

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5403

ANSWERED ON:28.04.2010

VIOLATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE TO NARMADA PROJECT

Gandhi Smt. Maneka Sanjay

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

- (a) whether a Committee, headed by the Director, Forest Survey of India, has found several violations in the environmental clearance given to the Narmada project in 1987;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Committee has recommended not to permit further raising of the dam height;and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b)A Committee was constituted in July, 2008 under the Chairmanship ofDr. D. Pandey, Director General, Forest Survey of India, Dehradun for assessment of survey/studies/planning and implementation, of the plans on environmental safe guard measures for Sardar Sarovar & Indira Sagar Projects.

(c) The Committee submitted two interim reports, one in February, 2009 and the other one in February, 2010. The Committee observed certain shortfalls in compliances of stipulated environment safe guard measures.

(d) The report of the Committee was presented in the 47th meeting of the Environment Sub-Group (ESG), held on 26th March, 2010. The proposed construction of piers, overhead bridge and installation of gates, (to be kept in raised position) was discussed in the 48th meeting of the ESG held on 1st April, 2010. The ESG concluded that the Central Water Commission should submit a clear written assurance that there would be no additional submergence due to proposed construction and pari passu compliance of environmental safe guard measures be ensured. Further, the construction works would be stopped in the event of any additional submergence or non-compliance of the action plan by the State Governments and this conclusion for further work on Sardar Sarovar project is only a step n the process of obtaining permission of the Narmada Control Authority.