

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:301

ANSWERED ON:24.02.2010

CLEARANCE TO ATHIRAPPALLY HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT

Mani Shri Jose K.;Rajesh Shri M. B.;Venugopal Shri K. C.

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any complaints/objections against the Athirappally hydro-electric project in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (c) the reasons for delay in according clearance to this project?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) Some representations have been received including one from Shri Rajender Singh, Chairperson, Jalbiradari against granting environmental clearance to the Athirappally Hydroelectric project, Kerala on the plea that primitive Kedar tribes culture will be threatened and biodiversity of the area will be affected. Based on the representations, a Show Cause Notice was issued to the Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) and KSEB has been directed to stop the work on the project till a view on the representations is taken.

(c) The Environmental Clearance has already been accorded to this project on 18.07.2007.