GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2582 ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009 NON PAYMENT OF NET PRESENT VALUE Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has not accorded its approval for certain irrigation projects under forest area of Maharashtra due to non-payment of Net Present Value (NPV) of these projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the list of projects for which NPV has not been paid;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received any request from the concerned State Government for grant of exemption in the payment of NPV;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government thereto;
- (e) whether the Union Government has directed the State Government to pay the NPV; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof including the payment made by the State Government as per the direction?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (f) The Central Government accords prior approval to the proposals received under the Forest (Conservation) Act,1980 in two stages. Stage-I, which is also known as in-principle approval, is accorded subject to certain stipulations,including payment of Net Present Value, to be complied with by the user agency. On receipt of compliance of the stipulations from the State Government, the final approval under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is accorded.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide their order dated 28.03.2008 directed the concerned to approach the Court for seeking grant of exemption from the payment of Net Present Value on a case to case basis by filing an Interlocutory Application (IA). The State Government of Maharashtra has deposited an amount of about Rs.893.54 crores in the account of Ad-hoc CAMPA towards Compensatory Afforestation, Penal Compensatory Afforestation, Catchment Area Treatment Plan and Net Present Value etc.