THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES

CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND LAW
with
ELDF as Knowledge Partners

National Workshop on

"Deciphering the Enviro-Legal Clearance Processes in India"

Towards creation of a Manual on Clearance process in India

Date

24th September, 2016

Venue

NUALS Campus, Kochi

The Centre for Environment and Law, NUALS, Kochi in association with the Enviro-Legal Defence Firm, Delhi will be conducting a National Workshop on "Deciphering the Enviro-Legal Clearance Processes in India" on 24th September, 2016. The workshop is of monumental significance during a time when development projects are being obstructed by virtue of hindrances such as corruption and non-adherence to established protocol. The aim of this one-day workshop would be to shed light up on the processes involved in obtaining clearances in the enviro-legal gamut across a wide ambit delving into areas such as forests and protected areas, use of urban spaces, collection of biological resources, exploitation of surface water and ground water or even projects within coastal regulatory zone.

Background

Off late, several controversies have arisen regarding various kinds of enviro-legal clearances given to development projects. Corruption and by-passing of procedures have been alleged as the bane of these projects with immense cost to environment and public interest. Much of these problems arise due to lack of awareness amongst the public, civil society organizations and the project proponents themselves on the mandatory compliances provided within a very detailed legal framework. The aim of this one-day workshop would be to throw light on the step by step processes concerning clearances in the enviro-legal gamut, whether it is in reference to resources within forests and protected areas, use of urban spaces, collection of biological resources, exploitation of surface water and ground water or even projects occurring within coastal regulatory zones. The outcome of this workshop would be the creation of a concise manual which highlights these processes in a simplistic manner with support and inputs from the Enviro-Legal Defence Firm, Delhi and backing of the Centre for Environment and Law, NUALS, Kochi. The final objective of the workshop is to broaden the horizon with regard to awareness on enviro-legal clearances on not just a local platform, but a national one as well.

Objectives

- To provide clarity on the process to be followed by project proponents, be it in the context of forests, coasts, industrial infrastructure, usage of biological resources, so on and so forth.
- Awareness building amongst academicians and students on the entire gamut of clearance process.
- To come out with a brief manual on clearance process with the help of Enviro-Legal Defence Firm as an overall outcome of this Workshop.

What Participants will learn

- Ascertain clarity on the process to be followed by project proponents, be it in the context of forests, coasts, industrial infrastructure, usage of biological resources, so on and so forth.
- Increased awareness on the entire gamut of clearance process.
- An overall understanding of all the environmental clearances being currently implemented in India.

Agenda

Time	Activity
10:00 – 10:30	**Inaugural ceremony and release of Manual on Enviro- Legal Clearances.**
10:30 - 10:45	Tea break.
10:45 - 12:15	**Technical Session I** • Forest Clearances under Forest Conservation Act and the Forest Rights Act. (CR Bijoy) • Obtaining Wildlife Clearances for non-forest activities in Protected Areas. (Om Prakash Kaler) (Time given to each speaker would be 45 minutes.)
12:15 -13:00	**Question and Answer session.**
13:00 -13:45	Lunch.
13:45 -15:15	**Technical Session II** • Clearances under the Environment Protection Act, 1986 and Environment Impact Assessment. (Harish Vasudevan) • Compliances in coastal areas, wetlands and for extraction of ground water and biological resources. (Shyama Kuriakose) (Time given to each speaker would be 45 minutes.)
15:15 -16:00	**Question and Answer session.**
16:00 - 16:15	Tea break.
16:15 -16:30	**Vote of thanks.**

Resource Persons

Currently, involved with the Campaign for Survival and Dignity (CSD). Part of Technical Advisory Committe, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, on Strengthening National Capacities in the Tribal Affairs. Also invovled as Resorce person on Forest Rights Act, 2006 for Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India (2012-14). Involved with people's organisation and independent research for the last 27 years.

CR Bijoy

Practicing lawyer in the High Court of Kerala and National Green Tribunal, Southern Bench, Chennai. Won several honours which include scholarship from 'Asser Institute Hague', RIFA Environmental Award 2014. He also served as the National campaigner in 'Ban Endosulfan campaign' & co-ordinator of 'One Earth One Life'. Resource person of the State Council of Educational Research and Training, Kerala.

Harish Vasudevan

Senior Associate, Enviro-Legal Defence Firm (ELDF) from 2011 onwards, involved in training, publication, litigation and consultancy projects on laws and policies governing Biodiversity, Self- Governance especially in the scheduled area context, Oceans and Renewable Energy, Water, Forests, Environment Protection and Disaster Management, enviro-legal issues concerning ports and plantation sector and Disaster Management.

Shyama Kuriakose

He served in the Kerala Forest Department as an Indian Forest Service officer (IFS) for 30 years. He administered and managed various protected areas and Tiger Reserves of Kerala for 25 years in various capacitites. Authored a book called "Managment Plans" of certain tiger reserves in Kerala. Was awarded the Chief Minister's Award for Innovaations in Public Policy . He retired as APCCF (BDC) in 2016.

Om Prakash Kaler

Reach us

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ROUTE MAP

From Cochin — NH 17 — 4 KM — TVS Signal — Premier Junction — KSRTC Garage Aluva — Pulinchuvadu Junction

NH-47

Edappally Bypass Junction — Apollo Tyres — HMT Junction — 2 KM Aluva

Seaport Airport Road — HMT — 5 KM — KINFRA Hi-Tech Park — NUALS CAMPUS — 8 KM

From Vyttila

Co-operative Medical College — KINFRA Office — Cochin Bank Junction

From Perumbavoor