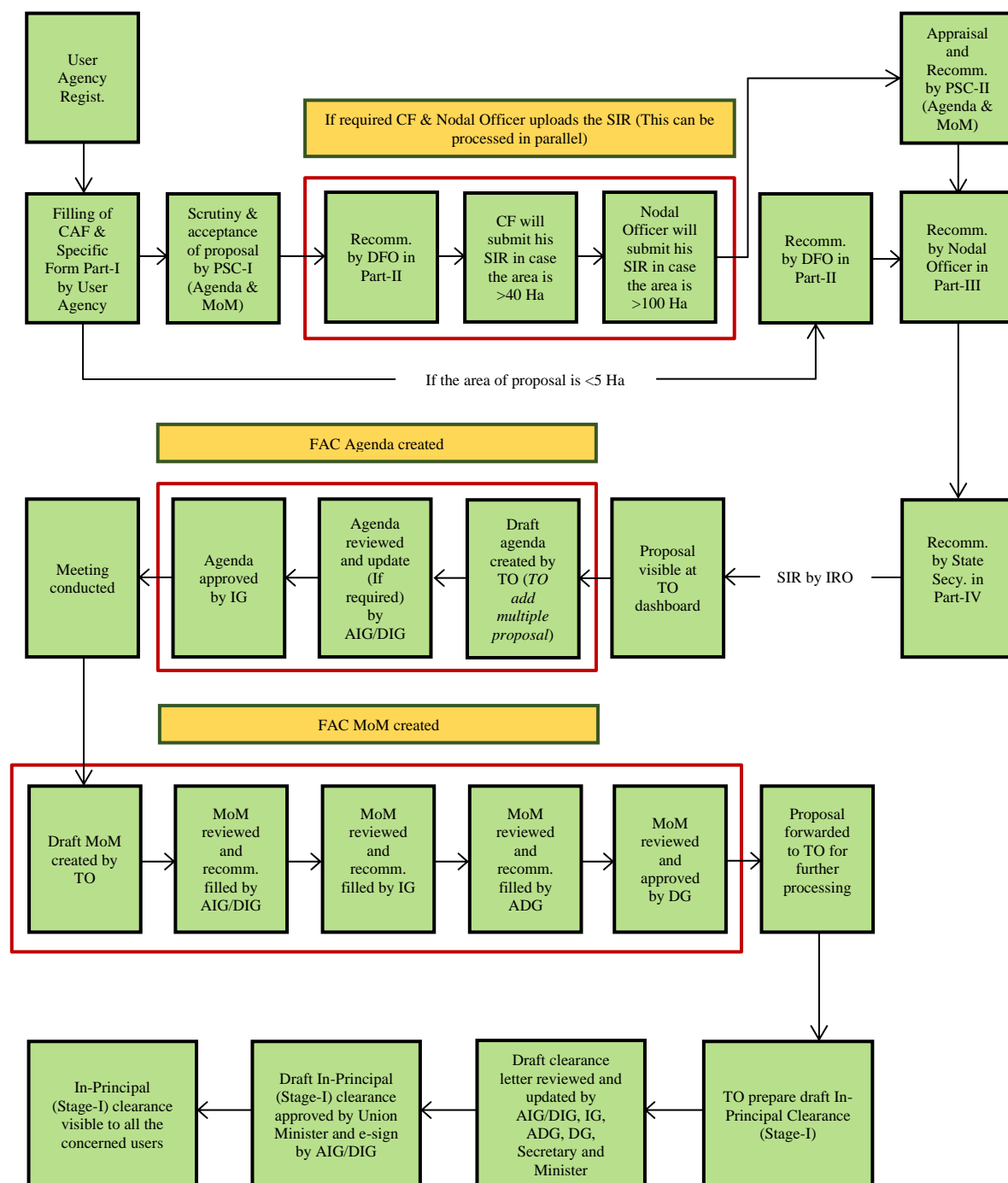
38.	Details of Direction Issued under Environment (Protection) Act / Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act/Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act:		
	(a) Whether any Direction issued under EPA Act/Air Act/Water Act?		
39.	Details of EIA Consultant:		
	(a) Have you hired Consultant for preparing document?		
	(b) Reason for not hiring the consultant		
40.	Documents to be Attached:		
	(a.I) Upload Copy of EIA/EMP (Text)		
	(a.II) Upload Copy of EIA/EMP (Annexures) Report		
	(a.III) Uploaded Copy of EIA/EMP (Maps/ Plans/ Figures only)		
	(b) Uploaded Copy of Risk Assessment Report		
	(c) Uploaded Copy of Feasibility Report/ Detailed Project Report (DPR)/ Detailed Engineering Report/ Detailed Conceptual Plan/ Approved Mining Plan		
	(d) Uploaded Copy of Final Layout Plan		
	(e) Uploaded Cover Letter		
	(f) Uploaded Copy of documents in support of the competence/authority of the person making this application to make application on behalf of the User Agency		
	(g) Uploaded Additional File		
	(h) Uploaded Proposal Presentation (To be given in EAC/SEIAA/SEAC meeting)		
	(i) Uploaded Updated Form1		
Essential Details Sought:			
S. No.	EDS Letter	Remarks	Date of EDS
Additional Details Sought:			
S. No.	ADS Letter	Remarks	Date of ADS
<u>Undertaking</u>			
<input type="checkbox"/> I hereby give undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to be best of my knowledge and belief and I am aware that if any part of the data and information is found to be false or misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and clearance given if any to the project will be revoked at our risk and cost. In addition to the above, I hereby give undertaking that no activity/construction/expansion has been taken up.			
Name of the Applicant			
Designation			
Name of Company (Applicant Name should not be given here)			
Address			

PROCESSING OF PROPOSALS AND PAYMENT FOR CLEARANCE AT STATE-LEVEL, MINISTRY-LEVEL, AND IRO-LEVEL

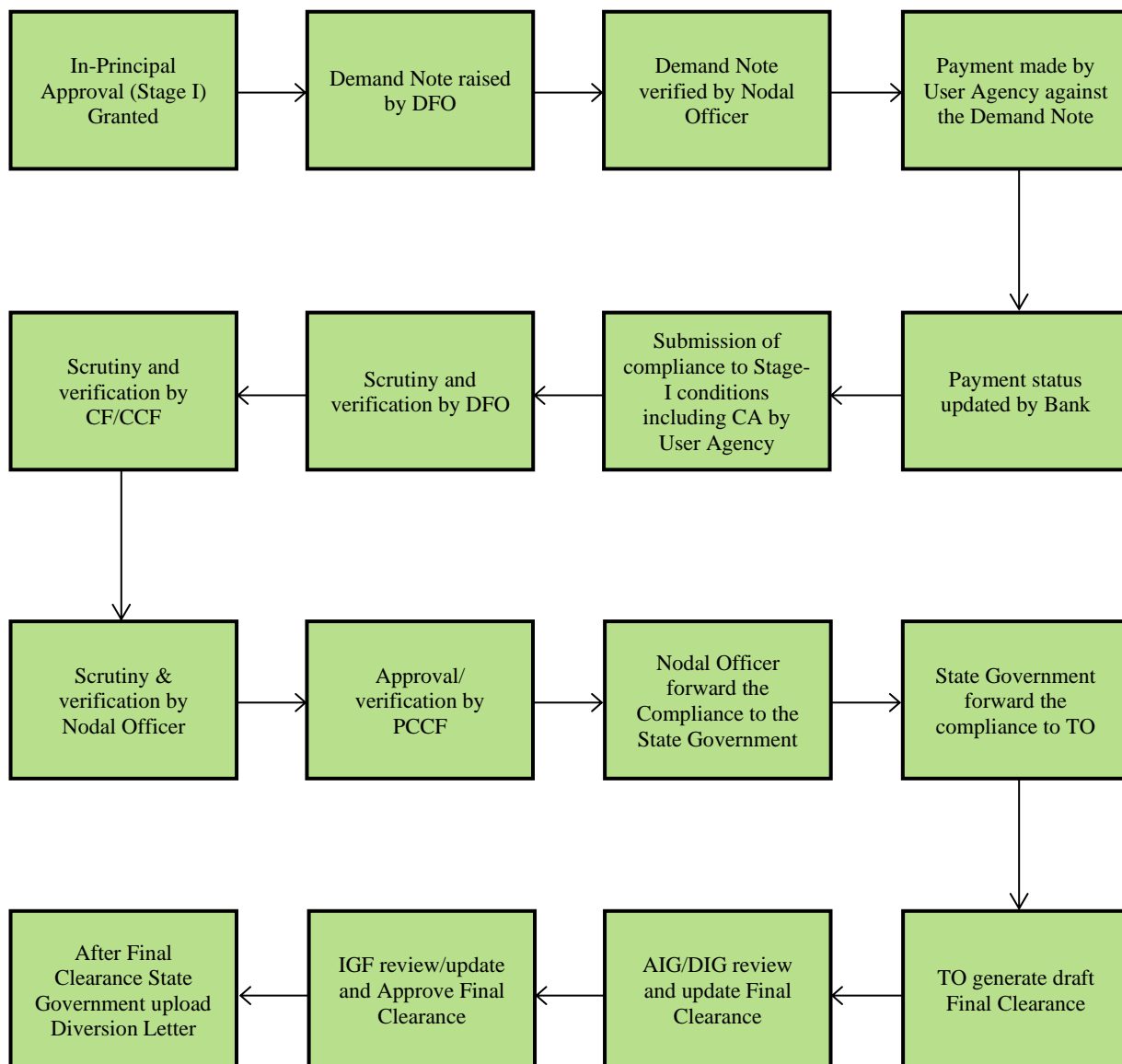
1. STATE-LEVEL CLEARANCE WORKFLOW



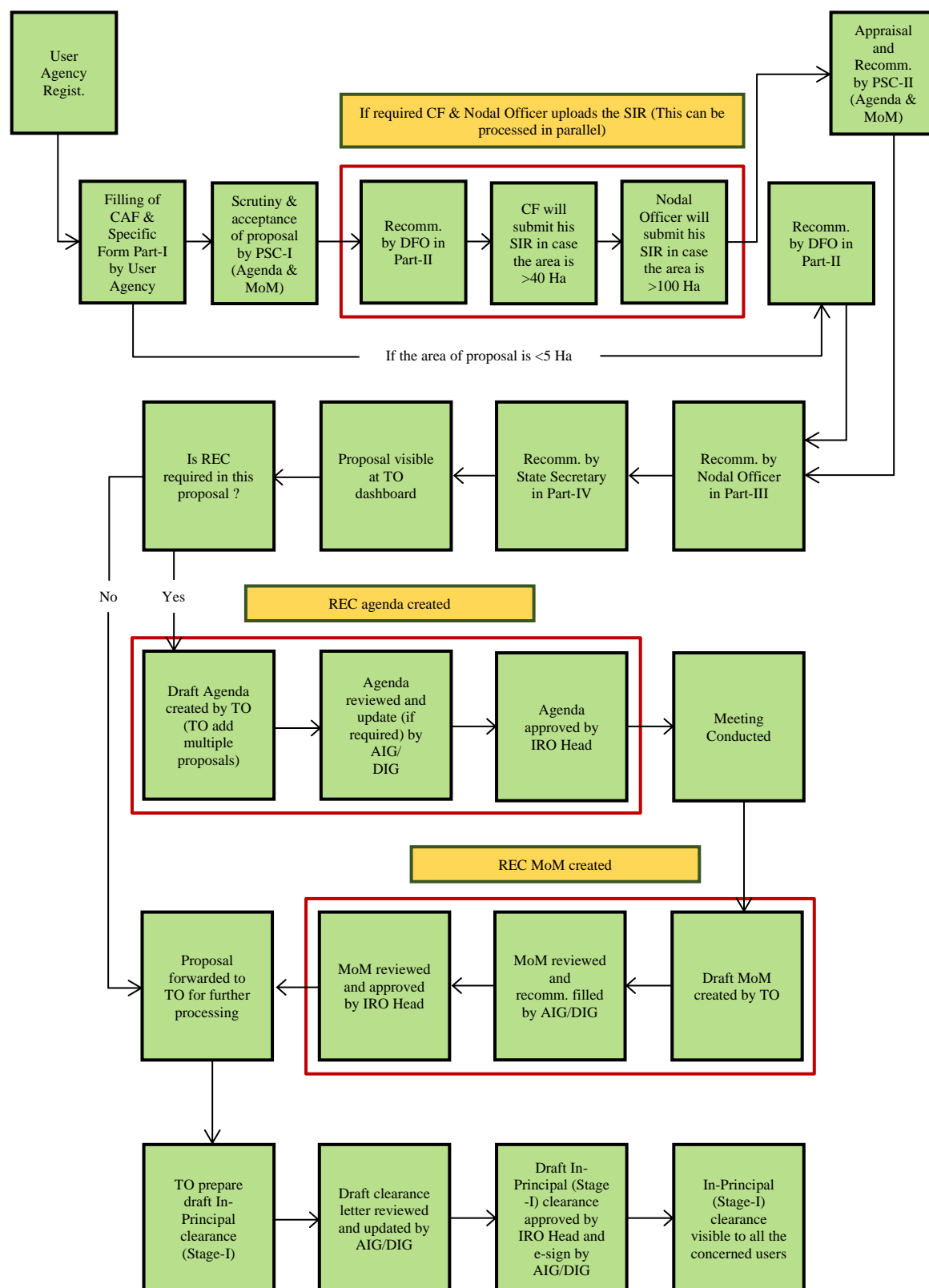
2. MINISTRY-LEVEL CLEARANCE WORKFLOW (1/2)



