

3. Ensure that there are widespread and informed public discussions on the implication of these amendments.
4. A full disclosure of the nature of comments received and the reasons for acceptance and rejection of these comments, prior to the issuance of the final amendments.
5. Some of the salient features of the draft EIA Notification 2020 against the interest of the Public are as follows:-
 - A. Reduction of Public Response Time and Public Hearing.
 - B. Exemption of certain Projects from Public Consultation.
 - C. The new EIA Notification also allows an Ex-Post-Facto Clearance Route.
 - D. Monitoring requirements have been slackened in the new EIA Notification.
 - E. The new EIA Notification extends the validity period for approvals in critical sectors such as mining and other heavy industries.
 - F. Risk to Protected Areas.
 - G. Exemption of several large industries from public hearings (B2 category).
 - H. Notification of some areas as 'Economically Sensitive Areas'.

We do hope that the environment ministry will uphold its obligations towards informed public participation like the commitment to Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration and also the Principles of Natural Justice, while taking a considered view on the proposed amendments to the EIA notification, 2020.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



Mu. Moahan
President
Builders' Association of India