



Monthly Newsletter



Bulletin

MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

AUGUST 2022



We are gladdened to present to the stakeholders MPCB's 16th edition of E-bulletin as we continue to series. This E-bulletin is an attempt to give you a brief insight into the latest happenings in the field in terms of various new initiatives undertaken, awareness programs being carried out by MPCB and introduce the reader to the breakthrough research which is being done in this field.

In this edition of the E-Bulletin, we present to you an article on the Sacred Groves of India, their traditional and modern uses and the threats to the groves. Later, a synopsis on India's updated first nationally determined contribution under Paris Agreement working towards climate justice. We present to you highlights of the awareness programs carried out in the regional offices of Nagpur and Nashik, a notification on the Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill and some important circulars by MPCB and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India.

We hope this E bulletin is very much valuable, informative and helpful for the readers. And we will also greet your suggestion & feedback for betterment of our future E-bulletins.

Editorial

ARTICLE



Mawphlang Sacred Grove

SACRED GROVES

Sacred groves are patches of primeval forest that some rural communities protect as abodes of deities. Such "ecosystem people" draw their livelihoods from nearby resources and value nature for the ecological services it provides. Colonial resource extraction devastated the ancient network of sacred groves in India. Sacred groves occur in a variety of places – from scrub forests in the Thar Desert of Rajasthan maintained by the Bishnois, to rain forests in the Western Ghats of Kerala. Himachal Pradesh in the north and Kerala in the south are specifically known for their large numbers of sacred groves.



SACRED GROVES

The value of sacred groves is immense. It is also the repositories of rich medicinal plants, wild relatives of crops and many important species, which act as the valuable gene pool. They give much ecological and genetically significance and play an important role in wildlife conservation also. Trees also produce oxygen and absorb pollutants to naturally improve air quality and help control erosion and improve water quality.

Sacred groves are maintained for conserving rare and threatened species. They harbour plants and animals which fear a threat of extinction in neighbouring areas and thus they have a lot of genetic diversity. They have been shown to improve soil stability, prevent topsoil erosion and provide irrigation for agriculture in dry, arid climates; as well as providing healing sanctuaries and medicines.

Traditional uses

One of the most important traditional uses of sacred groves was that it acted as a repository for various ayurvedic medicines. Other uses involved a source of replenishable resources like fruits and honey. However, in most sacred groves it was taboo to hunt or chop wood. The vegetation cover helps reduce soil erosion and prevents desertification, as in Rajasthan. The groves are often associated with ponds and streams, and meet water requirements of local communities. They sometimes help in recharging aquifers as well.

Modern uses

In modern times, sacred groves have become biodiversity hotspots, as various species seek refuge in the areas due to progressive habitat destruction, and hunting. Sacred groves often contain plant and animal species that have become extinct in neighboring areas. They therefore harbor great genetic diversity. Besides this, sacred groves in urban landscapes act as "lungs" to the city as well, providing much needed vegetation cover..



Sarpa Kavu

Sacred groves are scattered all over the country, and are referred to by different names in different parts of India. Sacred groves occur in a variety of places – from scrub forests in the Thar Desert of Rajasthan maintained by the Bishnois, to rain forests in the Western Ghats of Kerala. Himachal Pradesh in the north and Kerala in the south are specifically known for their large numbers of sacred groves.

It is estimated that around 1000 km² of unexploited land is inside sacred groves. Some of the more famous groves are the kavus of Kerala, which are located in the Western Ghats and have enormous biodiversity; and the law kyntangs of Meghalaya - sacred groves associated with every village (two large groves being in Mawphlang and Mausmai) to appease the forest spirit.

At the heart of the conservation of snakes in the groves lie taboos, which are essentially an interplay of devotion and fear. Local communities believe that their ancestors created the sarpakaavus to provide shelter to snakes. Fear also plays a prominent role. Harming snakes is a sin, if anyone harms snakes inside the groves, they will be cursed and more snakes will emerge, said some visitors. One of the repercussions of killing snakes according to traditional beliefs is that the family could be deprived of progeny and hence there is a cultural practice of



worshipping the habitats of snakes among communities in the Western Ghats. Shonil Bhagwat, professor at the Open University, United Kingdom, said “a ‘healthy’ fear of wild animals is good because that discourages people from going to parts of sacred groves, naturally creating ‘no go’ areas.” He believes that “these so-called ‘fences of fear’ can help protect biodiversity within sacred groves by simply keeping people out of the groves, or at least some parts of the groves.”