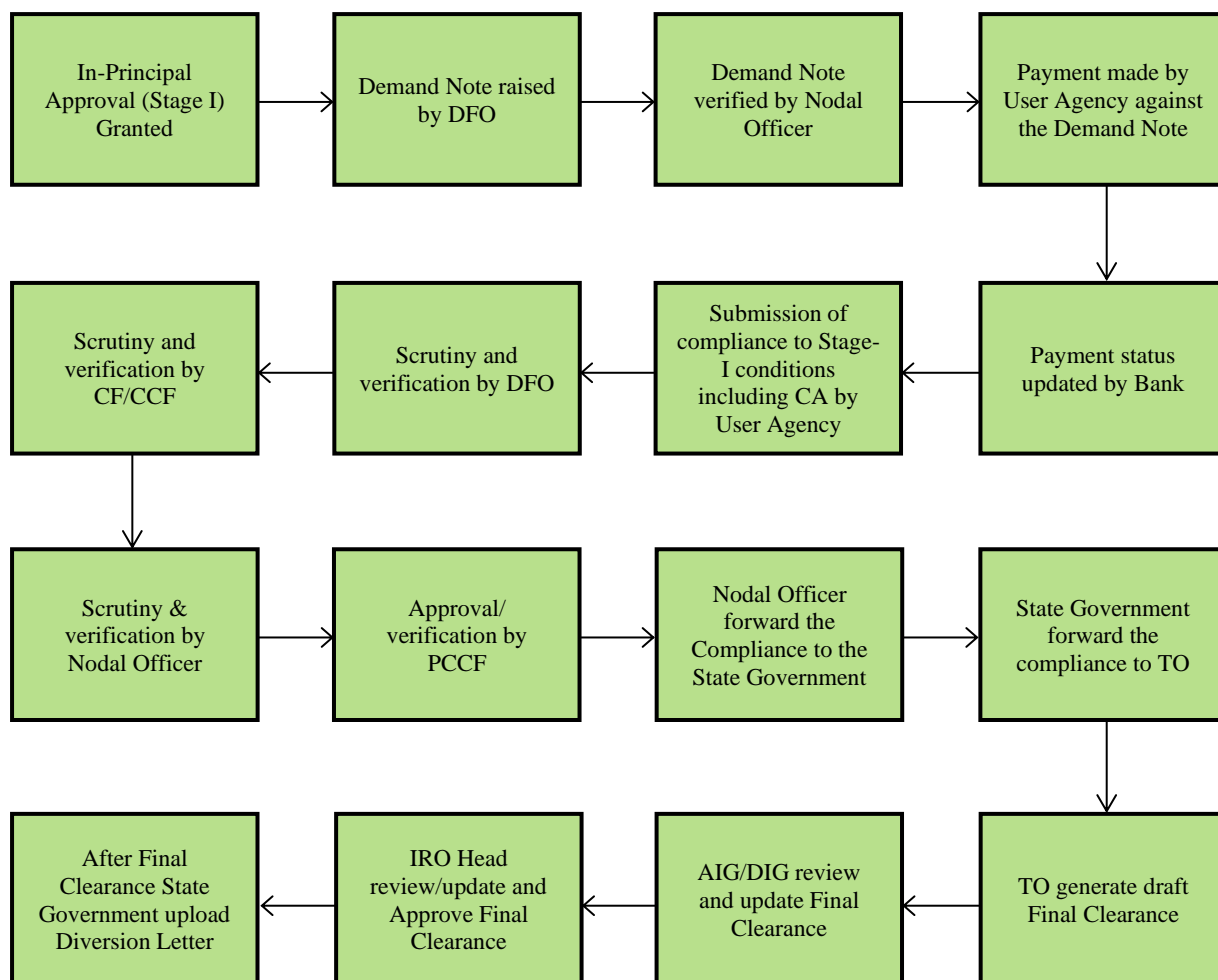
3. MINISTRY-LEVEL CLEARANCE WORKFLOW (2/2)



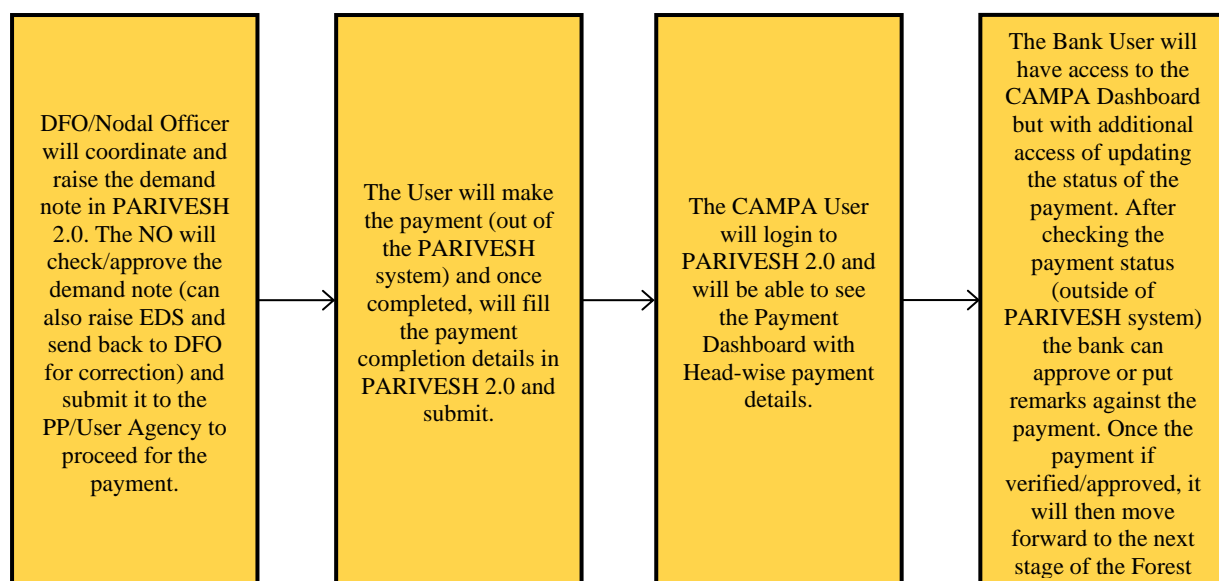
4. IRO-LEVEL CLEARANCE WORKFLOW (1/2)



5. IRO-LEVEL CLEARANCE WORKFLOW (2/2)



6. FLOW OF PAYMENT PROCESS IN FC PROPOSAL SUBMISSION



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON FOREST CLEARANCE (FC)

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- Consider “Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980”, released by MoEF&CC on 28th March 2019, “Forest Conservation Rule, 2022” enacted w.e.f 28th June 2022 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 enacted w.e.f 29th November 2023 as a base for all references.
- Forest land is a state subject, and the State Govt. handovers the forest land for non-forestry uses to the Project Proponent (PP) with due concurrence from the Central Govt. Central Govt can't allot forest lands directly.
- No State Government can de-reserve the forest land without the prior approval of the Central Government
- "Forest Officials of the State Govt." are held responsible under the purview of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, for any Violation of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and not the Project Proponent or Others- Unless "Action Taken Report (ATR)" submitted by the State Govt. against the concerned Erring Officials - No Forest Clearance can be Granted/Processed by the Central Govt. against the same.
- Oil & Gas E&P Activities are considered 'Mining' activities under the purview of Forest Regulations.
- FC Approval from Central Govt. is now not required under section 2(iii) of FCA, 1980 for granting Onshore PML blocks containing Forest Lands.
- Obtaining a RoFR Certificate from DC/ DM/ Collector in Compliance with “Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act (FRA), 2006” is mandatory prior to the grant of Final/ Stage-II FC.
- FRA, 2006 Act is administrated by MoTA
- NPV @ 2% Payable before grant of PML for the Forest land within the PML Block - MoEF&CC's relevant OM dtd 24th June 2015
- 7.5 m Safety Zones need to be provided against all Oil & Gas Forest Clearance Proposals - MoEF&CC's relevant OM dtd 3rd November 2023
- 2% of the total Project Cost to be paid against each Forest Clearance towards the cost of implementation of the Wildlife Management Plan and/or 0.5% of the Project Cost towards the cost of implementation of Soil and Moisture Conservation Plan - MoEF&CC's relevant OM dtd 8th June 2022
- Timeline for converting Stage-I FC to Final FC (by submission of Stage-I Compliance Report) has been reduced from 5 years to 2 years with the publication of FC Rules, 2022 through gazette notification dtd 28th June 2022
- Oil & Gas Seismic Survey in Forest land permitted eighty shot holes of six-inch diameter per square kilometre in case of seismic surveys - MoEF&CC's notification no. S.O. 5075 (E) dated 29.11.2023
- With the grant of IPA, no jobs can be taken up in forest land till Final FC is granted.
- Forest Clearances are Coterminous with the validity period of PML

- Technologies like Extended Reach Drilling have been exempted from the purview of the FC Act, 1980, since these don't involve any activity in Forest land - MoEF&CC's Guidelines dtd 12.09.2023.
- Forest Clearance is granted in the name of the Lessee only to whom PEL/ PML is allotted and not to the Operator for JVCs.
- FC is also to be Transferred when PEL/PML is transferred in whole or in part to the other party
- An Inter-Ministerial Coordination and Monitoring Committee (ICMC) has been constituted by MoEF&CC on 19.04.2022 under the chairmanship of DGF&SS to resolve the various pending issues of forest, environment and wildlife clearances. A meeting of the Committee is held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month.
- FRCM of ROs is conducting meetings twice a month to review the status of proposals pending FC proposals at various levels in the States and to expedite the processing and disposal of proposals.
- ROs to ensure holistic examination of the FC proposals and raise consolidated queries in one go and not to raise multiple queries - MoEF&CC's Advisory dtd 01.09.2021.
- Linear infrastructure projects linked to mining conceived after the commencement of mining operations are allowed to be dealt with at the RO level only to further streamline the process of Forest Clearance- MoEF&CC's guidelines dtd 23.08.2021
- Rates of Net Present Value (NPV) have been revised in compliance with the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 28.03.2008 vide MoEF&CC's Guidelines dtd 06.01.2022 - NPV rate increased by 1.51 times the prevailing rates of NPV
- States/UTs are authorised to transfer approval granted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, from the erstwhile user agency to the successful bidder after the expiry of the validity of the mining lease in terms of MMDR Act, 1957 - MoEF&CC's Guidelines dtd 07.07.2021.

