

Environment Ministry to conduct five rounds of Quiz - 'Prakriti Khoj' across the Country**Environment Ministry to conduct five rounds of Quiz - 'Prakriti Khoj' across the Country**

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change will hold a quiz on environment - 'Prakriti Khoj' throughout the country. The quiz is planned in five rounds and the qualifying round will begin on September 25, 2017 by paying tribute to Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya on his birth anniversary. The qualifying round will continue till September 29, 2017. The second, third, fourth and fifth rounds will be held subsequently, 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

The quiz will be conducted online through multiple-choice questions. 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. A separate web portal - www.ngc.nic.in and www.pkeq.nic.in, containing information on the quiz has been developed by the Ministry. The link for first qualifying round will be open for five days from September 25 2017 to September 29, 2017 between 8.00 Am to 6.00 PM. Dates of the quiz will be updated on the Prakriti Khoj portal, as well as Ministry's website.

In this phase, the quiz is open to only students of Eco-clubs (NGC programme of MoEF&CC). The students who are members of Eco-clubs in particular schools are required to send their names for registration through State Nodal Agency. The User Id and password will be provided to the registered students through email on their personal email IDs, as well as on their school IDs.

During the first phase, the Ministry in cooperation with State Nodal Agencies - National Green Corps, State Pollution Control Boards, state government bodies within the Environment departments and State Science Council will implement the quiz programme through online mode. The quiz will be organized in the school premises under the supervision of Principals/Eco-club Coordinators. There will be cash prizes for the winners. All participants will receive an E-certificate of participation duly signed by the Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

This environment awareness initiative - "Prakriti Khoj" had been launched on September 5, 2017. It has been launched with an 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. This quiz, in a way, will provide a unique platform for students to measure their awareness levels regarding environmental issues and motivate them to participate in major programmes of the Ministry related to conservation and protection.

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