Goa is said to possess 93 Sacred Groves. Tribal communities who first inhabited Goa like the Kunbis and the Gavdas have protected these areas which can range from a small cluster of vegetation to 10 acres of land, seen in places like Keri and Verlem. Sacred groves are very old nature sanctuaries where not only living but also non-living beings are afforded protection through the grace of any one deity or spirit from traditions.

Threats to the grove include mining projects, urbanization, over exploitation of resources (like overgrazing and excessive firewood collection), and environmental destruction due to religious practices. Other threats to the sacred groves include invasion by the invasive weeds *Chromolaena odorata*, *Lantana camara* and *Prosopis juliflora*.



Kavu

INDIA'S UPDATED FIRST NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION UNDER PARIS AGREEMENT WORKING TOWARDS CLIMATE JUSTICE (2021-2030)

August 2022 Submission to UNFCCC

Pursuant to decision 1/CP.20, India submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on 2nd October, 2015. In accordance with decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 22, India's Intended NDC is now its first NDC under the Paris Agreement.

The Article 4, paragraph 9 of the Paris Agreement provides that each Party shall communicate a nationally determined contribution every five years in accordance with decision 1/CP.21. Decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 23 and 24, requests Parties to communicate or update this contribution and to do so every five years, pursuant to Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Agreement.

Therefore, in accordance with the aforesaid provision of the Paris Agreement read with relevant decisions, India hereby communicates an update to its first NDC submitted earlier on October 2, 2015, for the period up to 2030, as under:

1. To put forward and further propagate a healthy and sustainable way of living based on traditions and values of conservation and moderation, including through a mass movement for 'LIFE' - 'Lifestyle for Environment' as a key to combating climate change [UPDATED].
2. To adopt a climate friendly and a cleaner path than the one followed hitherto by others at corresponding level of economic development.
3. To reduce Emissions Intensity of its GDP by 45 percent by 2030, from 2005 level [UPDATED].
4. To achieve about 50 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030, with the help of transfer of technology and low-cost

international finance including from Green Climate Fund (GCF) [UPDATED].

5. To create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of Co2 equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.
6. To better adapt to climate change by enhancing investments in development programmes in sectors vulnerable to climate change, particularly agriculture, water resources, Himalayan region, coastal regions, health and disaster management.
7. To mobilize domestic and new & additional funds from developed countries to implement the above mitigation and adaptation actions in view of the resource required and the resource gap.
8. To build capacities, create domestic framework and international architecture for quick diffusion of cutting edge climate technology in India and for joint collaborative R&D for such future technologies.

India's NDC is ambitious, and it is a significant contribution towards achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement. Environmentally sustainable, low carbon initiatives are underpinning all key sectors of the Indian economy.

India reaffirms its commitment to the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. This update to India's existing NDC is a step forward towards our long term goal of reaching net-zero by 2070. No change in the other sections or text or otherwise of the document containing existing first NDC is proposed at this stage. India reserves the right to provide further updates by way of additional submissions on its NDC, as and when required.



EVENT Nagpur



AWARENESS PROGRAM FOR SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAN



Strict action against offenders

CELEBRATION OF INDIA'S 75TH YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE AND AN AWARENESS PROGRAM REGARDING THE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT



EVENT

Nashik



AWARENESS PROGRAM FOR SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAN AND SCIENTIFIC DISPOSAL OF PLASTIC WASTE



सप्तशृंगगड : महाराष्ट्र प्रदूषण नियंत्रण मंडळातर्फे प्लॅस्टिक पिशव्या न वापरण्याबाबत जनजागृती करताना उपप्रादेशिक अधिकारी अमर दुर्गळे, शेजारी इतर पदाधिकारी.

प्रदूषण मंडळाकडून सप्तशृंगगडावर जागृती

नाशिक : प्लॅस्टिक पिशव्या न वापरण्याबाबत महाराष्ट्र प्रदूषण नियंत्रण मंडळ, सप्तशृंगी गड देवस्थान व ग्रामपंचायत यांच्या संयुक्त विद्यमाने सप्तशृंगी गडावर जनजागृती व प्रबोधन करण्यात आले. या वेळी उपप्रादेशिक अधिकारी अमर दुर्गळे यांनी सप्तशृंगी गड मुख्य द्वार व गावातील दुकानदार यांना समक्ष भेटून प्लॅस्टिक पिशव्या न विकण्याचे आवाहन केले. प्रदूषणाचे दुष्परिणाम व त्यावरील उपाययोजना, प्लॅस्टिक बंदीबाबत माहिती स्थानिक नागरिक, विक्रेते यांना देत पर्यावरणाचा न्यास असून सर्वांनी काटेकोर काळजी घ्यावी अन्यथा दंडात्मक कारवाई करण्याचा इशारादेखील त्यांनी दिला. याप्रसंगी क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी राजेंद्र सूर्यवंशी, नितीन चौधरी, गोदावरी गटारीकरण विरोधी मंचाचे निशिकान्त पगारे, कपिला नदी संवर्धन समितीचे योगेश यर्वे, ग्रामसेवक भाऊसाहेब देवरे, कर्मचारी संजय गवळी व गणेश दवडे आदी उपस्थित होते.