2. FREQUENTLY ASKED EDS/ADS QUERIES NEED TO BE AVOIDED FOR FC PROPOSALS

- Submission of Erratic scan copy of project site map in **1:50000 scale in SOI Toposheet**
- The Topo-sheets, Geo-referenced layout maps & other documents showing the forest land diversion areas are **not duly signed by the authorised official with their official seals.**
- The Geo-reference map uploaded depicts only the Plinth Area and its Geo-coordinates readings, without indicating the approach towards the well plinth, for which FC need to be obtained
- Submission of an **undertaking** in non-judicial stamp paper/Pad towards payment of NPV and C.A., etc., at the revised rate in future
- Submission of an undertaking in non-judicial stamp paper/Pad that DGPS/Total Station did the survey
- FRA 2006 clearance certificate (**RoFR Certificate**) from the Deputy Commissioner /District Magistrate of the concerned district not furnished in the prescribed format (**Form**

I: For Linear Projects, **Form-II:** For Projects other than Linear and Plantation and **Form-III:** For Plantation in non-forest land)

- Approved Mining Plan is either not uploaded or not acceptable.
- Aerial distance from the nearest Wildlife Sanctuary/National Park/Biosphere reserve is not furnished with due certification from the concerned DFO
- Distances from the heritage sites are not furnished
- Proposal is not clear- Whether the FC applied for Prospecting/ Exploration or Exploration / Extraction/ harvesting of Hydrocarbon/ Natural Gas
- The project duration in forestlands is not specified
- The number of wells to be drilled in the diverted Forest land is not specified
- Status of Environment Clearance not furnished
- CA land details not furnished
- CA land offered found to be "INVIOLATE" in DSS of FSI, Dehradun
- Settlement of payable NPV @ 2% for the forestlands in PML block is not clarified
- Whether FC under section 2(iii) obtained as per guideline dtd 24.06.15, while granting PML with Forest lands
- When Production proposed against a location in FC Proposal - Query raised to furnish details of FC taken during the Exploration phase
- To furnish details of EC for Developmental activities against a location drilled as an Exploratory Well
- The wages rate as per the CA Scheme submitted by the DFOs is in old rates.

3. COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION (CA) & NPV ASSOCIATED WITH FC PROPOSALS

Compensatory Afforestation: This is a critical component and should be invariably accompanied by all FC proposals

- Primarily to be raised over equivalent non-forest land following land for land and tree for tree principle
- User Agency shall provide equivalent land for raising compensatory afforestation, which is neither notified as forest under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 nor any other law nor managed as Forest by the Forest Department.
- However, certain relaxations have been provided to raise CA over degraded forest land in the following:
 - Projects located in States having an area more than 33% of their total Geographical area subject to submission of Chief Secretary's Certificate
 - Transmission line projects
 - When suitable non-forest land is not available for raising CA certified by the State/UT govt, the CA may be raised over degraded forest land twice in extent for Central Govt. agencies or Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) (*This relaxation is not applicable if the projects involve non-forest land.*)

- Revenue forest land for CA is considered at par with NFL; however, they are also be provided double in extent to the forest land being diverted
- Forest-rich states having forest cover of more than 2/3 (in hill areas) and 1/3 in plain can raise CA on other States/UTs having forest cover of less than 20% of their GA
- Details of suitable land (NFL or DFL)
- Site suitability certificate
- CA scheme for undertaking afforestation over land identified for CA
- The CA scheme is to be prepared @ 1,000 trees/ha for NFL, and in case 1,000 trees/ha cannot be planted over NFL, the CA scheme should accompany the plan for afforestation of balance trees over degraded forest land
- Certificate of State Government of non-availability of suitable NFL for raising CA wherever applicable
- KML file derived from the Differential GPS surveys of the area identified for raising CA.
- Payment for Compensatory afforestation (CA) in CAMPA fund of the respective State: Compensatory Afforestation is required to be paid over an equivalent area of non-forest land or double the amount of degraded forestland (for PSUs) in relation to the actual area being diverted.
- DFO will evaluate the area of the forest area/degraded area identified for Compensatory Afforestation and also Count the Number of Trees to be Cut in connection with the proposed Forest Land Diversion proposal
- **NPV:** NPV is a monetised value of forestland to be paid by the user agency to Compensate for the Loss of Tangible and Intangible benefits flowing from such lands. NPV was defined by the Supreme Court in its landmark decision dated 26.09.2005 as “the present value of net cash flow from a project, discounted by the cost of capital.”
- The CAMPA Act, or Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority Bill, has been introduced to provide an appropriate institutional mechanism, both at the Centre and in each State and Union Territory, to ensure expeditious utilisation of amounts efficiently and transparently in lieu of forest land diverted for the non-forest purpose which would mitigate the impact of diversion of such forest land

4. BASIS OF CALCULATING NPV (AS PER SUPREME COURT’S ORDER)

Revised NPV Rates Introduced w.e.f 6th January, 2022 vide MoEF&CC’s File No 5-3/2011-FC (Vol-I):

Eco-Value Class of the Forest	Very Dense Forest (Rs per ha)	Dense Forest (Rs per ha)	Open Forest (Rs per ha)
Class- I	Rs. 15,95,790 (Max)	Rs. 14,36,670	Rs. 11,16,900
Class- II	Rs. 15,95,790 (Max)	Rs. 14,36,670	Rs. 11,16,900
Class- III	Rs. 13,57,110	Rs. 12,28,590	Rs. 9,57,780

Class- IV	Rs. 9,57,780	Rs. 8,61,390	Rs. 6,70,140 (Min)
Class- V	Rs. 14,36,670	Rs. 12,92,850	Rs. 10,05,210
Class-VI	Rs. 15,16,230	Rs. 13,72,410	Rs. 10,69,470

5. PAYABLE NPV FOR THE FOREST LAND FALLING IN NATIONAL PARKS/WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

- **In the case of National Parks**, payable NPV is 10 times the normal chargeable NPV
- **In the case of Wildlife Sanctuaries**, payable NPV is 5 times the normal chargeable NPV
- **In the case of Marine NPs & WLS**, payable NPV is 5 times the normal chargeable NPV for the adjoining forest area

6. AVERAGE NET PRESENT VALUE (NPV) PER HA OF FOREST LAND (OLD RATES)

NPV-Based Forest Products	Average NPV (Rs. per ha)
Timber and Fuel wood	Rs. 1,52,830 / ha
Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP)	Rs. 7,631 / ha
Fodder	Rs. 2,958 / ha
Eco-Tourism	Rs. 65,113 / ha
Bio Prospecting	Rs. 25,553 / ha
Ecological services of forest	Rs. 15,16,230
Flagship species	Rs. 2,58,400 / ha
Carbon Sequestration	Rs. 1,20,780 / ha
Total Value of Forest= Rs 7,77,597 (~ Rs 8 Lakh/ ha of Forest Area) (As per Old Rate)	

7. IMPORTANT ORDERS OF SUPREME COURT RELATED TO FOREST AND FOREST CONSERVATION




- 12.12.1996 - Thirumalpad Godavarman vs union of India
- Judgement dated 12.12.1996 (Clarifying the scope of applicability of FC Act)
- Order dated 13.11.2000 (restraining de-reservation of forests)
- 2002 (Restraining regularisation of encroachment)
- 30.10.2002 (Levying NPV in lieu of diversion of forest land)

- 19.05.2005 (Creation of Ad-hoc CAMPA)
- 04.08.2006 (Restraining mining within 1 KM distance from the PAs and 10 KM Eco-Sensitive Zone)
- 28.03.2008 - Fixation of rate of NPV based on Eco-Class
- 06.07.2011 - Lafarge Judgment regarding avoiding fait accompli situations
- 27.02.2012 - Deepak Kumar Judgement on sand mining
- 02.09.2014 - Common Cause judgement
- 26.01.2019 - Allowing change in the legal status of forest land for rehabilitation proposals
- 03.06.2022 - Eco-sensitive Zones around Pas

8. FOREST CLEARANCES RELATED PAIN POINT ISSUES

- Under the purview of Forest Regulations, O&G E&P Activities are treated at par with the mining of minerals extracted under the provision of Part-C of the First Schedule of MMDR Act, 1957
- Consequential effects:
 - Ban applicable for Mining projects inside PAs and 1 Km from the boundary of the PAs, as per Supreme Court's Judgement on the "Goa Foundation Case", is also made applicable to O&G E&P projects and all FC proposals are returned even after approval of the same by SC-NBWL
 - O&G E&P projects are made 'Prohibited' in all site-specific Final/Draft ESZ area notifications
 - Seismic surveys are not permitted inside PAs as well as in ESZ areas
 - A 7.5 Km Safety Zone needs to be provided for each O&G Upstream FC proposal (MoEF&CC's recent OM dtd 3rd November 2023)
 - ROs of MoEF&CC can't approve FC proposals more than 5 ha. Otherwise, RO has authorisation to approve proposals up to 40 ha
 - Applicability of FC for ERD proposal arises only because of consideration of O&G E&P projects as a 'Mining Activity' (*Mining Chapter-Clause (6) & Sub-clause 1.6(i) in FCA Hand Book- FCA, 1980 would apply not only the surface area which is used for mining projects but also to the entire underground mining area beneath the forest surface*)
- Delay in obtaining RoFR certificates from DC/DM/Collectors in compliance with FRA, 2006 certificate after obtaining resolutions from Gramsabha and FRC.
- Possession not obtained after the grant of FC due to illegal encroachment in forest lands for 3-4 decades since the demography patterns of the notified forest areas have changed.
- Repeated EDS/ADS Queries against the same FC Proposals (at Various Levels).
- Non-availability of digitised georeferenced maps based on the latest satellite imagery indicating physical boundaries of Forest/ Wildlife/ National Park, etc.
- State Forest Officials of NE do not have access to DSS of FSI, Dehradun.

SAMPLE FORMS FOR FOREST CLEARANCE (FC) IN PARIVESH-2.0 PORTAL**1. COMMON APPLICATION FORM**

 PARIVESH Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Government of India	<u>Common Application Form</u>	 
<u>Project Details</u>		
1. Details of Project		
1.1. Name of the Project : 1.2. Project Proposal For : 1.3. Project ID (Single Window Number) : 1.4. Description of Project :		
2. Details of the Company/ Organization/ User Agency making application		
2.1. Legal Status of the Company/Organization/User Agency : 2.2. Name of the Company/ Organization/User agency :		
<i>Registered address</i>		
2.3. Address : 2.4. Village/Town/City : 2.5. State : 2.6. District : 2.7. Pin Code : 2.8. E-mail address : 2.9. Landline Number : 2.10. Mobile number :		
3. Details of the person making application		
3.1. Name : 3.2. Designation :		
<i>Correspondence address</i>		
3.3. Address : 3.4. Village/ Town/ City : 3.5. State : 3.6. District : 3.7. Pin Code : 3.8. E-mail address : 3.9. Landline Number : 3.10. Mobile number :		
<u>Project Location</u>		
4. Location of the Project or Activity		
4.1. Upload KML : 4.2. Whether the project/activity falling in the state/UT sharing international borders International borders :		

5. Shape of the Project :***Location Details***

Toposheet No	State/UT	District	Sub District	Village	Plot/Survey/Khasra No.

