Minutes of the 152nd meeting of Expert Appraisal Committee for projects related to Infrastructure Development, Coastal Regulation Zone, Building/Construction and Miscellaneous projects held on 20th October, 2015 at Conference Hall (Narmada), Jal Wing, Ground Floor, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi-110003

1.0	Opening Remarks of the Chairman
2.0	Confirmation of the Minutes of the 151 st Meeting of the EAC held on 29- 31 July, 2015 at New Delhi
2.1	The minutes were confirmed
3.0	Consideration of Proposals
3.1	Development of Greenfield International Airport at Mopa in Goa by Directorate of Civil Aviation, Govt. of Goa - Environmental Clearance – Further consideration [F.No.10-29/2011-IA.III]
3.1.1	The proposal was earlier placed before the EAC in its meeting held in June and September, 2015. During the last meeting held on 7-9 September, 2015, the EAC took note of a representation from one NGO, namely, 'Federation of Rainbow Warriors, Margo', and the proposal was deferred. The PP was requested to submit a response to the issues raised therein.
	The EAC noted the submissions made by the PP. The Member Secretary further informed the committee of the rebuttal received from the same NGO. The PP has provided point wise clarifications to the concerns raised by the NGO. The Committee examined the reply of the Government of Goa to the objections raised by the NGO.
	 One of the objections relates to the validity of the Terms of Reference. It has been submitted that the TOR expired on 31.05.2015 after two extensions and the MoEF&CC requires the TOR to be valid at the time of submission of the EIA/EMP reports.
	 The project proponent stated that they tried to upload the EIA/EMP documents on the MoEF&CC website on 21.04.2015. Since the system was not accepting the uploading, repeated attempts were made to upload the same which could not succeed. The project proponent submitted the hard copy of the EIA/EMP report on 20.5.2015. The Ministry has also confirmed receipt of the same on 20th May, 2015.
	 The EIA report has been updated by the PP after taking into account the issues raised in the public hearing and the same has been put in public domain. The project is outside the ESZ delineated by the Dr. Kasturirangan Committee and TERI.
	 The project envisages construction of rain water harvesting pits within the plot area, which would contribute to ground water recharge. <i>Hence, the objection of NGO in this regard does not hold.</i> The biological data in respect of flora and fauna was collected by the functional

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	area experts of M/s Engineers India Limited and not by M/s Pragati Labs (stationed at Goa during November, 2014 to January, 2015 for collection of ambient air quality, noise, water quality, soil, socio-economics).
3.1.2	The Committee noted the peculiar circumstances of the case and the difficulties in land acquisition which led to delay in preparation of the EIA report, and the larger public interest involved.
	Keeping in view the fact that the project proponent has not concealed facts and circumstances of the case and the project is in the public interest, the Ministry may take an appropriate view on the objection that the public hearing could not have been held, in the absence of valid TOR, though the validity has been extended twice and regularised subsequently. The Committee also noted that the public hearing was attended by about 3000 people and hence there is substantive and active public participation as required under the law for public consultation.
	The PP further provided their reply to the rebuttal by the said NGO on various issues.
	The EAC, after deliberations, recommended the project for grant of EC subject to the above and the following:-
	 The project proponent shall ensure availability of adequate land at the junction of the Mopa Airport road and Mumbai/Goa NH 17 for traffic circulation/management and to provide for all the traffic interchanges and proposed clover. The approach and exit roads to the airport would be got approved from the NHAI and should be according to IRC worms. A perusal of the Topo sheet superimposed on the runway area indicates that the extreme end of the runway is covering the drainage area partly. The drainage area which is under the runway needs to be channelized. The area between the parallel taxi way and run way needs to be handled carefully to drain the water from the area in the outfall 2.
3.2	Proposed Research & Development Institute at Sy No. 37/P, Gopanpally Village, Serilingampally Mandal, Rangareddy District (Andhra Pradesh) by National Institute of Animal Bio-technology - Environmental Clearance – Further consideration [F.No.21-24/2014-IA-III]
3.2.1	 (i) It was informed by the Member Secretary that the proposal was earlier placed before the EAC in its 135th meeting held in June/July, 2014. During appraisal, certain observations were made by the committee and information was sought in respect of the following:- Internal roads should be 9 meters wide within the campus Detailed plan for animal waste treatment/disposal along with the details of shed be submitted
	 Energy conservation calculations should be submitted Traffic circulation plan should be revised and submitted Review of the location of STP and arrangement for disposal of animal excreta should be carried out and details should be submitted

	 The layout plan should be legible in the presentation. An A0/A1 size drawing should be submitted Details regarding disposal of biomedical waste and carcasses should be submitted (ii) NIAB responded to the observations of the EAC vide their letter dated 20th August, 2014 for further consideration of the proposal. However, subsequent to this Ministry's Notification dated 22nd December, 2014 and the OM dated 9th June, 2015 providing exemption to buildings of educational institutions including universities from the prior EC, the PP has also requested for exemption to their proposal.
3.2.2	 The EAC noted that project involves research as well as disposal of dead animals. Also, the different activities obviously involve issue of sanitation and hygiene as well as practices for sustainable environmental management, hence the proposal would attract provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006, and thus require prior EC. The Committee after detailed deliberations, recommended the project for grant of Environment Clearance subject to the following conditions, in addition to the specific and general conditions applicable for Building and Construction projects during construction and operational phase:- The bio-Medical wastes shall be managed in accordance with the Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998 as amended, and authorization from the concerned SPCB shall be obtained. Bio-gas plant installation to be ascertained for handling animal excreta. Installation of solar energy panels to increase energy saving for lighting and heating.