CIRCULAR

| | |
|--|---|
| MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD | |
| Phone : 24010470/24020781 24021402/24020781 | Kalpataru Point, 3rd & 4th floor, Sion. |
| Fax : 24010470/24020781/24020781 | Mahinga Scheme Road, 1st & 2nd floor, Sion (E). |
| Email : ebulletin@mpcb.gov.in | Phone: 022-24020781/24010470 |
| Website : www.mpcb.gov.in | |

No. MPCB/HO/ISMWC/Section-6-220629-FTS-0199

Date **23rd August, 2022****CIRCULAR**

- Sub: Pre-processing / Co-processing of Hazardous Waste in the State of Maharashtra
- Ref: 1. The Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016
2. CPCB Guidelines for Pre-Processing and Co-Processing of Hazardous and Other Wastes in Cement Plant as per HWM & TOM Rules, 2016
3. CPCB Letter No. CP 21/1/2022-TEC-113-PUNL-RO (Date): 5th Oct. 1904-2022

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India had notified The Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2008 which were superseded by the Hazardous Waste (M&TM) Rules, 2016 and in supersession to these rules MoEF & CC has newly notified the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 on 4 April 2016.

The new Hazardous Waste Rules will ensure resource recovery and disposal of hazardous waste in environmentally sound manner. The Rules also outlines the hierarchy of wastes management, wherein, prevention, minimization, reuse, recycling, recovery, utilization including pre-processing and co-processing was envisaged prior to considering the option of disposal through incineration or secured landfilling.

Substantial fractions of the industrial, commercial, domestic and other wastes contain materials that have the potential for use as an alternative raw material or as a supplementary fuel for energy recovery. Therefore, Co-processing is preferred option for use of waste as supplementary resource either recovery of energy instead of disposing through incineration at CHWTSDF.

Utilization of hazardous waste by co-processing in cement kiln is considered as an effective and sustainable option. There is dual benefit in co-processing of wastes in cement kilns in terms of utilizing the waste as a supplementary fuel as well as an alternative raw material.

Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board has directed vide letter dated 19/04/2022 to review the present system of HW management in the state to promote recycling utilization followed by Co-processing of hazardous waste in line with provisions under HW Management Rules as well as the principal of circular economy.

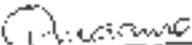
MPCB Board has decided to review the present system of HW management in the state to promote recycling, utilization followed by co-processing of hazardous wastes in line with provisions under the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 and the guidelines prepared by Central Pollution Control Board for utilization of hazardous waste for co-processing in cement industries.

Therefore to promote the co-processing of hazardous waste, MPCB Board has decided to provide pre-processing/co-processing as disposal path to hazardous waste to those industries which are willing to dispose off their hazardous waste by co-processing in cement plants. The CPCB guidelines are attached herewith for ready reference.

In view of the above, all HDUs/ROs/SROs are hereby directed to examine and process those applications received for Consent to Establish/Operate and for renewal of Consent with request in mode of disposal path of hazardous waste for pre-processing/co-processing and applications received for change in mode of disposal path of hazardous waste by pre-processing / co-processing in cement plants. The application shall be examined with respect to the compatibility of hazardous waste and as per CPCB guidelines. The grant of consent / amendment in consent shall be considered as per the office order no. 10/A20/2011-13/2022 for revised delegation of power for consent management on merit basis.

While granting the consents following important conditions shall be strictly incorporated:

- Guidelines for Pre-Processing and Co-Processing of Hazardous and Other Wastes in Cement Plant as per HWM & TOM Rules, 2016 prepared by Central Pollution Control Board shall be strictly followed.
- Industry shall strictly follow the provisions of the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016.