Remarks

--

6. Land Requirement (in Ha) of the project or activity**6.1. Nature of Land involved**

6.2. Non-Forest Land [A] :

6.3. Forest land [B] :

6.4. Total Land [A+B] :

Project Activity Cost**6. Project/Activity Cost**

6.1. Total Cost of the Project at current price level (in Lakhs) :

7. Employment likely to be generated***7.1. During construction phase******Permanent employment***

7.1.1. No. of permanent employment (No.s) [A] :

7.1.2. Period of employment (No. of days) [B] :

7.1.3. No. of man-days [X]=[A]*[B] :

Temporary employment

7.1.4. Temporary/Contractual employment (No. of Man days) [Y] :

7.1.5. Total [X]+[Y] :

7.2. During operational phase***Permanent employment***

7.2.1. No. of permanent employment (No.s) [A] :

7.2.2. Period of employment (No. of days) [B] :

7.2.3. No. of man-days [X]=[A]*[B] :

Temporary employment

7.2.4. Temporary/Contractual employment (No. of Man days) [Y] :

7.2.5. Total [X]+[Y] :

Others

8. Whether Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) involved? :

9. Whether project area involves shifting of watercourse/
road/rail/Transmission line/water pipeline, etc. required? :10. Whether any alternative site(s) examined or part thereof
for the non-site-specific component? :11. Whether there is any Government Order or Policy/
Court order relevant or restricting to the site? :

12. Whether there is any litigation pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up? :
13. Whether the proposal involves violation of Act/ Rule/ Regulation/ Notification of Central/ State Government? :

2. FORM-A (PART-1): DIVERSION OF FOREST LAND



Form-A (Part-1): Diversion of Forest Land

Project Details

1. Forest Clearance

- 1.1. State :
- 1.2. Upload a copy of note containing justification for locating the Project in forest land :
- 1.3. Project Category :
- 1.4. Exempted Category :
- 1.5. Is Related to Encroachment? :
- 1.6. Whether any proposal seeking prior approval of Central Government under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of forest land required for this project has been submitted in the past? :

Proposed Land

2. Details of Forestland proposed to be diverted (Village / Division / District Wise Breakup)

- 2.1. Total area of forestland proposed for diversion (ha.) :
- 2.2. Total area of non- forestland required for this project (ha.) :
- 2.3. Legal Status of forest land proposed for diversion :

Area (ha)	Legal Status of Forest Land

2.3.1. Total Area (ha) :

2.4. Total period for which the forestland is proposed to be diverted (No. of years) :

KML Details

Division	
No. of Patches	
Division	

Location Details

Toposheet No.	District	Village	Range (ha)	Forest land proposed for diversion (ha)	Non Forest Land (ha)

Patch Details

Patch/Segment ID	Forest Area (ha)	Non-Forest Area (ha)	Remarks if any

Remarks Details

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Total Patch-wise Forest Land in the division (ha)

2.5. Total Forest Land Area (ha) :

2.6. Total Non Forest Land Area (ha) :

Total KML-wise Forest Land in the division (ha.)

2.7. Total Forest Land Area (ha) :

2.8. Total Non Forest Land Area (ha) :

2.9. Total Area (ha) :

3. Component Wise Break Up

Component	Forest Land Proposed for Diversion (ha)	Non-forest Land (ha)

4. Total Forest Land (ha) :

5. Total Non Forest Land (ha) :

6. Upload map of the forest land proposed to be diverted prepared by using DGPS or Total Station (pdf only) :

Afforestation Details**7. Details of land identified for Compensatory Afforestation**

7.1. Whether Compensatory Afforestation is applicable or not? :

7.1.1. Type of Compensatory Afforestation :

Others**8. Cost-Benefit analysis**

8.1. Whether Cost-Benefit analysis for the Project has been made? :

9. Environmental clearance Details

9.1. Whether the Project requires Clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 (Environmental clearance)? :

9.1.1. Status of Environmental Clearance :

9.1.1.1. Reasons thereof :

10. Wildlife clearance Details

10.1. Whether the Project or a part thereof is located in any Protected Area or their Eco sensitive zone? :

Category Specific Details**11. Details of Mineral-Oil Licence/Lease**

11.1. Period of validity of Mineral-Oil Exploration/Mining Licence/Lease :

11.1.1. From :

11.1.1. To :

11.2. Name of approving authority of Mineral-Oil Exploration/Mining Licence/Lease :

11.3. Copy of approved Mineral-Oil Exploration/Mining Licence/Lease along with approval letter :

11.4. Copy of map of the outer boundary of mining lease area (pdf only) :

11.5. Copy of the detailed land use plan in 1:4,000 scale prepared by using DGPS or Total Station (pdf only) :

11.6. Details of Exploration undertaken to assess mineral oil reserves :

11.6.1. Whether detailed exploration assess mineral oil reserve in the lease has been undertaken :

11.7. Presence of any previously drilled wells in the proposed PML Area :

11.8. Mineral-Oil Reserves/Resources

Type of Mineral-Oil	Proved Reserves/Resources (Million Ton)	Proved + Probable Reserves/Resources (Million Ton)	Proved + Probable + Possible Reserves/Resources (Million Ton)	Remarks

11.9. Estimated reserves in Forest/Non-Forest land if any

Type of Mineral Oil	Estimated Reserve in Forest Land (ha.)	Estimated Reserve in Non-Forest Land	Remarks

- 11.10. Copy of the Mineral-Oil Exploration licence and extension the Mineral-Oil Exploration licence :
- 11.11. Copy of note containing details of the plan for the transportation of the mineral oil proposed to be raised from the Mineral-Oil Mining lease :
- 11.12. Status of approval of Exploration License/Mining Lease for Mineral-Oil :
- 11.13. Mineral-Oil to be extracted

Type of the Mineral Oil to be extracted	Classification of mineral	Estimated/Envisaged Production in	
		MTPA	MMSCMD

- 11.14. Total excavation as drill cuttings etc.
- 11.14.1. Drill Cuttings (cubic meter) :
- 11.14.2. Other information, if any :
- 11.15. Expected life of Mineral Oil Reservoir (Years)
- 11.15.1. Life of the Mineral Oil Reservoir as per total estimated reserves
- 11.15.1.1. Years :
- 11.15.1.1. Month :
- 11.15.2. Life of the Mineral Oil Reservoir as per approved Field Development plan
- 11.15.2.1. Years :
- 11.15.2.1. Month :
- 11.15.3. Expected life of the Mineral Oil Reservoir :
- 11.15.4. Other information, if any :
- 11.16. Phase of Mineral Oil Extraction
- 11.16.1. Phase of Operation :
- 11.16.2. Other information, if any :
- 11.17. Type of blasting, if any, to be adopted :
- 11.18. Whether it is proposed to install production facility (e.g.: EPS/QPS/OCS/GGS/GCS etc.) within the Mineral-Oil Mining Lease area :
- 11.19. Drill Cuttings & Wastewater management plan
- 11.19.1. Total drill cuttings excavated & wastewater management during the entire life of the petroleum activity :
- 11.20. Other information, if any :
- 11.21. Details of the waste pit
- 11.21.1. Estimated volume of the waste management pit for Drill cuttings & Wastewater :

- 11.22. Other information, if any :
- 11.23. Details of Transportation of Mineral Oil extracted
- 11.23.1. Mode of transportation up to Separator :
- 11.24. Mode of transportation from Separator to loading point/GGS :
- 11.25. Mode of transport from loading point/GGS to consumers :
- 11.26. Other information, if any NA :
- 11.27. Details of the Site-Restoration Plan after cessation of proposed activity :
- 11.27.1. Plantation area (in Ha) :
- 11.28. Public use (in Ha) :
- 11.29. Other uses (in Ha) :
- 11.30. Field Development Plan for Mineral Oil extraction :
- 11.31. Whether the proposal involves Production details No for Expansion/Modernization :

12. Copy of Additional Information, if any

S. No	Document Name	Remark	Document

Undertaking

☐ I hereby give undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to be best of my knowledge and belief and I am aware that if any part of the data and information is found to be false or misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and clearance given if any to the project will be revoked at our risk and cost. In addition to the above, I hereby give undertaking that no activity/construction/expansion has been taken up.

Name	
Designation	
Company	
Address	
Date	

3. FORM-B (PART-I): RENEWAL OF LEASE ON FOREST LAND



Form-B (Part-1): Renewal of Lease on Forest Land

Project Details

1. State :
2. Project Category :
3. Details of approvals under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 accorded in the past :

Proposal No.	MoEFCC File No.	Area Diverted	Diversion Period	Date of approval

Approval Details

4. Status of compliance to conditions stipulated in the previous approvals :

Proposal No.	MoEFCC File No.	Conditions stipulated by the MoEFCC	Details of the compliance

5. Details of payments made in respect of the approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 accorded in the past

Proposal No.	MoEFCC File No.	Item/Nature	Amount Paid (in Rupees)	Date of Payment

6. Details of the forest land returned back to the State Forest Department or any other Authority from the forest land diverted in favour of the user agency

- 6.1. Whether a part of the forest land diverted in favour of the user agency has been returned to the State Forest Department or any other Authority? :

7. Details of Transfer of Lease, if any

- 7.1. Name of the original lessee agency at the time of grant/previous renewal of the lease :
- 7.2. Address of the original lessee agency at the time of grant/previous renewal of the lease :
- 7.3. Whether the lease was transferred from the original lessee at the time of grant/previous renewal of the lease to any agency at the time of grant/previous renewal of the lease to any Yes other firm/person :

Details of transfer of lease from the original user agency lessee to the current lessee in the chronological order

- 7.3.1. Name of the firm or person in whose favour the lease was transferred
 7.3.2. Address of the firm or person in whose favour the lease was transferred
 7.3.3. Date of transfer of lease
 7.3.4. Copy of the transfer deed

- 7.4. Whether the approval under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for transfer of lease has been obtained

MOEF File No.	Approval date	Copy of MoEF Approval

Proposed Land**8. Forestland proposed to be renewed**

- 8.1. Total area of forestland proposed for renewal (ha.) :
 8.2. Total area of non- forestland proposed for renewal (ha.) :
 8.3. Legal Status of forest land proposed for diversion :

Area (ha)	Legal Status of Forest Land

- 8.3.1. Total Area (ha) :

KML Details

Division	
No. of Patches	
Division	

Location Details

Toposheet No.	District	Village	Range (ha)	Forest land proposed for diversion (ha)	Non Forest Land (ha)

Patch Details

Patch/Segment ID	Forest Area (ha)	Non-Forest Area (ha)	Remarks if any

Remarks Details

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9. Details of forestland proposed for renewal

9.1. Total Forest Land Area (ha) :

9.2. Total Non Forest Land Area (ha) :

9.3. Total Area (ha) :

10. Component Wise Break Up

Component	Forest Land Proposed for Diversion (ha)	Non-forest Land (ha)

11. Total Forest Land (ha) :

12. Total Non Forest Land (ha) :

13. Upload map of the forest land proposed to be diverted prepared by using DGPS or Total Station (pdf only) :

Afforestation Details**14. Details of land identified for Compensatory Afforestation**

14.1. Whether Compensatory Afforestation was raised in the past? :

14.1.1. Provide reasons thereof :

Others**15. Cost-Benefit analysis**

15.1. Whether Cost-Benefit analysis for the Project has been made? :

15.1.1. Reasons thereof :

16. Environmental clearance Details

16.1. Whether the Project requires Clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 (Environmental clearance)? :

17. Wildlife clearance Details

17.1. Whether the Project or a part thereof is located in any Protected Area or their Eco sensitive zone? :

Category Specific Details

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18. Additional Information

S. No	Document Name	Remark	Document

Undertaking

☐ I hereby give undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to be best of my knowledge and belief and I am aware that if any part of the data and information is found to be false or misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and clearance given if any to the project will be revoked at our risk and cost. In addition to the above, I hereby give undertaking that no activity/construction/expansion has been taken up.

