Year-end Review | Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change - Part 2

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Schemes/initiatives for Sustainable development

Circular Economy & Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Framework

- MoEFCC has notified regulatory framework for Circular Economy in various waste streams.
- The ***producers have been mandated to get the end-of-life wastes recycled*** under extended producer responsibility regime.
- EPR rules have been notified for:
  - Plastic waste,
  - Tyre waste,
  - Battery waste,
  - Used oil waste and e-waste.
- Further, EPR framework for scrap metals, end of life vehicles, solid waste and liquid waste, construction and demolition waste are under active consideration.
- The EPR framework will not only enhance the circularity in economy but also *help manage the wastes in environmentally sound manner*.

> *India houses about 17% of the global population but its historical cumulative contribution is less than 4 %.*

A robust recycling industry would come up with *employment potential* of several lakhs with contribution to the economy.

Eco-mark Scheme

- The scheme seeks to ***ensure accurate labelling and prevent misleading information about products***.
- In alignment with the 'LiFE' (Lifestyle for Environment), MoEFCC has notified the Eco-mark Rules on 26th September, 2024, which replaces the Eco-mark scheme of 1991.
- The scheme will *encourage the demand for environment-friendly products* aligning with the principles of 'LiFE', promote lower energy consumption, resource efficiency and circular economy.

Sustainable Coastal Management

- **Beach cleaning drive** – Under the ambit of 'Swachhta Hi Seva' Campaign, beach cleaning drive was organised at 22 beaches spread across coastal States/UTs in collaboration with respective State Governments/UT.
- **Mangrove Zonation atlas** – ***Digital copy of Mangrove Zonation atlas*** was released by the Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change on 4.9.2024.
- **Blue Flag Certification** – *13 beaches across 6 States and 3 Union Territories* have been certified with ***Blue Flag Certification*** for the season 2024-2025.
- **Adaptive Management Plan** – for externally aided Enhancing Coastal Resilience of Indian Coastal Communities (ECRICC) project by Green Climate Fund has been prepared.

Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment)

- Mission LiFE is a global initiative launched by India in October, 2022.
- **Aim** – Fostering sustainable lifestyles through mindful and deliberate consumption to protect the environment.
- Mission LiFE *encourages individuals and communities to adopt eco-friendly behaviours*.
- The initiative focuses on 7 core themes:
    1. Saving water
    2. Conserving energy
    3. Reducing waste
    4. Managing e-waste
    5. Eliminating single-use plastics
    6. Promoting sustainable food systems
    7. Adopting healthy lifestyles
- Mission LiFE has been included, as *a non-quantifiable indicators* under Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)
• UNEA, at its 6th Session held in Nairobi, Kenya, on 1st March, 2024, unanimously adopted the resolution on sustainable lifestyles. • The resolution based on the precepts of Mission LiFE was moved by India and co-sponsored by Sri Lanka and Bolivia. • It is a significant step forward in the globalisation of the concept of Mission LiFE or Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE).

10 Year Framework Programme (10YFP)

- India secured a ***position as Board Member*** on the *Board of 10-Year Framework of Programmes* for sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- The 10YFP is *part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, as reflected in Sustainable Development Goal 12 on "Responsible Consumption and Production".
- SDG 12 serves as a framework of reference for decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation.

3rd Voice of Global South Summit

- *India hosted the 3rd Voice of Global South Summit* on 17th August, 2024.

- **Theme** – "An Empowered Global South for a Sustainable Future".
- India emphasized the countries of the Global South to unite, stand together with one voice and become one another's strength.
- India emphasized the importance of encouraging sustainable consumption and production patterns, promoting sustainable lifestyles, reducing waste, and fostering a culture of conservation.
- The participants also reaffirmed the principles of equity and Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC).

Achievements

- **In Carbon Markets** – India has notified the National Designated Authority for the Implementation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement (NDAIAPA) with Secretary of MoEFCC as the Chairperson.
- India has announced the *Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS)* on June 28, 2023, under the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 (Amendment, 2022), with the aim of establishing India's carbon market.
- *National Steering Committee for Indian Carbon Market (NSC-ICM)* has been formed under CCTS to oversee the Indian Carbon Market (ICM).
    - The Secretary, MoEFCC and Secretary, MoP are chairing the NSC-ICM.
- **In Biodiversity** – On the advice of National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), few tiger reserves have been notified, taking the number of tiger reserves in the country to ***57***. The notified tiger reserves are:
    - Guru Ghasidas-Tamo Pingla Tiger Reserve.
    - Ratapani Tiger reserve.
    - Madhav National Park, Madhya Pradesh.
- As compared to assessment of 2021, there is *an increase of 1445 sq km in the forest and tree cover* of the country.
- As compared to the last assessment done in 2021 there is an increase of 5,227 sq km in bamboo area.

References

1. PIB | Year-end review

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