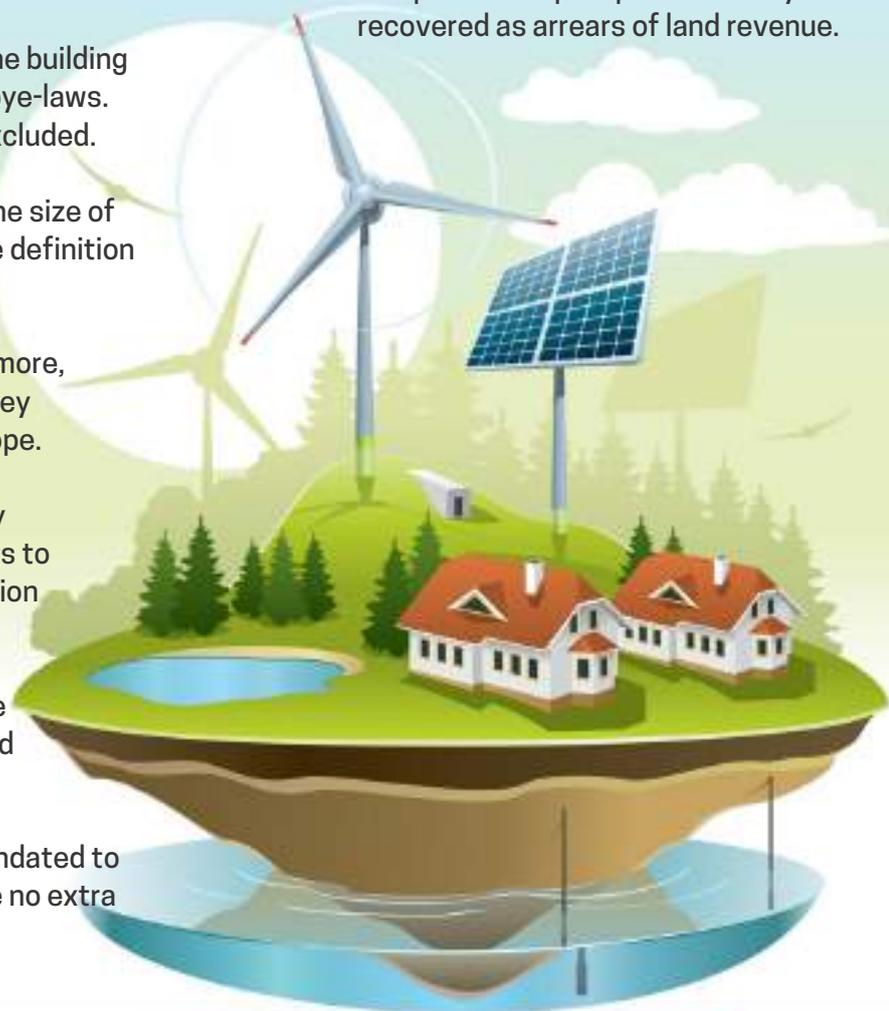

(Ashok Shingam, IAS)
Member Secretary

NOTIFICATION

22nd August, 2022

**ENERGY CONSERVATION
(AMENDMENT) BILL 2022**

- 1** It looks to create a domestic market for carbon trading based on perform, achieve and trade mechanism may be extended overseas.
- 2** It mandates the use of non-fossil sources, including Green Hydrogen for energy sources and feedstock.
- 3** It brings residential buildings within the energy conservation regime, and increase the scope of Energy Conservation Building code.
- 4** It states that an additional cost of 3-5% for buildings will be recovered within 4-5 years from savings on energy costs.
- 5** The initiative aims to save 300 billion units of electricity by 2030 by implementing building code
- 6** The penalties for not complying with the building code will be administered via building bye-laws. However, individual dwellings will be excluded.
- 7** States will have the power to reduce the size of residential buildings covered under the definition of the act.
- 8** Due to load requirement of 100 kW or more, group housing societies and multi-storey buildings will be included under the scope.
- 9** The aim is to strengthen the regulatory framework and provide financial powers to states to implement energy conservation schemes.
- 10** The Centre will have the power to issue Carbon Credit certificates to registered entities
- 11** Only designated consumers will be mandated to appoint energy managers. There will be no extra burden on small units.
- 12** Railway units will be included as designated consumers for compliance with energy saving targets
- 13** Penalties for non-compliance: Non-compliance to lead to penalty up to Rs 10 lakh. Extended failures to comply to lead to penalties up to Rs 10k per day. Industrial unit or vessel: Penalty of up to twice the price of metric ton of oil used in excess. Vehicle maker: Penalty per unit of vehicle sold. Errant vehicle makers to pay Rs 25k/vehicle up to 0.2 litres up to 100 km, Rs 50k/vehicle above 0.2 litres. Failure to give info, comply with rules to lead to Rs 50k penalty on first non-compliance. Unpaid penalties may be recovered as arrears of land revenue.