Name	
Designation	
Company	
Address	
Date	

4. FORM-C (PART-I): FOR SEEKING PRIOR APPROVAL FOR EXPLORATION & SURVEY

Form-C (Part-1): For seeking prior approval for Exploration & Survey

Project Details

- Whether the project area falls within protected area or within 1 km of distance from the boundary of PA in the Eco sensitive zone :

- State :

Details of Mineral Concessions

- Total area of the prospecting lease (ha.) :

Area proposed for exploration/survey

- Non-Forest Land (ha.) :
- Forest Land (ha.) :
- Date of issue of the License/ Letter of Intent (LOI) for grant of prospecting lease :
- Upload a copy of the License/ Letter of intent (LOI) (pdf only) :
- Whether any proposal seeking prior approval of Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act for diversion of forest land required for this project has been submitted in the past? :

Project Details

9. Details of Forestland proposed to be explored/ surveyed (Village / Division / District Wise Breakup)

Legal status of forest land	Area
Reserve Forest	
Unclassed Forest	
Revenue Forest	

10. Total :

11. Total period for which the forestland is proposed to be explored/surveyed (No. of years) :

KML Details

Division	
No. of Patches	
Division	

Location Details

Toposheet No.	District	Village No.	Range	Linear		Non-Linear	
				Forest land proposed for exploration/ survey (ha)	Non Forest Land (ha)	Forest land proposed for exploration/ survey (ha)	Non Forest land proposed for exploration / survey (ha)

Patch Details

Patch/Segment ID	Forest Area (ha)	Non-Forest Area (ha)	Remarks if any

Remarks Details

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12. Total Non Forest Land (ha) :

13. Total Forest Land (ha) :

14. Total Area (ha) :

Other Details

10. Whether the Project requires Clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 (Environmental clearance)? :

Activities Details**11. Details of activities proposed to be undertaken in forest land**

Surface sampling	Area

12. Pitting or trenching

- 12.1. Number of Pits [N] :
- 12.2. Width of Pits (km) [W] :
- 12.3. Depth of Pits (km) [D] :
- 12.4. Length of Pits (km) [L] :
- 12.5. Total volume of excavation (tonnes) $[N] \times [W] \times [D] \times [L]$:
- 12.6. Surface area (ha) $[N] \times [W] \times [L]$:

13. Drilling of Boreholes

- 13.1. Number of Drills :
- 13.2. Diameter (inches) :
- 13.3. Depth of boreholes (metres) :
- 13.4. Area of forest land likely to be experience temporary change in land used at each borehole site (ha) :
- 13.5. Area of forest land likely to be experience permanent change of land used due to drilling or boreholes (ha) :
- 13.6. Total meterage area of boreholes (in sq. meters) :

14. Construction of roads or paths involving temporary change in land use

- 14.1. Length (km) [L] :
- 14.2. Width (km) [W] :
- 14.3. Area of forest land (ha) $[L] \times [W] \times 100$:

15. Construction of roads or paths involving permanent change in land use

- 15.1. Length (km) [L] :
- 15.2. Width (km) [W] :
- 15.3. Area of forest land (ha) $[L] \times [W] \times 100$:

16. Any other activity involving temporary change in land use

- 16.1. Whether any other activity involving temporary changes in Area :
- 16.1. Whether any other activity involving temporary changes in land use in proposed to be undertaken? :
 - 16.1.1. Please specify :
 - 16.1.2. Area involved (ha) :

17. Any other activity involving permanent change in land use

- 17.1. Whether any other activity involving permanent changes in land use in proposed to be undertaken? :

Land Details**18. Area of forest land likely to experience temporary change in land use (ha)**

- 18.1. Surface sampling (ha) :

- 18.2. Pitting or trenching (ha) :
 18.3. Drilling of bore holes (ha) :
 18.4. Construction of roads or paths (ha) :
 18.5. Other activity (pl. Specify) (ha) :
 18.6. Total :

19. Area of forest land likely to experience Permanent change in land use (ha)

- 19.1. Drilling of bore holes (ha) :
 19.2. Construction of roads/paths :
 19.3. Other activity (pl. Specify) :
 19.4. Total :

20. Details of machinery or equipment to be deployed for prospecting

Name of equipment or machinery	Mode of traction	Size (L*B* H) (Cubic Meters)	Estimated deployment (machine hours)	Maximum noise level (decibel)

21. Details of existing paths/roads in the proposed to be utilized for transport of the equipment or machines in the forest land

- 21.1. Details of existing paths/roads in the proposed to be utilized for transport of the equipment or machines in the forest land :

22. Number and duration of stay in the forest land of the persons proposed to be deployed for exploration/ survey

- 22.1. No. of person :
 22.2. Duration (days) :

23. Summary of the estimated quantity of ore and other samples proposed to be collected during the exploration/survey

- 23.1. Details of sample :
 23.2. Qty. proposed to be collected (Metric Ton) :

24. Estimated accuracy and confidence level for mineral reserve assessment

- 24.1. Estimated accuracy level for mineral reserve assessment (%) :
 24.2. Estimated confidence level for mineral reserve assessment (%) :

25. Estimated accuracy and confidence level in case number of bore holes proposed to be drilled is reduced by

- 25.1. Accuracy :
 25.2. Confidence level :

26. In case the proposal is for extension of the period of the permission granted for prospecting, or for drilling of additional boreholes, please provide following additional information

Details of approval accorded under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in the past

- 26.1. Proposal No. :
 26.2. Date of the approval accorded :
 26.3. Area of forest land permitted for prospecting (ha) :
 26.4. Validity (From) period of approval :
 26.5. Validity (To) period of approval :

27. Report on status of compliance to the conditions stipulated in the approval accorded in the past

S.No	Condition stipulated	Status of compliance

- 27.1. Details of violation(s), if any committed :
 27.2. Justification for extension of permission accorded for prospecting :
 27.3. Upload a copy of note containing details of prospecting activities undertaken and sample collected, so far (pat only) :

Afforestation Details

28. Details of land identified for Compensatory Afforestation

- 28.1. Whether CA land is applicable or not? :

29. Additional Information

S. No.	Document Name	Remark	Document

Undertaking

☐ I hereby give undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to be best of my knowledge and belief and I am aware that if any part of the data and information is found to be false or misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and clearance given if any to the project will be revoked at our risk and cost. In addition to the above, I hereby give undertaking that no activity/construction/expansion has been taken up.

Name	
Designation	
Company	
Address	
Date	

5. FORM-D (PART-I): SIGNING OF LEASE (SECTION 2(III)) ON FOREST LAND



PARIVESH
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Government of India



Form-D (Part-1): Signing of Lease (section 2(iii)) on Forest Land

1. Project Details

- 1.1. State :
- 1.2. Category of project :
- 1.3. Justification of proposal :

Proposed Land

2. Details of Forestland proposed to be diverted (Village / Division / District Wise Breakup)

- 2.1. Total area of forestland proposed for assignment of lease (ha.) :

Legal Status of forest land proposed for diversion

Area (ha)	Legal Status of Forest Land

- 2.2. Total Area (ha) :
- 2.3. Total period for which the forestland is proposed to be leases (No. of years) :

3. Details of Forestland proposed for lease

Division	
No. of Patches	
Division	

Location Details

Toposheet No.	District	Village	Range (ha)	Forest land proposed for diversion (ha)	Non Forest Land (ha)

Patch Details

Patch/Segment ID	Forest Area (ha)	Non-Forest Area (ha)	Remarks if any

Remarks Details

Total Patch-wise Forest Land in the division (ha)

3.1. Total Forest Land Area (ha) :

3.2. Total Non Forest Land Area (ha) :

Total KML-wise Forest Land in the division (ha.)

3.3. Total Forest Land Area (ha) :

3.4. Total Non Forest Land Area (ha) :

3.5. Total Area (ha) :

4. Scanned copy of the map of the forest land proposed to be diverted prepared by using DGPS or Total Station (pdf only) :
5. Distance from the boundary of nearest Protected area/Eco-sensitive zone (km) :
6. Letter of Intent :

Category Specific Details**7. Details of DPR**

7.1. Enter Details of DPR :

7.2. Upload Copy of DPR :

8. Additional Information

S. No.	Document Name	Remark	Document

Undertaking

☐ I hereby give undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to be best of my knowledge and belief and I am aware that if any part of the data and information is found to be false or misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and clearance given if any to the project will be revoked at our risk and cost. In addition to the above, I hereby give undertaking that no activity/construction/expansion has been taken up.

Name	
Designation	
Company	
Address	
Date	

6. FORM-E (PART-1): RE-DIVERSION (I) LAND USE CHANGE (II) LAYING OF OVERHEAD/ UNDERGROUND OFC/ DRINKING WATER PIPELINE/ SLURRY PIPELINE/ ELECTRIC CABLE/ CNG/PNG WITHIN ROW



Form-E (Part-1): Re-Diversion (i) Land Use Change (ii) Laying of Overhead/ Under Ground OFC/ drinking water pipeline/ slurry pipeline/ electric cable/ CNG/PNG within RoW

Project Details

1. State :
2. Application for :
3. Change in land use is sought by :
4. Purpose of Re-diversion / LUC :
5. Whether the re-diversion/LUC is proposed within the Right of Way of road :
6. Justification :
7. Details of approvals under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 accorded in the past :

Proposal No.	MoEFCC File No.	Area of forest land diverted (Ha)	Diversion Period (Years)	Date of approval

8. Status of compliance to conditions stipulated in the previous approvals :

Proposal No.	MoEFCC File No.	Conditions stipulated by the MoEFCC	Details of the compliance

Proposed Land

9. Category of the project :
10. Area for which re-diversion/ LUC is applied, detail of approval obtained under the FC Act, 1980 Area approved (Earlier)

Division	Kml	Area approved (earlier)			Area proposed for Re-diversion / LUC		
		Component	Forest Land (Ha)	Non-Forest Land (Ha)	Component	Forest Land (Ha)	Non-Forest Land (Ha)

- 10.1. Total Area approved Forest Land (Ha) :
- 10.2. Total Area approved Non-Forest Land (Ha) :
- 10.3. Total Area proposed for Re-diversion / LUC Forest Land (Ha) :
- 10.4. Total Area proposed for Re-diversion / LUC Non-Forest Land (Ha) :

11. Project affected trees to be felled :

Other Details**12. Details of the forest land returned back to the State Forest Department or any other Authority from the forest land diverted in favour of the user agency (Auto Fetch in Approved case)**

- 12.1. Whether a part of the forest land diverted in favour of the user agency has been returned to the State Forest Department or any other Authority? :

13. Environmental clearance Details

- 13.1. Whether the Project or a part thereof is located in any Protected Area their Eco sensitive zone? :
- 13.2. Reasons thereof :

17. Wildlife clearance Details

- 17.1. Whether the Project or a part thereof is located in any Protected Area or their Eco sensitive zone? :

Category Specific Details

--

18. Additional Information

S. No.	Document Name	Remark	Document

Undertaking

19. An undertaking to abide by the conditions stipulated in the approval granted under the FC Act, 1980 :

☐ I hereby give undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to be best of my knowledge and belief and I am aware that if any part of the data and information is found to be false or misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and clearance given if any to the project will be revoked at our risk and cost. In addition to the above, I hereby give undertaking that no activity/construction/expansion has been taken up.

Name	
Designation	
Company	
Address	
Date	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON WILDLIFE CLEARANCE (WLC)

1. GENERAL INFORMATION




- Mining activities are banned inside PAs and 1 Km from the boundary of the PAs, as per the Supreme Court's Judgement in 2014 on the "Goa Foundation Case", followed by the subsequent latest judgement on 26th April 2023.
- Wildlife Clearance is required for projects inside the protected areas and within a 10 km radius ESZ area from the boundary of any protected area or notified site-specific ESZ areas for the individual PAs.
- **Except for the EIA Notification, 2006, no other environmental regulations are applicable in ESZ areas.**
- Wildlife Clearance is required for projects inside the Protected areas as well as within a 10 km radius of the ESZ area from the boundary of any protected area or notified Site specific ESZ areas for the individual PAs under the purview of the following Regulations/ Supreme Court's order:
 - Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, with subsequent amendments in 1993, 2002, 2003 & 2006
 - Wildlife (Protection) Rules, 1995 enacted from 18th April, 1995
 - Supreme Court's order dated 4th December 2006 on ESZ area against Writ Petition (Civil) no.460/2004
- Once an Applicant applies on PARIVESH for WL Clearance, the proposal will be routed through the Wild Life Warden to the Chief Wild Life Warden, followed by the State Board of Wild Life, State Government, and further to the Ministry for approval from SC-NBWL.
- **Projects inside the PAs would require Forest Clearance in addition to Wildlife Clearance.**
- Project in ESZ area would not require Wildlife Clearance **if EC is not attracted for the Project** (viz. Pipelines/ other Linear Projects)
- Recommendation of the State Board for Wildlife (Chaired by the CM of the State) is mandatory prior to approval from the Standing Committee for the National Board for Wildlife.

