

Minutes of Meeting of SEIAA, Odisha held on 29.07.2024 regarding validity of EC granted to country liquor manufacturing units based on Mahua Flower

The meeting of State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Odisha was held on 29.07.2024 under the Chairmanship of Sri Sisir Kumar Ratho, IFS (Retd.), Chairman, SEIAA regarding discussion on the validity of EC granted during the year 2018-19 to country liquor manufacturing units based on mahua flower. The following members were present:

- (i) Dr. K. Murugesan, IFS, Member-Secretary, SEIAA
- (ii) Sri. Biswajit Mohanty, Member, SEIAA
- (iii) The Commissioner, Excise Deptt. Govt. of Odisha

Welcoming all participant Chairman, SEIAA, Odisha gave a brief account of the environmental safe guards stipulated by SEIAA while granting Environmental Clearance (EC) for country liquor manufacturing units.

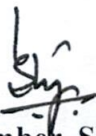
The highlights discussion of the held in the meeting are summarized below:

- (i) In pursuance to the orders of Hon'ble NGT, the Policy Guidelines for disposal of EC applications of country liquor mahua flower, units was formulated by SEAC and was approved by SEIAA and accordingly EC is granted.
- (ii) The Environmental Clearance of country liquor proposals was granted by SEIAA in the year 2018-19 for a license period of (1) one year as per the license granted by the Excise Department to such manufacturing units.
- (iii) Now, many project proponents have submitted for transfer of EC applications, after receipt of new license number i.e. for the period of 2023-24. All EC application of Mahua Flower Manufacturing Units for a period of 1 (one) year and that in such cases, the validity of the original EC has already expired.
- (iv) As per the provisions of para 11 of the EIA Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments, a prior EC granted for a specific project or activity to an applicant may be transferred during its validity to another legal person entitled to undertake the project or activity on application by the transferor, or by the transferee with a written "no objection" by the transferor, to, and by the regulatory authority concerned, on the same terms and conditions under which the prior EC was initially granted, and for the same validity period.
- (v) The MoEF & CC, GOI have already extended the validity of EC upto 10 (ten) years in the case of all other projects and activities other than the Mining projects and River Valley Projects and Nuclear power projects as per Notification 12.04.2022.
- (vi) There is no objection from SEIAA, Odisha for issue of Environment clearance for country liquor for a period of 10 year.

- The Commissioner, Excise Deptt. informed that all foreign liquor licensee are granted license for a period of five years. He informed that the Excise Deptt. will move the Govt. of Odisha to enhance the license period from one year to five years subject to renewal of license each year by the excise Deptt.. He suggested that the EC may be granted for five years.
- After detailed discussion on the matter, it was agreed upon that all EC of country liquor units will be granted for a period of five years or validity of lease period, whichever is less. The license holder will be required to renew / transfer the EC within the validity period only.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chairman and all participants.


Member Secretary, SEIAA


Member, SEIAA


Chairman, SEIAA