

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1596

ANSWERED ON:15.07.2009

TRANSPARENCY IN ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware that the present environment clearance process is not so transparent; and
- (b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to improve the clearance process and make it more transparent?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Ministry of Environment & Forests has proposed amendments in the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006, vide S.O. 195(E) dated 19th January, 2009 for obtaining comments / suggestions from all concerned, which inter-alia include proactive / voluntary disclosure of information relating to grant of environmental clearance for ensuring effective implementation and enforcement of environmental regulation through the creation of societal vigil.

In order to increase transparency in the clearance process, the information has been put in public domain, through the website of the Ministry, relating to (i) status of pending projects, (ii) schedule and agenda of the meeting of Expert Appraisal Committees (EACs), (iii) minutes of the EAC meeting, (iv) Environment Clearance letters and (v) circulars, guidelines, instructions relating to Environmental Clearance.