2. HURDLES PERTAINING TO OBTAINING WILDLIFE CLEARANCE (WLC) FOR O&G E&P PROJECTS

- The 10 Km ESZ area has been continuing since 2006 for many PAs; as a result, most of the projects attract SC-NBWL approvals, which take 3-4 years.
- Delay in getting the Project Recommended by the State Board for Wildlife (SBWL) under the Chairmanship of the State Chief Minister - It takes 3-4 years after processing at all levels right from DFO - Hardly one meeting of SBWL takes place in a year.

- The same five-part form used for projects executed inside PAs is used for ESZ area proposals. It also requires level details from PP & DFOs.
- Wildlife Division's guideline dtd 26.09.2014 was withdrawn on 01.05.2015. It permitted the application directly to the Centre for ESZ area proposals from SC-NBWL.
- Site Specific Final/Draft ESZ notifications 'Prohibits' O&G E&P activities in ESZ areas- It needs to be permitted as 'Regulated' activity.
- Seismic Surveys inside PAs need to be permitted, as Technologies like ERD, etc., are available to access the reservoir without any entry inside the forest area
- CEC's report dtd 20th September 2012 against IA-1000 on ESZ has not been Endorsed/ Persuaded by the Supreme Court- It recommends ESZ area from (100 mtr to 2 Km) in 4 categories against 10 Km as of now, depending upon the size of the PAs (from 100 sq. Km to more than 500 sq. Km area):
 - ESZ area of 100 mtr recommended for Category-D PAs (area up to 100 sq. Km)
 - ESZ area of 500 mtr recommended for Category-C PAs (area between 100 & 200 sq. Km)
 - ESZ area of 1 Km recommended for Category-B PAs (area between 200 & 500 sq. Km)
 - ESZ area of 2 Km is recommended for Category-A PAs (area of 500 sq. Km or more)

SAMPLE FORMS FOR WILDLIFE CLEARANCE (WLC) IN PARIVESH-2.0
PORTAL

 PARIVESH Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Government of India	<u>Wild Life Report</u>	 
Form for seeking recommendation of Standing Committee of NBWL/SBWL		
<u>PART-I & II</u>		
(To be filled by User Agency)		
A. <u>Location of the project/Scheme:</u>		
A-1. Project Details		
(i) Forest Clearance Required? : (ii) Proposal No. : (iii) Name of Project : (iv) Short narrative of the Project : (v) State : (vi) Category of the Project : (vii) Shape of project land : (viii) Distance of the project from the boundary of the Protected Area (in km.) : (ix) Estimated cost of the Project (Rupees in lacs) : (x) Total period for which clearance is required (in year) : (xi) Total Project Area (in ha.) : (xii) Project Area under Protected Area (in ha.) : (xiii) Project Area under Non-Protected Area (in ha.) :		
A-2. Details of the User Agency		
(i) Name : (ii) Address 1 : (iii) Address 2 : (iv) State : (v) District : (vi) Pin : (vii) Landmark : (viii) Email address : (ix) Landline Telephone No. : (x) Fax No. : (xi) Mobile No. : (xii) Website (if any) : (xiii) Legal status of User Agency :		
A-3. Details of Person Making Application		
(i) First Name : (ii) Middle Name : (iii) Last Name :		

- (iv) Gender :
- (v) Designation:
- (vi) Address 1 :
- (vii) Address 2 :
- (viii) State :
- (ix) District :
- (x) Pin :
- (xi) Landmark :
- (xii) Email Address :
- (xiii) Landline Telephone No. :
- (xiv) Fax No. :
- (xv) Mobile No. :
- (xvi) **Upload a copy of documents in support of the competence/authority of the person making this application to make application on behalf of the User Agency :**

B. Details of Land required for the Project:

B-1. Details of Protected Area

B-1.1. No. of Divisions involved in Protected Area

Division wise details of Land			
S. No	Division Name	Protected Area Name	Project Area under Protected Area (Ha.)

B-1.2. Details of Districts involved

District wise breakup			
S. No	District Name	Project Area under Protected Area (Ha.)	Project Area under Non-Protected Area (Ha.)

B-1.3. Component wise breakup

Component wise breakup			
S. No	Division Name	Project Area under Protected Area (Ha.)	Project Area under Non-Protected Area (Ha.)

C. Maps of protected area:

Division:		
<p>(i) Project Area under Protected Area (in. Ha.) :</p> <p>(ii) Nature of the Project :</p> <p>(iii) No of Patches :</p>		
Patch wise details		
Patch No	Area of the Patch (Ha.)	Kml File of Patches
<p>(iv) Copy of Survey of India Toposheet indicating boundary of protected area :</p> <p>(v) Scanned copy of the Geo-referenced map of the protected area prepared by using DGPS or Total Station :</p>		

D. Maps of protected area:

(i) **Copy of note containing justification for locating the Project in protected area:**

E. Employment likely to be generated:

(i) **Whether project is likely to generate employment? :**

(a) Permanent/Regular Employment (Number of persons) :

(b) Temporary Employment (Number of person-days) :

F. Displacement of People due to the project, if any:

(i) **Whether project involve displacement? :**

G. Status of Environmental clearance :

(i) **Whether the Project requires Clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986? :**

(a) Status of the Environmental Clearance to the Project :

(ii) **Environmental Clearance File No. :**

H. Whether proposal is for investigation/survey? :

H-1. Whether proposal is for investigation/survey? :

H-2. Details of the Bio diversity Impact Assessment report in case the proposal involves use of more than 50 Ha. NP/WLS.

(a) Copy of the Bio diversity Impact Assessment report :

H-3. Information on the projects undertaken by the proponent agency in the past in Protected Areas.

(a) Upload File :

H-4. Details regarding compliance of the conditions on each proposal.

(a) Upload File :

H-5. Whether any matter related to the project is sub judice in any court of law?:**I. Mining Details :****I-1. Details of Mineral Concessions.**

(i) Whether the Protected Area is acquired under Coal Bearing Areas Act :

(a) *Reference number of Letter of Intent for grant of mining lease (approval letter of the State Mines and Geology Department) :*(b) *Date of issue of the Letter of Intent (LOI) for grant of mining lease :*(c) *Copy the Letter of Intent (LOI) :*(d) *Total area of the mining lease (in ha.) :*(e) *Area of Protected land located in the mining lease (in ha.) :***I-2. Details of the Bio diversity Impact Assessment report in case the proposal involves use of more than 50 Ha. NP/WLS.**

(i) Copy of the Bio diversity Impact Assessment report :

(ii) Approval authority :

(iii) Copy of the approval of mining plan :

(iv) Copy of approved mining plan :

(v) Nature of mining (underground/opencast) :

(a) *Copy of 3D subsidence analysis report :*

(vi) Copy of the detailed land use plan in 1:4,000 scale prepared By using DGPS or Total Station :

(vii) Copy of map of the outer boundary of mining lease area :

I-3. Details of prospecting undertaken to assess mineral reserves.

(i) Whether detailed prospecting to assess mineral reserve in the Lease has been undertaken? :

Prospecting undertaken to assess mineral reserves					
S. No	Designation of Authority	Grant Date	From Date	To Date	Copy of prospecting licence

I-4. Details of extention (if any) of original prospecting licence issued in the past.

(i) Whether extension of original prospecting licence was extended? :

I-5. Bried details of prospecting activities undertaken in the mining lease.

(i) Detail of prospecting activities undertaken in the mining lease :

I-5.1. Details of bore holes drilled for prospecting :

Bore holes drilled for prospecting				
S. No	No. of bore holes in forest land	Diameter (inch) in forest land	No. of bore holes in non-forest land	Diameter (inch) in non-forest land

I-5.2. Estimated Reserve along with accuracy and confidence level :

Prospecting undertaken to assess mineral reserves						
Mineral	Estimate Reserve Forest land (million tons)	% forest land accuracy	% forest land confidence	Estimate Reserve non- forest land (million tons)	% non- forest land accuracy (±)	% non- forest land confidence

I-6. Details of approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 obtained for undertaking prospecting activities in the Protected Area located in the mining lease.

- (i) Whether approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for undertaking prospecting activities in the protected area located in the mining lease have been obtained? :

I-7. Mineral wise details.

- (i) No. of minerals :

Mineral wise details						
Mineral (s)	Estimated Non-Protect Area (million tons.)	Estimated Protect Area (million tons.)	Estimated annual extraction (million tons.)	Estimated life time of mine (Yrs.)	Total estimated extraction during mining lease period (million tons.)	Estimated mineral reserve at the end of mining lease (million tons.)

I-7.1. Proposed use of the minerals to be raised from the mining lease.

- (a) *Proposed use of the minerals proposed to be raised from the mining lease :*
- (b) *Upload a copy note containing details of the plan for the transportation of the minerals proposed to be raised from the mining lease :*

J. Additional Information Details:

Documents		
S. No	Uploaded Additional Info. Files	Remark

Undertaking

☐ I hereby give undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to be best of my knowledge and belief and I am aware that if any part of the data and information is found to be false or misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and clearance given if any to the project will be revoked at our risk and cost. In addition to the above, I hereby give undertaking that no activity such as change in project layout, construction, expansion, etc. has been taken up.

Name	
Designation	
Company	
Address	
Date	

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON GRANT OF CONSENT/AUTHORISATION BY
THE STATE PCBS/UT PCCS (CTE/CTO)**

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- CTE is necessary for initiating preparatory activities after the grant of PEL/PML - In some States, CTE is not granted until EC is accorded for the project/activities.
- CTO and HWA can be applied only after the grant of EC.
- CTO can't be renewed without having an EC for the project/activity.
- CTO is mandatory before the start of Exploration/ Development drilling activities.
- CTO is granted with specific land coordination of the unit/activity/ installation.
- Industries are classified into 'Red', 'Orange', 'Green' and 'White' categories and dealt accordingly while approving Consent and Authorizations:
 - Industrial Sectors having Pollution Index score of 60 and above - Red category
 - Industrial Sectors having Pollution Index score of 41 to 59 - Orange category
 - Industrial Sectors having Pollution Index score of 21 to 40 - Green category
 - Industrial Sectors having Pollution Index score incl.& up to 20 - White category
- Single Window Clearance Portal of the following States are merged with the respective State PCB Portals:
 - **TS-iPASS** State portal of Telangana: "Telangana State Industrial Project Approval and Self-Certification System (TS-iPASS) Act, 2014", introduced as a new Industrial Policy by the Telangana government is interlinked with the portal of the State Pollution Control Board.
 - **SWAAGAT** (Single Window Approval by All Government Agencies in Tripura): The single Window Clearance State portal introduced by the Govt. of Tripura is interlinked with the State Pollution Control Board portal.
 - **The XGN (Xtended Green Node) portal was introduced by the Gujarat State Pollution Control Board.**
- NGT vide order dtd 07.05.2019 advised CPCB to submit a report on "Extraction of groundwater for Oil & Gas E&P activities".
- NGT vide order dtd 01.01.2019 advised CPCB to constitute a committee and submit a report on the feasibility of "Pitless Drilling" in connection with O&G E&P activities.
- GSR 546(E) dtd 30th August 2005 specifies for compliance the following:
 - Development of green belt in 33% of the total land area allotted in the PEL/PML blocks.
 - A 100 m wide Green Belt is to be created for each gas flare pit in On-shore blocks.
 - Oily-based Drill Cuttings are to be sent to TSDF facilities for further treatment.
 - The maximum permissible rate for discharge of Drill Cuttings from Off-shore rigs is 50 bbl/hr/well.
 - Liquid Effluent disposal containing oil and grease should not exceed 10 mg/l.
 - Discharge of Gaseous Emission is permissible only through Elevated Flaring.

