

PRAKRITI KHOJ-ENVIRONMENT QUIZ

Qualifying Round, 25th September to 8th October 2017

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change launched an environment awareness initiative named as “**Prakriti Khoj – online Environment Quiz**” on 5th September 2017 with the aim to reach out to young aspiring minds of school students through a fun filled interactive learning mode for triggering a sense of awareness towards environment protection and conservation. **The quiz is a new initiative of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, which is providing a unique platform to the school students to develop scientific temperament, especially in the field of environment.**

The quiz is being conducted online through multiple choice questions. The first phase of the quiz is open to only students of Ecoclubs (NGC programme of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change). Schools are forwarding the names of students who are members of Ecoclubs for registration through the respective State Nodal Agency. Thematic areas like Climate change, Biodiversity, Forest and Wildlife, Pollution, Waste Management, Rivers and lakes, Natural History, International Conventions such as Convention on Biological Diversity, United Nations Framework - Convention on Climate Change, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora etc. have been chosen for the quiz.

Separate web-portal containing information on the quiz has been developed by Ministry, which can be accessed at links: www.pkeq.nic.in and www.ngc.nic.in. All relevant information viz. list of State Nodal Agencies in States, FAQ, Contact information, E-mail Id, User manual and information on quiz can be accessed from the web-site. A space for providing feedback by the participants has also been provided in the web-portal.

The first round has begun on 25th September 2017, by paying tribute to Pundit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya on his birth anniversary. So far nearly 13000 registrations have been

received and the figure is still rising. During the first two days, nearly 1500 students from 15 States have already participated in the quiz. Looking into the interest generated among students in different States even up to the village level and based on the feedback received from the State Nodal Agencies under the Eco-club programme of the Ministry, **the qualifying round of the quiz has been extended upto 8th October 2017.** Earlier it was only upto 29th September 2017. The second, third, fourth and fifth rounds will be held subsequently thereafter, as per the schedule given below:

- ✓ Second Round: 30th October to 3rd November 2017
- ✓ Third round: 20-24 November 2017
- ✓ Fourth round: 4-6 December 2017
- ✓ Fifth round: 18-20 December 2017

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has requested the Chief Secretaries and Principal Secretaries (Primary and Secondary Education) and District Collectors/District Magistrate of all the States, for wider dissemination of the information on quiz.