No. IA-J-11013/20/2025-IA-P
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change
(IA- Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 110003
Dated: **25th November 2025**

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Clarification on the OM dated 08th October 2025 regarding implementation of the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for obtaining comments from SPCBs/PCCs through PARIVESH Portal under the provision of Ministry's OM dated 14th January, 2025.

The Ministry, vide Notifications G.S.R. 703(E) and G.S.R. 702(E), both dated 12.11.2024, has exempted projects that have obtained prior Environmental Clearance (EC) from obtaining Consent to Establish (CTE) from the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs).

2. To operationalize the above Notifications, the Ministry, vide Office Memoranda dated 14.01.2025 and 08.10.2025, issued detailed SoP for processing projects/activities requiring prior EC but exempted from obtaining CTE, separately. As per the SoP, this exemption involves obtaining comments from SPCBs/PCCs through the PARIVESH portal. The said provision, as per the OM dated 08.10.2025, has been made live on PARIVESH w.e.f. 24.10.2025 and includes all cases involving grant of Environment Clearance.

3. Subsequently, representation has been received from SPCB stating that Projects/Activities related to mining of minor minerals (sand and stone) did not require Consent to Establish under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. However, under the process flow implemented on PARIVESH, such Projects/Activities are also directed to the concerned SPCBs/PCCs for comments prior to the consideration for EC which does not appear necessary since no Consent to Establish is mandated by the concerned SPCBs/PCCs as per their extant provisions in respect of such Projects/Activities.

4. In view of the above, the matter has been examined in the Ministry, and it is clarified that the provisions of OMs dated 14.01.2025 and 08.10.2025 shall apply only to those projects/activities where obtaining both EC and CTE were mandatory prior to 12.11.2024 for projects attracting EC under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006, as amended.

5. It is further clarified that, in cases where proposals related to Projects/Activities requiring EC but for which no CTE was mandated prior to 12.11.2024 and which have been referred by the concerned SEIAA to the concerned SPCBs/PCCs through the designated workflow in PARIVESH portal for comments/raising fee; then in such cases concerned SEIAA may proceed for grant of EC following due process and without waiting for the comments and/or raising fee from the concerned SPCBs/PCCs since no additional environmental safeguards are required to be incorporated based on the comments of SPCBs/PCCs

6. Further, a request was received by this Ministry seeking deferment of the implementation of the Office Memorandum (OM) dated 08.10.2025 citing the need for ensuring a smooth transition, capacity building, and timely disposal of pending proposals. The matter has been duly considered, and it has been decided that the 'designated date' referred to in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the aforesaid OM shall be read as 31.01.2026.

7. Further, in cases of such Projects/Activities where Environmental Clearance has been granted by the Ministry or SEIAA between 12.11.2024 and 31.01.2026 and for which CTE was required prior to 12.11.2024, shall, unless already obtained, seek Environmental Safeguards from the concerned SPCB/PCC within 30 days, w.e.f 31.01.2026 or the grant of the Environmental Clearance, whichever is earlier, under the provisions of para 4E of the OM dated 14.01.2025 .

8. Similarly, in respect of Projects/Activities that have either been accepted or may be accepted on the PARIVESH portal on or before 31.01.2026 for appraisal or further processing for the grant of Environmental Clearance and for which CTE was required prior to 12.11.2024, shall be required to obtain related environmental safeguards from the concerned SPCB/PCC within 30 days from the date of grant of environmental clearance, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4E of the OM dated 14.01.2025.

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

(A.K. Agrawal)

Director

To

1. The Member Secretary (All SPCBs/PCCs)
2. The Chairman, SEIAA (All States)
3. The Member Secretary, SEIAA (All States)
4. The Member Secretary, IA Divisions, MoEFCC
5. All Project Proponents

Copy to:-

1. Sr PPS to Secretary EFCC
2. Sr PPS to AS (AG)
3. Sr PPS to JS (RA)
4. Sr. Tech. Director, NIC, MoEFCC for necessary action
5. Scientist E, IA Policy, MoEFCC