2. DATA TO BE CAPTURED FOR ENVIRONMENT MONITORING DURING VARIOUS PHASES OF O&G E&P ACTIVITIES

Required Data	Reference
SPM, RSPM, SO ₂ , NO _x , HC (Methane & Non-methane), VOCs (ambient levels as well as stack emissions), Flaring, Power Generation & Consumption, Fuel Consumption, etc.	As stipulated in EC conditions and Consent granted by State PCBs
Waste Types and Quantities of Generation, Storage, Treatment, Co-processing, Recycling & Disposal records	As per requirement of HWA and Consent granted by State PCBs
Environmental Monitoring Records (Ambient Environmental conditions, Stack Emission, Effluent Quality, Soil Quality, Ground Water Quality, Hazardous Waste Characterization)	As per the requirement of conditions Stipulated in EC and HWA and Consent granted by State PCBs
Greenbelt Development Records, Tree Cut Records, Compensatory Plantation Records	As stipulated in EC conditions and Consent granted by State PCBs
These data need to be Captured for all cases where EC/ Consent/ Authorization/NOC, etc., have been taken, or the specific E&P activities are attracted under the purview of EP Act, 1986, Water Act, 1974, Air Act, 1981, HWA Rules, 2016, etc.	

3. ENVIRONMENT-RELATED REGULATORY RETURNS TO BE SUBMITTED DURING VARIOUS PHASES OF O&G E&P ACTIVITIES

Submission Requirement	Frequency	Reference
Hazardous Waste Return	Annual	HWM Rules, 2008, amended in 2016
Environmental Statement	Annual	EC Condition & EPA Rules
Bio-Medical Waste Return	Annual	Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules
E-Waste Return	Annual	E-Waste Management Rules
CTO Compliance	Half-yearly	Air & Water Acts
Battery Return	Half-yearly	Battery Waste (M&H) Rules
EC Compliance	Half-yearly	EIA Notification, 2006
TSDf Return	Quarterly	HWM Rules, 2008, amended in 2016
Environmental monitoring Reports	Monthly	Consent conditions

4. WEBSITES OF THE STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARDS AND UT POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEES

State Pollution Control Boards		
1	Andhra Pradesh State Pollution Control Board	https://pcb.ap.gov.in/UI/Home.aspx
2	Arunachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board	http://pollutioncontrolboard.com/state/arunachal-pradesh-pollution-control-APSPCB.html
3	Assam State Pollution Control Board	http://www.pcbassam.org
4	Bihar State Pollution Control Board	http://bspcb.bih.nic.in
5	Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board	http://www.enviscecb.org
6	Goa State Pollution Control Board	http://goaspcb.gov.in
7	Gujarat State Pollution Control Board	http://gpscb.gov.in
8	Haryana State Pollution Control Board	http://hspcb.gov.in
9	Himachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board	http://hppcb.nic.in
10	Jammu & Kashmir State Pollution Control Board	http://jkspcb.nic.in
11	Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board	http://www.jspcb.org
12	Karnataka State Pollution Control Board	https://kspcb.karnataka.gov.in
13	Kerala State Pollution Control Board	http://www.keralapcb.nic.in
14	Madhya Pradesh State Pollution Control Board	http://www.mppcb.nic.in
15	Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board	http://mpcb.gov.in
16	Manipur State Pollution Control Board	https://manipcb.nic.in/
17	Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board	http://megspcb.gov.in
18	Mizoram State Pollution Control Board	https://mpcb.mizoram.gov.in/
19	Nagaland State Pollution Control Board	http://www.npcb.nagaland.gov.in
20	Odisha State Pollution Control Board	http://ospcbboard.org
21	Punjab State Pollution Control Board	http://www.ppcb.gov.in
22	Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board	http://environment.rajasthan.gov.in/content/environment/en/rajasthan-state-

		pollution-control-board.html
23	Sikkim State Pollution Control Board	https://spcb.sikkim.gov.in/
24	Tamil Nadu State Pollution Control Board	http://www.tnpcb.gov.in
25	Telangana State Pollution Control Board	http://tspcb.cgg.gov.in/default.aspx
26	Tripura State Pollution Control Board	http://tspcb.tripura.gov.in
27	Uttar Pradesh State Pollution Control Board	http://www.uppcb.com
28	Uttarakhand State Pollution Control Board	http://ueppcb.uk.gov.in
29	West Bengal State Pollution Control Board	http://www.wbpcb.gov.in
UT Pollution Control Committees		
1	Delhi Pollution Control Committee	http://www.dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in/indexd up.php
2	Puducherry Pollution Control Committee	https://dste.py.gov.in/ppcc/Index.html
3	Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee	http://chandigarh.gov.in/dept_cpcc.htm
4	Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli Pollution Control Committee	http://www.pccdaman.info
5	Andaman & Nicobar Islands Pollution Control Committee	http://andssw1.and.nic.in/swc/depts/ppc/
6	Lakshadweep Pollution Control Committee	https://lpcc.utl.gov.in/

5. THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (NGT) OF INDIA

- NGT has been established under the purview of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010, in concurrence with Rio Summit 1992, to provide judicial and administrative remedies for the victims of pollutants and other environmental damage. The Tribunal is not bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure 1908 but is guided by 'natural justice' principles.
- It has original jurisdiction on matters related to substantial questions of the environment.
- The Tribunal comprises the Chairperson, the Judicial Members and Expert Members. They can hold office for three years or till the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier and are not eligible for reappointment.
- The Central Government appoints the Chairperson in consultation with the Chief Justice of India (CJI).
- The central government shall form a Selection Committee to appoint the Judicial Members and Expert Members.

- There must be at least 10 and a maximum of 20 full-time judicial members and expert members in the tribunal.
- NGT has to dispose of the cases presented to it within 6 months of their appeals
- The decisions of the NGT can be challenged in High Courts and the Supreme Court
- NGT deals with civil cases under the seven following acts related to the environment:
 - Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
 - Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1974
 - Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
 - Forest Conservation Act, 1980
 - Environmental Protection Act, 1986
 - Public Liability Insurance Act 1991
 - Biological Diversity Act, 2002
- The following two Acts have been kept out of the jurisdiction of NGT:
 - Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
 - Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (FRA, 2006)

OIL & GAS E&P ACTIVITIES AND THEIR DEPENDENCY ON THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS

Oil & Gas E&P Activities are very much dependent on the District Administrators in various phases of operations right from Day 1. Discovery from Oil & Gas E&P Activities in a block also helps develop the district in many ways, viz. contributing a significant amount as royalty to state exchequers, opportunities of direct and indirect employment of youths, socio-economic development of the region through various CSR projects, etc.

DC/DM/Collector's Association with O&G E&P Activities in the following cases:

- Grant/Execution of PEL/PML Deed based on blocks allotted by the Government of India.
- Taking all probable stakeholders on board before starting E&P activities in fields from Day 1.
- Assisting in land acquisition for drilling locations/others under the purview of Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.
- Organising Public Hearings for prior grant of 'A' Category Environment Clearance and completing the process within 45 days.
- Issuance of FRA, 2006 compliance certificate in connection with Forest Clearance under the purview of Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.
- Identification and allotment of degraded land for CA purposes to the private operator in connection with FC proposals.
- Issuance of NOC to PSU/ Private Operator if CA land is unavailable in the district in connection with Forest Clearance.
- Approval of Plan/ Drawings, etc., in connection with obtaining Approval/ License from the Petroleum and Explosive Safety Organization (PESO) - For HSD Tanks of Rigs, Tanks in Tank Farms, Pipelines, OCS, GCS, LPG Plants, etc.
- Pilferages from Operating Pipeline need to be strictly administrated under the purview of PMP Act, 1962, amended vide Gazette Notification dated 29.2.2012 - According to which such act is considered as "Cognizable and non-bailable offence" - Secretary MoPNG's letter to the Chief Secretaries of the States dtd 19.02.2008 and 17.04.2008.
- Eviction of Encroachments over Pipeline ROW/ROU, which is a serious hazard to public life and property.
- Take action against illegal encroachers in forestland when they do not allow the erection of boundary pillars, demanding high money after Stage-I FC approval and payment of NPV/CA.
- CA appointment through a gazette notification for acquisition of RoU (Right of Use) for Pipeline construction under the purview of the Petroleum & Mineral Pipelines (PMP) Act, 1962.
- Implementation of the CER schemes decided during Public Hearings and implementation of other CSR schemes.

- Approval of Offsite Disaster Management Plan under the provision of the Disaster Management Act 2005.
- Assisting for Offsite Periodic Mock Fire Drills.
- Organising Periodic Onshore Coordination Committee Meetings - Presently taking place in 10 States, viz., Assam, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Tripura, Nagaland, and Jharkhand.
- Land Bank Creation in the district for CA purposes in connection with Forest Clearances
- Acts as the Chairman of the District Disaster Management Authority.
- Sensitive Oil & Gas Installations to declare as Prohibited area declaration under provision of Section 2 (8), Sub Clauses (c) & (d) of Official Secret Act, 1923.
- Oil & Gas installations in sensitive Border areas to get included in the list of high alert zones under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- Industrial Estate/Area/Park Declaration for the applicable cases.
- Law and order issues and security for men and machines.
- Periodic Awareness campaigns on various issues from time to time.
- NOC from Town Planning Officer for Green Belt - under the purview of the Town & Country Planning Act.
- Granting permission to cut trees on the premises.
- Resolving discrepancies in revenue land records for the cases where records are either unavailable or not updated.
- Proper identification of “Affected Family” associated with LAQ under the purview of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.
- Amicably Resolving Local Environmental Problems varies from place to place.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACTS AND THEIR AMENDMENTS, RULES,
REGULATIONS NOTIFICATIONS/GUIDELINES, OFFICE MEMORANDUMS,
AND SUPREME COURT JUDGMENTS RELEVANT TO THE CLEARANCE
PROCESS IN THE O&G E&P SECTOR**

ACTS AND THEIR AMENDMENTS

- **Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981:** *It provides for the prevention, control and abatement of air pollution in India.*
- **Biological Diversity Act, 2002:** *It provides for the conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of biological resources and knowledge.*
- **Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:** *It provides for the protection and improvement of the environment.*
- **Explosives Act, 1884:** *It regulates the manufacture, possession, use, and sale of explosives.*
- **Factories Act, 1948:** *It consolidates and amends the law regulating labour in factories.*
- **Indian Forest Act, 1865:** *It empowered several local governments (state) to declare certain areas as State Forests without interfering with the rights of the people.*
- **Indian Forest Act, 1927:** *It consolidates the laws relating to forest, the transit of forest-produce and the duty leviable on timber and other forest-produce. The Imperial Legislative Council passed this act in September 1927, and the then Governor General of India assented to it.*
- **Inflammable Substances Act, 1952:** *It declares certain substances to be dangerously inflammable and regulates their import, transport, storage and production.*
- **Mines Act, 1952:** *It lays down the duties of mine owners, managers, and workers and specifies the measures that must be taken to prevent accidents and occupational diseases.*
- **Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957:** *It provides for the regulation of mines and the development of minerals under the control of the union and imposes general restrictions on undertaking prospecting and mining operations, dictates the procedure for obtaining mineral concession, and prescribe rules for regulating the grant of mineral concessions.*
- **National Green Tribunal Act, 2010:** *It provides for the establishment of a National Green Tribunal for the effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources, including enforcement of any legal right relating to the environment and giving relief and compensation for damages to persons and property.*
- **Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948:** *It regulates the procedures for licensing the exploitation of natural gas, petroleum, crude oil, refined oil, partially refined oil and any of the products of petroleum in a liquid or solid state.*
- **Petroleum Act, 1934:** *It consolidates and amends the law relating to the import, transport, storage, production, refining and blending of petroleum.*

- **Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006:** *It provides for the establishment of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board to protect the interests of consumers and entities engaged in specified activities relating to petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas and to promote competitive markets.*
- **Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991:** *It provides for public liability insurance for the purpose of providing immediate relief to the persons affected by an accident occurring while handling any hazardous substance.*
- **Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006:** *It recognises the rights of the forest-dwelling tribal communities and other traditional forest dwellers to forest resources, on which these communities were dependent for a variety of needs, including livelihood, habitation and other socio-cultural needs.*
- **Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 (amended in 1988 and 2023):** *It regulates the indiscriminate diversion of forest lands for non-forestry uses and maintains a logical balance between the developmental needs of the country and the conservation of natural heritage. It also provides compensatory afforestation to make up for diversifying forest land to non-forest use.*
- **Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974:** *It provides for the prevention and control of water pollution and for the maintaining or restoring wholesomeness of water in the country.*
- **Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Act, 1988:** *The amended act allowed citizens to bring action under the Water Act. As per the amendment, the State Board must make relevant reports available to complaining citizens unless the Board determines that the disclosures would harm the "public interest".*
- **Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) (Cess) Act, 1977 (amended in 1991):** *It provides for the levy and collection of a cess on water consumed by persons carrying on certain industries and by local authorities, with a view to augment the resources of the Central Board and the State Boards for the prevention and control of water pollution constituted under the Water Act.*
- **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972:** *It provides a legal framework for the protection and safeguarding of the wildlife (flora and fauna) in the country, management of their habitats, regulation, and control of trade in wild animals, plants, and products made from them to ensure environmental and ecological security.*

