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Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Impact Assessment Division

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Office Memorandum

Subject: Criteria/Methodology for rating of SEIAAs – reg.

Ministry has taken several initiatives for streamlining the environmental clearance (EC) process and reduce the time taken for grant of clearances. The entire EC process has been made online through PARIVESH portal. Due to these initiatives, the average time taken in grant of EC has reduced considerably, to approximately 75 days as against the time-line of 105 days, prescribed in the EIA Notification 2006.

2. Further, one of the issues raised during the meeting chaired by Cabinet Secretary on 13.11.2021 to discuss the action taken on “Ease of Doing Business”, was regarding ranking of States based on the time taken in according clearances.

3. It has been decided to incentivize the states through a star-rating system, based on the efficiency and timeliness in grant of EC. This is intended as a mode of recognition and encouragement as well as for prompting improvements where needed.

4. After due deliberation, it has been decided that the following criteria and methodology shall be followed for star rating the SEIAAs to encourage transparency, efficiency and accountability:

Sl.No	Criteria	Methodology	Marks
1	Average number of days for granting EC	< 80 days (extra 1 mark]	2
		≤ 105 days	1
		105 to 120 days	0.5
		More than 120 days	0
2	% of disposal of fresh ToR/ ToR amendment proposals awaiting for more than 30 days	more than 90%	1
		80 – 90%	0.5
		Less than 80%	0
3	% of disposal of fresh EC/ EC amendment proposals awaiting for more than 105 days	more than 90%	1
		80 – 90%	0.5
		Less than 80%	0
4	Percentage of cases wherein more than one time EDS were sought by MS	10% or less	1
		20%	0.5
		30% or more	0

5	Average number of days taken for accepting the proposals for ToR/EC	≤ 5 days	1
		5-7 days	0.5
		More than 7 days	0
6	Complaints redressed by SEIAA	All complaints	1
		50% or more	0.5
		Less than 50%	0
7	Percentage of cases, out of total cases placed to SEAC, for which site visits were carried out by SEIAA/ SEAC.	Less than 10%	1
		10% to 20%	0.5
		More than 20%	0

Rating system:

Sl.No	Marks	Stars
1	7 marks or more	☆☆☆☆☆
2	6-7 marks	☆☆☆☆
3	5-6 marks	☆☆☆
4	4-5 marks	☆☆
5	3-4 marks	☆
6	Less than 3 marks	No stars

5. The rating of a SEIAA will be a dynamic process based on performance during last six months. Data for a block of six month starting from 1st day till last day of block period will be considered. This will be updated at end of every month.

6. The above rating criteria shall be implemented online through PARIVESH as the portal has been upgraded to capture action taken on ToR/EC applications.

7. This is issued with the approval of the competent authority.


 (A K Agrawal)
 Director

To

1. Chairperson/Member Secretaries of all the SEIAAs/SEACs
2. Chairman of all the Expert Appraisal Committees

Copy for information to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change
2. PS to Hon'ble MoS(EF&CC)
3. PPS to Secretary (EF&CC)
4. PPS to AS(RA)/AS(TK)/JS(SKB)
5. Website MoEF&CC/Guard file.