

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6388
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2010
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDIES
Karunakaran Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the Government has fixed a two years time frame for validity of the terms of reference for detailed environment impact studies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it has been necessitated as the EIA Notification of 2006 has been silent on this issue; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Ministry of Environment & Forests vide Office Memorandum dated 22nd March, 2010 has decided that the prescribed TORs would be valid for a period of two years for submission of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) / Environment Management Plan (EMP) Reports with effect from 1st April, 2010. The validity period is extendable to 3rd year, based on proper justification and approval of the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) / State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC), as the case may be.

(c) & (d): It has been necessitated as no time limit has been specifically provided under the EIA Notification, 2006 for the validity of the prescribed TORs and it may not be desirable to have indefinite validity of TORs since the TORs are considered to be site specific and are dynamic depending upon the site features, its land use and the nature of development around it.