RULES

- **Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001:** *It prescribes rules to regulate the collection and recycling of used lead-acid batteries in the country and make it mandatory for consumers to return used batteries and make manufacturers/ assemblers/ reconditioners/ importers responsible for collection of batteries and ensuring their onward transport to recyclers.*

- **Chemical Accidents (Emergency, Planning, Preparedness and Responsive) Rules, 1996:** *It prescribes rules for preparedness and response during the operation of on-site and Off-site Emergency Plans during chemical disasters.*
- **Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986:** *It prescribes rules for the protection and improvement of the environment.*
- **Explosive Rules, 2008:** *It prescribes rules on grant of approval, licences for manufacture of explosives, authorisation of explosives, storage of explosives, import/export of explosives, transport of explosives by road and packaging for explosives, etc.*
- **E-Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011:** *It prescribes rules specifying the requirements and responsibilities of the producer, consumer or bulk consumer involved in the manufacture, sale, purchase and processing of electrical and electronic equipment or components, specifying e-waste collection, and channelising for recycling or disposal.*
- **Forest (Conservation) Rules, 1981 (substituted with Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003 and amended twice in 2017):** *It prescribes rules to be followed to preserve the forest ecosystem of India.*
- **Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022:** *It provides procedures for obtaining approval and compensation for forest loss to safeguard the territory and integrity of the forests and maintain an ecological balance for every flora and fauna to sustain.*
- **Gas Cylinder Rules, 2004:** *It regulates filling, possession, transport and import of compressed gases, viz., permanent gas, liquefiable gas or gas dissolved in liquid.*
- **Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016:** *It lays down provisions for storage, packaging, transportation, recycling, utilisation, pre-processing, coprocessing, treatment, import, export, offering for sale, transfer or disposal, etc. of the hazardous and other wastes.*
- **Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rule, 1989 (amended in 2003):** *It prescribes rules to ensure safe handling, generation, processing, treatment, package, storage, transportation, use reprocessing, collection, conversion, and offering for sale, destruction and disposal of Hazardous Waste.*
- **Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008:** *It provides for the proper management and handling of hazardous waste by regulating the collection, reception, treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous wastes.*
- **Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989:** *It prescribes rules to deal with the safety and environmental aspects associated with the manufacture, storage, and import of hazardous chemicals.*
- **Mineral (Evidence of Mineral Content) Rules, 2015:** *It necessitates accurate documentation and reporting of mineral contents in exploration and mining activities to facilitate transparency and compliance with regulatory standards.*
- **Mines Rules, 1955:** *It gives detailed and specific provisions for the maintenance of health, safety and welfare of the mine workers and the schedules for necessary filings of the industry.*
- **Mines Vocational Training Rules, 1966:** *It mandates inculcating and training the mine workers on the safe aspects of the working environment of mines.*

- **Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000:** *It prescribes rules to regulate and control noise-producing and generating sources with the objective of maintaining ambient air quality standards with respect to noise.*
- **Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules, 1959:** *It regulates the grant of exploration licenses and mining leases with respect to petroleum and natural gas, which belongs to the government, and for conservation and development.*
- **Petroleum and Natural Gas (Safety in Offshore Operations) Rules, 2008:** *It was notified for regulation of safety in offshore exploration, exploitation, conservation, and management of Petroleum and Natural Gas.*
- **Petroleum Rules, 2002:** *It prescribes the rules relating to the import, transport, storage, production, refining and blending of petroleum.*
- **Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016:** *It mandates the generators of plastic waste to give thrust on minimising generation and littering of plastic waste, ensuring segregated waste storage at the source and recycling the segregated waste.*
- **Static & Mobile Pressure Vessels (Unfired) Rules, 1981:** *According to the rule, drawing, design, specification and code must be approved by the Chief Controller of Explosives, PESO. The Chief Controller is the competent person who is an expert in carrying out the test, examination, inspections and certification of the installation and transport vehicle of subject pressure vessels in an installation, whether mobile or static.*
- **Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023:** *It provides that the de-reservation of reserved forests, use of forest land for non-forest purposes, assigning forest land by way of lease or otherwise to a private entity, and clearing of naturally grown trees for the purpose of re-afforestation requires prior permission of the Central Government.*

REGULATIONS

- **Oil Mines Regulation (OMR), 1984 (amended in 2017):** *It outlines the requirements for upstream oil and gas facilities, mostly with regard to safety issues and necessary training.*
- **Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Codes of Practices for Emergency Response and Disaster Management Plan (ERDMP)) Regulations, 2010:** *It provides regulations for the identification of probable emergency scenarios, mitigation measures and preparedness of emergency plans.*
- **Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Technical Standards and Specs including Safety Standards for Petroleum & Petroleum Products Pipelines) Regulation, 2016:** *It prescribes regulations to ensure uniform application of design principles and guide in the selection and application of materials and components, equipment and systems and uniform operation and maintenance of the petroleum and petroleum products pipelines system, primarily focusing on safety aspects of the employees, public and facilities associated with petroleum and petroleum products pipelines.*

NOTIFICATIONS/ GUIDELINES

- **Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011:** *It declares the coastal stretches of the country and the water area up to its territorial water limit, excluding the islands of Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep and the marine areas surrounding these islands up to its territorial limit, as Coastal Regulation Zone, restricting the setting up and expansion of any industry, operations or processes and manufacture or handling or storage or disposal of hazardous substances in such areas to ensure livelihood security to the fisher communities and other local communities living in the coastal areas, conserve and protect coastal stretches, its unique environment and its marine area.*
- **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006:** *It mandates obtaining prior Environment Clearance for all projects listed in the schedule of the notification.*
- **FC-11/46/2020-FC dated 12.09.2023:** *Extended Reach Drilling (ERD) Technology and the applicability of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.*
- **FC-11/46/2020-FC- Part (1) dated 03.11.2022:** *Request from Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Gol, to introduce a separate category in the PARIVESH portal for hydrocarbon projects.*
- **FC-11/19/2023-FC dated 21.03.2023:** *Clarification on the deposition of part of compensatory levies into the account of the Divisional Forest Officer.*
- **F.No.1-9/2007 WL-I(pt) dated 09.02.2011:** *Guidelines for declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries issued by Govt. of India, MoEF&CC (WL Division).*
- **F. No.5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 06.01.2022:** *Revision of rates of Net Present Value.*
- **F.No.6-30/2019-WL dated 13.12.2023:** *Revised guidelines for seeking recommendations of the Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) for activities in Protected Areas and ESZ, issued by MoEF&CC (WL Division).*
- **F.No.8-118/2006-FC dated 24.06.2015:** *Regarding Payment of 2% NVP of Forest area involved in PML area.*
- **F.No.11-423/2011-FC dated 03.11.2023:** *It describes the applicability of maintenance of safety zone with respect to Oil and Gas proposals and petroleum mining leases.*
- **F.No.WL-6/14/2023 WL dated 18.03.2024:** *Standing Committee's decision on sequential consideration of project proposals involving Forest and Wildlife Clearance.*
- **GSR. 176(E) April 1996:** *Guidelines for Discharge of Solid Waste, Liquid Discharge and Gaseous Emissions by Oil Drilling and Gas Extraction Industry.*
- **GSR. 186(E) dated 18th March 2008:** *It provides environmental standards for petroleum oil refineries.*
- **GSR. 546(E) dated 30th August 2005:** *Guidelines for discharge of Solid waste, drill cutting and drilling fluids disposal for onshore drilling operation.*
- **Island Protection Zone (IPZ) Notification, 2011:** *It declares the coastal stretches of Middle Andaman, North Andaman, South Andaman and Greater Nicobar and the entire area of the other islands of Andaman and Nicobar and the Lakshadweep and their water area up to territorial water limit as the Islands Protection Zone, restricting the areas from the setting up and expansion of any industry, operations or processes and*

manufacture or handling or storage or disposal of hazardous substances with a view of providing livelihood security to the local communities including the fisherfolk and tribals, promote conservation and protection of Islands unique environment and its marine area.

- **S.O. 236 (E) dated 16.01.2020:** *It classifies Oil and Gas exploration drilling operations as “B2” category projects.*
- **S.O. 804 (E) dated 14.03.2017:** *It prescribes the process for appraisal of TOR/EC projects under violation of EIA Notification, 2006 and provides an opportunity to all Project Proponents to regularise all the violation cases under the purview of Environment (Protection) Act, where Projects are executed without obtaining Environment Clearance (EC).*
- **S.O. 1030 (E) dated 08.03.2018:** *It directs the Expert Appraisal Committee or the SEAC/SEIAA to consider proposals depending upon the categorisation of projects/ activities (A or B) listed in the schedule to the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006.*
- **S.O. 1807 (E) dated 12.04.2022:** *It prescribes the EC validity period for Oil and Gas E&P and all other projects to be 10 years.*
- **S.O. 5075 (E) dated 29.12.2023:** *Order specifying the terms and conditions subject to any survey such as reconnaissance, prospecting, investigation or exploration, including seismic survey.*

OFFICE MEMORANDUMS

- **F.No. IA3-12/1/2022-IA.III dtd. 26.04.2022:** *It states that SEIAA of the concerned State/UT can grant CRZ Clearance along with EC only for projects that fall under the "B" category.*
- **F. No. IA3-22/10/2022-IA.III dtd. 08/06/2022:** *It states that the validity of the EIA Report is three years, which could be extended by a maximum of one year.*
- **F. No. J-11011/294/2017-IA-II(I) dtd. 06.09.2018:** *It clarifies that only the pipeline projects passing through National Parks/Sanctuaries/Coral Reefs/Ecologically Sensitive Areas need prior EC.*
- **F. No. J-11013/77/2004-IA II (I) dtd. 18.03.2010:** *It informs that the final EIA/EMP will be entertained in the Ministry for consideration for the Environment Clearance only if prepared by consultants accredited by the National Accreditation Board of Education and Training/Quality Council of India (NABET/QCI).*
- **F. No. Z-11013/22/2017-IA.II (M) dtd. 15.03.2018:** *It gives directions for compliance to operationalise notification no. S.O. 1030 (E) dated 08.03.2018, which directs the Expert Appraisal Committee or the SEAC/SEIAA to consider proposals covered under category "B".*
- **F. No. Z-11013/22/2017-IA.II (M) dtd. 16.03.2018:** *It extended the timeline of proposal submission by another 30 days for regularisation of the violation cases in compliance with the order dated 14th March 2018 of Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Madras in WMP Nos.3361 and 3362 of 2018 and WMP No.3721 of 2018 in WP No.11189 of 2017.*

SUPREME COURT JUDGMENTS

- **SC order dtd. 04.08.2006 (WPC No. 202 of 1995):** *This case was initially instituted to address timber felling and protection of forest lands in the Nilgiri range of Tamil Nadu. Subsequently, its scope was expanded to protect such natural resources throughout the country.*
- **SC order dtd. 14.03.2018 (WMP Nos.3361 and 3362 of 2018, and WMP No.3721 of 2018):** *It directed MoEF&CC to extend the time of submission of proposals by project proponents by 30 (thirty) days from the date of delivery of the order in open court.*
- **SC order dtd. 03.06.2022 (WPC No. 202 of 1995):** *This order mandates the maintenance of a minimum of 1 km of an eco-sensitive zone around any protected area.*
- **SC order dtd. 26.04.2023 (WPC No. 202 of 1995):** *This order dilutes the previous mandate of the maintenance of a minimum of 1 km Eco-Sensitive Zone around any Protected Area; however, it prohibits any kind of mining activity within 1 km of any Protected Area.*



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