

done only after the following conditions have been fulfilled?

1. The State Director of Industries confirms that the site of the project has been approved from environmental angle by the competent state authority.
2. The entrepreneur commits both to the State and Central Governments that he will instal appropriate equipment and implement the prescribed measures for prevention and control of pollution.
3. The concerned State Pollution Control Board has certified that the proposal meets with the environmental requirements and that the equipment installed or proposed to be installed are adequate and appropriate to the requirement.

At present, environmental clearance is accorded to thermal power, hydroelectric, ports and harbours, mining and industrial projects of central/public sector undertakings after a thorough environmental impact assessment and review. Towards this end it will be necessary to build the capabilities for such detailed impact assessment techniques in the various State Governments/ State Pollution Control Boards and also ensure that financial institutions do look into these aspects at the time of extending credit for such projects.

Check on Environmental Degradation In Mines and Steel Industry

2716. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any strategy has been

developed/drawn up by Union Government to check environmental degradation in mining and steel industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main features of the strategy adopted by the Union Government to check environmental degradation in mining and steel industry are as below:

- (i) Environmental appraisal of new projects of central/public sector undertakings in mining and steel industries is carried out. Projects are not approved if they are found to be environmentally incompatible. If environmentally cleared, adequate safeguards for control of pollution and environmental protection are stipulated for implementation by the project authorities.
- (ii) Necessary amendments to the Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957, and the Minerals Concession Rules, 1960, have been made by which environmental management component now forms a part of the mining plans which are considered by the competent authority before granting the mining lease.
- (iii) An expert committee has been appointed to examine issues of reclamation of old and abandoned mines.
- (iv) General environmental guidelines for siting of industries apply to steel industries also.

- (v) For mining, environmental guidelines have been formulated and issued.
- (vi) A Centre of Excellence for Mine Environment Studies has been set up to carry out studies and undertake training programmes related to environmental aspects of mining activities.
- (vii) Several research studies have been sponsored by this Ministry to assess the impact of mining on environment and ecology.

Sugarcane Arrears

2717 SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the arrears of sugarcane due to be paid to the farmers by the various sugar mills in the country for the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the output of sugar during 1981-82, 1983-84 and 1987-88; and

(c) whether there was a decline in sugar production during the above period, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) Arrears of sugarcane dues for the last 3 years as on 15.2.89 are as under:—

<i>Sugar Year</i>	<i>Sugarcane arrears (Rs. in crores)</i>
1985-86	0.44
1986-87	1.05
1987-88	3.46

As on 15.2.89, during the current season, the arrears are 17.4% as compared to 16.3% in 1987-88 on the corresponding date.

(b) Sugar production has been as under:—

<i>Sugar Year</i>	<i>Lakh tonnes</i>
1981-82	84.38
1983-84	59.16
1987-88	91.10

(c) Yes, Sir. The production suffered a set back in 1983-84 season due to drought conditions and low recovery in some of the Northern parts of the country. However, as a result of various steps taken by the Government the cyclic fluctuations were avoided and the production achieved its peak level in 1987-88 season inspite of the severe drought.

Diversification of Functions of National Building Construction Corporation

2718. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a proposal to diversify the functions of the National Building Construction Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the projects which have already been undertaken by the Corporation outside its conventional areas of operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE