

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:179
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2009
IMPACT OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY
Das Gupta Shri Gurudas

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

(a) whether the existing Environment Policy and the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification 2006 are not conducive for protection of environment and ecology in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) The National Environment Policy, 2006 recognises that environmental protection is an integral part of the development process and is intended to mainstream environmental concerns in all developmental activities. The dominant theme of this policy is that while conservation of environmental resources is necessary to secure livelihoods and well being of all, the most secure basis for conservation is to ensure that people dependent on particular resources obtain better livelihoods from the fact of conservation, than from degradation of resources. The policy seeks to stimulate partnership of different stakeholders in harnessing their respective resources and strength for environmental management.

The Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 requires developmental projects/activities/processes, listed therein to obtain prior environmental clearance under the provisions thereof so as to ensure that environmental concerns associated with these projects are duly integrated and addressed during different stages of project cycle.

Ministry of Environment and Forests does not feel that the existing Environmental Policy and the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 are not conducive for protection of environment and ecology in the country.

(b) Does not arise in view of the reply to para (a) above.