

F.No. IA3-22/5/2025-IA.III [E-258537]
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Impact Assessment Division

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
3rd Floor, Vayu Wing, Jor Bagh Road
Ali Ganj, New Delhi-3

Dated: 28th February, 2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Clarification on the authority of SEIAA and SEAC to amend / transfer the ToRs/ECs and split/ extend the validity/ accept the surrender of ECs granted by MoEF&CC under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 – regarding.

The projects or activities covered in the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006, are broadly categorized into two categories, i.e., Category-A and Category-B. Category-A projects or activities are considered at the Central level in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) based on the recommendations of the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC), while the Category-B projects or activities are considered at the State level in the State level Environmental Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAAs) based on the recommendations of the State level Expert Appraisal Committees (SEACs).

2. Category-B projects or activities may be considered at the Central level in MoEF&CC under the following circumstances:


- a. In the absence of a duly constituted SEIAA/SEAC at the States/UT level, a Category-B project or activity shall be considered at the Central level as a Category-B;
- b. Any Category-B project or activity shall be considered at the Central level as Category-A due to the applicability of General Condition.

3. Due to the amendments in the EIA Notification 2006 from time to time, changes in thresholds of projects may occur due to decentralization & delegation of powers to SEIAAs/SEACs and due to changes in the applicability of General Conditions, the projects or activities which were earlier considered at the Central level in MoEF&CC, may subsequently fall within the domain of SEIAAs/SEACs. Further SEIAAs and SEACs which were not in existence may also be re-constituted subsequently.

4. In view of the above, the Ministry is in receipt of request for clarifying whether the authority to amend such ToRs/ECs granted earlier by MoEF&CC, shall continue to remain with the Ministry or whether SEIAAs/SEACs may entertain such requests.

5. In this regard, the Ministry hereby clarifies that SEIAA and SEAC shall be the Competent Authority for issuance of amendments (including corrigendum)/ transfer such ToRs/ECs and split/extend the validity/ accept the surrender, of such ECs granted earlier by MoEF&CC at the Central level under the circumstances highlighted in para 2 above on account of the change of circumstances as mentioned in para 3 above. The concerned SEIAA and SEAC shall process the cases at their respective levels by following the due procedure as laid down in the EIA Notification, 2006.

6. This is issued with the approval of the Competent Authority.


(Dr. J.D. Marcus Knight)
Scientist E

To

1. Chairman/Member Secretary, CPCB.
2. Chairperson/Member Secretaries of all the State/UT, PCBs/PCCs
3. Chairperson/Member Secretaries of all the EACs.
4. Chairperson/Member Secretaries of all the SEIAAs/SEACs.
5. All Officers of IA Division.

Copy to:

1. PS to Hon'ble MEFCC
2. PS to Hon'ble MoS (EF&CC)
3. Sr. PPS to Secretary (EF&CC)
4. Sr. PPS to DGF & SS (EF&CC)
5. PPS to AS(AG) / PPS to JS (RA)
6. Website, MoEF&CC /Guard File