



Non-Publication of Details of Security Projects

[Source: HT](#)

Recently, the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** stated that details of projects granted **environmental clearance** related to national security will **not** be available on its [PARIVESH portal](#).

- The project processing will occur via **PARIVESH 2.0** but **defence-related projects** will be **masked and inaccessible** to the public on the portal.
- The [Forest Conservation Act, 1980, amended in 2023](#), exempted **specific projects** from seeking forest clearance.
 - **Strategic linear projects (Roads, Railways etc)** of national importance located **within 100 km** from international borders or the Line of Control/Actual Control.
 - **Security-related infrastructure** projects involving forest land **up to 10 hectares**.
 - Defence-related and public utility infrastructure in [Left Wing Extremism \(LWE\)](#) affected districts involving **forest land upto 5 hectares**.
 - Projects requiring up to **0.1 hectares of forest land** for connectivity to **road/rail amenities**.
- **PARIVESH 2.0** is a web-based application for online **submission and monitoring** of Environmental, Forest, Wildlife, and [Coastal Regulation Zone](#) clearances.

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

EIA is a study conducted in the early stages of development project planning to predict and address potential environmental impacts



- ④ **Statutory Status:** Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 (Made EIA mandatory)
- ④ **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)
- ④ **Project Categorisation:** EIA Notification of 2006 categorised the developmental projects in:
 - ▶ **Category A Project:** Needed prior Environmental Clearance (EC) from MoEF&CC
 - ▶ **Category B Project:** Needed prior EC from State/UT Govt.
 - **Category B1 projects** (Mandatorily requires EIA)
 - **Category B2 projects** (Do not require EIA)

There are 39 categories of projects that require an EC process and are subject to EIA

EIA Process as per EIA Notification, 2006

Step	Objective	Carried Out By
■ Screening	■ Need of EIA	■ State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) (Category B)
■ Scoping	■ Identifies important issues for EIA	■ Standard Term of Reference (ToR) prepared by MoEF&CC with EAC/SEAC for Category B Projects*
■ Public Consultation	■ Addresses concerns of affected people	■ State Pollution Control Board (SPCB)/ UT Pollution Control Board (UTPCB)
■ Project Appraisal	■ Scrutiny of Final EIA Report/ Environmental Management Plan (EMP)	■ EAC for category A Projects and SEAC for category B1 Projects
■ Decision Making	■ Granting EC	■ Category A: MoEF&CC ■ Category B: State EIA Authority (SEIAA)
■ Monitoring (Post EC)	■ Compliance of general and specific conditions	■ SPCB / UTPCB and Regional Offices

Government Initiatives For EC

- ④ **PARIVESH (Proactive and Responsive facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous, and Environmental Single Window Hub):** Single Window System for EC
 - ▶ Developed by MoEF&CC and National Information Centre (NIC)
- ④ **Environmental Information System (ENVIS):** Collect, Collate, Storing, Retrieving and Disseminating Information Related to the Environment Sector
- ④ **Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Notification 2020:** Published by MoEF&CC to replace existing EIA Notification, 2006

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