

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3105
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2004
CRITICISM OF NEW ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY DRAFT
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the noted environmentalists have criticised the New Environmental Policy Draft as reported in the Hindu dated December 02, 2004;
- (b) if so, the main objections raised by the environmentalists;
- (c) the criteria fixed by the Government to invite experts and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for discussion;
- (d) the number of NGOs and the name of the experts allowed to participate in the discussion on the subject;
- (e) whether the Environmentalists have claimed that the draft attempts will weaken the already inadequate mechanism meant to safeguard the environment;
- (f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (g) the remedial measures being taken by the Government to safeguard the national environmental interest?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

- (a) Yes, Sir. As reported in the Hindu dated December 2, 2004, some environmentalists have criticized the draft National Environment Policy (NEP).
- (b) The main objections raised by these environmentalists are that the process of formulation of the draft NEP has been non-consultative and the draft appears to assume that market and economic instruments would solve environmental problems.
- (c) & (d) A mix of grass root level and National level Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), representing diverse interest groups were invited for discussion on the draft NEP on the basis of equitable regional representation along with some Experts / Research institutions. List of these invitees is placed at Annexure. All invitees were allowed to participate in the discussion.
- (e) Yes, Sir. Some NGOs have raised this point.
- (f) & (g) The draft NEP is a response to our national commitment to a clean environment mandated in the constitution. The NEP, when finalized, would further strengthen the existing mechanism meant to safeguard the national environmental interest.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c & d) OF THE LOKSABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3105 FOR 20.12.2004 RAISED BY SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI RAO AND SHRI ANANDRAO V.ADSUL REGARDING CRITICISM OF NEW ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY DRAFT

List of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Expert / Research Institutions invited for discussion on Draft National Environment Policy held in Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF)

- 1 Ms Sunita Narain, Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi
- 2 Dr. Ashok Khosla, Development Alternatives, New Delhi
- 3 Ms. Vandana Shiva, Research Foundation for Science, Technology & Ecology, New Delhi
- 4 Ms. Suman Sahai, GENE Campaign, New Delhi.
- 5 Chintan, Environment Research & Action Group, New Delhi
- 6 Shri R.K.Ramachandran, Director, Society for Action Research on Appropriate, RAIPUR (UP)

- 7 Shri G.S.Thakur, General Secretary, Jammu & Kashmir Environment and Wasteland Development Society, JAMMU (J&K)
- 8 Centre for Consumer Action, Research & Training (CUTS), JAIPUR (Rajasthan).
- 9 Shri Ranjendra Singh, Director, Agriculture and Village Development Organization,

JAIPUR (Rajasthan)

- 10 General Secretary, SEWA Self Employed Women`s Association, Ahmedabad (Gujarat)
11. Dr. Narayan Hegde, Managing Trustee and President, PUNE (Maharashtra)
12. Honorary Secretary, Bombay Natural History Society (BNSH), MUMBAI (Maharashtra)
13. Chairman, Bombay Environmental Action Group (BEAG), MUMBAI (Maharashtra)
14. Secretary, Friends of Earth & Sons of Soil (FESS), MATHERAN, Maharashtra.
15. Society for Promotion of Area Resource Centre (SPARC), Mumbai (Maharashtra)
16. Director, Foundation for Rehabilitation of Local Health Traditions (FRLHT),

Bangalore (Karnataka)

17. Shri Leo F Saldhana, Environment Support Group, Bangalore (Karnataka)
18. Dr. A Ravindra, Chairman, Centre for Sustainable Development, Bangalore (Karnataka)
19. Shri Aloysius P Fernandez, Executive Director, Bangalore (Karnataka)
20. Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan, Campaign Coordinator, LOKSATTA, HYDERABAD, (A.P.)
21. Shri Venkat Ramnaya, Youth for Action, HYDERABAD. (A.P.)
22. Dr. Sambasivarao Yarru, Action for Integrated Rural and Tribal Development Social Service Society, Tenali (A.P.)
23. Dr. Nanditha Krishna, CPR Environmental Education Centre, CHENNAI (TN)
24. Shri K. Janardhan, President, Kerala Shastra Sahitya Parishad, TRISSUR (KERALA)
25. Shri B.K. Senapati, Secretary, Orissa Environmental Society, Bhubaneswar (Orissa)
26. Swami Asaktananda, Rama Krishna Mission, Kolkatta (WB)
27. Shri Tushar Kanjilal, Tagore Society for Rural Development, KOLKATTA (WB)
28. Shri Asnikumar Moirangthrm, Secretary, Centre for Sustainable Society, IMPHAL (MANIPUR)
29. General Secretary, Assam General Science Society, GUWAHATI (Assam)
30. Mr. A.C.Z onunmawia, Corridinator, Centre for Environment Protection (CEP), AIZWAL (Mizoram)
31. Ms. Keweu K Yepthomi, General Secretary, Nagaland Institute of Health, Environment & Social Welfare, KOHIMA (Nagaland)
32. Prof. Kanchan Chopra, Head, Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), Delhi
33. Director, Centre for Women Development Studies, New Delhi-
34. Director, Centre for Policy Research (CPR), New Delhi.
35. Director, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), New Delhi
36. Secretary General & CEO, World Wild Fund, New Delhi
37. Director, National Council for Applied Economic Research, New Delhi
38. Director General, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi.
39. National Institute for Public Finance & Policy (NIPFP), New Delhi
40. Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun (UTTARANCHAL)
41. Director, Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), BHOPAL
42. Director & Member Secretary, Institute of Rural Management Association, ANAND
43. Director, Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad
44. Director, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai-400065.
45. Director, National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), NAGPUR
46. Director, National Institute of Oceanography, Dona Paula GOA
47. Director, Institute for Social & Economic Change, Bangalore (Karnataka)
48. Director, National Law School of Indian University, Bangalore (Karnataka)
49. Director, Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad (AP)
50. Director General, National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), HYDERABAD (AP)
51. Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology & Natural History (SACON), Coimbatore
52. Director, Centre for Earth Science Studies (CESS), Thiruvananthapuram. (Kerala)
53. The Director, Madras School of Economics, Chennai (TN)
54. Director, Botanical Survey of India (BSI), HOWRAH (WB)
55. Director, Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), CALCUTTA (WB)