F. No. IA3-2/11/2021-IA.III
 Government of India
 Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
 IA-III Division (CRZ)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
 Jor Bagh Road
 New Delhi-110003
 Dated: 22nd August, 2022

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Action on violations of the provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notifications, by Coastal States / UTs under the provisions of Environment Protection Act, 1986 – regarding.

The Central Government has issued Coastal Regulation Zone Notification (2011/2019) with a view to conserve and protect the unique environment of coastal stretches and marine areas, besides livelihood security to the fisher communities and other local communities in the coastal areas and to promote sustainable development based on scientific principles taking into account the dangers of natural hazards, sea level rise due to global warming.

2. Further, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (1) and (3) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government constitutes Coastal Zone Management Authorities (CZMAs) in States / UTs *inter-alia* for enforcing and monitoring the provisions of the CRZ Notification. The CZMAs have been authorised to inquire into cases of violation of the provisions of the said notification *suo-moto*, or on the basis of a complaint made by any individual or body or organisation and take appropriate action under the relevant provisions of the said Act.

3. In view of above, all State / UT CZMAs are hereby directed to ensure that the directions issued under the CRZ Notification (2011/2019) are enforced in letter and spirit and all necessary actions, as appropriate, are taken against any violation of the provisions of the said notification. In this regard, it is also requested to submit detailed report on the action taken against such violations at the earliest.

4. This issues with approval of the Competent Authority.


 (Dr. H. Kharkwal)
 Scientist 'E' (CRZ)

To,

1. The Member Secretary, All the Coastal State's /UT's

(As per List)


भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

Q-16017/18/2022-CPA
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
(CP Division)

6th Floor, Jai Wing,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi-110003

Dated the **10th August, 2022**

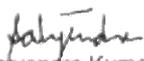
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Guidelines for Ranking of Cities under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) – reg.

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith a copy of Guidelines for **Ranking of Cities** under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) for your kind reference and necessary action. The Ranking of Cities Guidelines will assess cities on the basis of the measures taken by the NCAP cities in improving the air quality in a particular financial year.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours sincerely,


(Dr. Satyendra Kumar)
Director
Phone No. 20819291
Email: satyendra.kumar07@nic.in

Encl: As above

To,

1. Addl. Chief Secretary/Pr. Secretary/ Secretary (Environment), State/UT Governments (Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Telangana, Chandigarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Punjab, Jharkhand, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Odisha, Uttarakhand, Haryana)
2. Addl. Chief Secretary /Pr. Secretary / Secretary (Urban Department/Local Self Government), State /UT Governments (Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Telangana, Chandigarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Punjab, Jharkhand, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Odisha, Uttarakhand, Haryana)
3. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board
4. All ULBs (131 cities)

Copy to:-

1. Chief Secretaries State/ UT Governments (Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Telangana, Chandigarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Punjab, Jharkhand, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Odisha, Uttarakhand, Haryana)
2. Chairman, SPCBs/PCCs (Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Telangana, Chandigarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, west Bengal, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Punjab, Jharkhand, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Odisha, Uttarakhand, Haryana.)
3. PPS to Secretary.
4. PPS to AS (NPG).


"Swachh Vayu Survekshan"

**Guidelines for Ranking of Cities
under NCAP
for FY 2022-23 to 2025-26**



**Ministry of Environment Forest and
Climate Change**

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NOTIFICATION

27th June, 2022



भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

BY THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Applicability of the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022- reg.

Ministry has notified the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022 on 28.06.2022 wherein new provisions and procedures have been introduced for the processing of the proposals received from various user agencies for prior approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. In the aforesaid context, the following is clarified:

i. Provisions of Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022 shall apply to the proposals submitted online through Parivesh portal and which have not been accepted by the Nodal officer before 28.06.2022. The Guidelines issued by the Ministry in the Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 dated 28th March, 2019 and the Guidelines issued thereafter separately, from time to time, after 28th March 2019 shall apply to such proposals to the extent they are not inconsistent or contrary to the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022.

ii. Provisions of Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003 shall apply to the proposals submitted online through Parivesh Portal and which have been accepted by the Nodal Officer before 28.06.2022.



For more details:
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<http://mpcb.gov.in>[/MaharashtraPollutionControlBoard](https://www.facebook.com/MaharashtraPollutionControlBoard)ebulletin@mpcb.gov.in[@mpcb_official](https://www.instagram.com/mpcb_official)[@mpcb_official](https://twitter.com/mpcb_official)

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