

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1739
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010
CLEARANCE TO MINING PROJECTS
Rao Shri Nama Nageswara

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

- (a) whether the Ministry of Environment and Forests in consultation with the Coal Ministry has recently formulated a 6 point agenda to make the process of forest and environment clearance faster for various mining projects in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the proposed agenda has been placed before and approved by the Cabinet; and
- (d) if so, the time frame by which the agenda would be implemented?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests in consultation with the Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Mines and Ministry of Power under the supervision of the Prime Minister's Office has discussed the issues concerning the expeditious environment and forest clearances to mining projects. During their meetings on 16.04.2010 and 21.05.2010, a multi pronged approach has been formulated for expeditious environment and forest clearances including identification of category 'A' (No-Go areas) and Category 'B' (Go areas). There was no 6 point agenda adopted during these meetings. As the exercise is incomplete, there is no proposal, as of now, to place the outcome of the joint exercise before the Cabinet for its approval.