



**Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India**  
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The Ministry of Environment & Forests is the nodal agency in the administrative structure of the Central Government, for the planning, promotion, co-ordination and overseeing the implementation of environmental and forestry programmes. The Ministry is also the Nodal agency in the country for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The principal activities undertaken by Ministry of Environment & Forests, consist of conservation & survey of flora, fauna, forests and Wildlife, prevention & control of pollution, afforestation & regeneration of degraded areas and protection of environment, in the frame work of legislations. It looks at regeneration of degraded areas; protection of environment in order to promote sustainable development; and ensuring the welfare of animals.

It also extends support to various voluntary agencies, NGOs, universities and research institutions for environmental research, eco-development, conservation, environmental education and awareness, dissemination of environmental information and welfare of animals. The ministry supports the research initiatives in the areas of environmental sciences and technology to mitigate problems arising from degradation of environment,

The main tools utilized for this include surveys, impact assessment, control of pollution, regeneration programmes, support to organizations, research to solve solutions and training to augment the requisite manpower, collection and dissemination of environmental information and creation of environmental awareness among all sectors of the country's population.

The organizational structure of the Ministry covers number of Divisions, Directorate, Board, Subordinate Offices, Autonomous Institutions, and Public Sector Undertakings.

To promote environmental awareness and practice what it preaches, the ministry, housed at Paryavaran Bhawan, accords the highest priority to the protection of the environment and conservation of resources in our premises. In this endeavour they are committed to maintaining cleanliness at the workplace and optimising utilisation of resources including water, energy and stationery. The ministry also complies with all the applicable laws and works towards minimising waste, including solid and liquid wastes.

MoEF has also been working actively with various educational bodies such as the University Grants Commission, National Council of Education Research and Training and the Ministry of Human Resource Development for introducing and expanding environmental concepts, themes, issues, etc. in the curricula of schools and colleges.

It has always encouraged and supported individual and institutional efforts to further ecological awareness among masses. One among many such initiatives was to sponsor the film festival "Vatavaran – 2001" by the Centre for Media Studies, Delhi in April 2002. This support sought to encourage individual efforts in producing films/documentaries on environment/wildlife related themes. The MoEF has been supporting and endorsing CMS Vatavaran since its inception in 2002.