

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2777  
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010  
SIMPLIFICATION OF CLEARANCE PROCEDURE  
Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the inordinate delay in granting environmental clearance to various projects;
- (b) if so, the reasons for the delay;
- (c) whether the Government has now simplified the procedure for granting environmental clearance;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether still a large number of projects are pending with the Government for environmental clearance; and
- (f) if so, the extent to which simplification in the procedure for granting environmental clearance is going to clear the pending projects?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 has prescribed a time limit of 105 days for appraisal of projects and communicating the decision thereon, after receipt of complete information. The reasons for perceived delays inter-alia include increased number of projects in certain sectors due to the present pace of development activities in the country and submission of incomplete information by project proponents.

(c) & (d): The steps taken to further streamline the procedure include preparation of sector specific EIA guidance manual, issue of clarificatory circulars, amendment to EIA Notification in December, 2009 and regular updating of website.

(e) & (f): As indicated in the reply to part (a) & (b) of the Question above, the time schedule has been prescribed for appraisal of projects and various steps taken as indicated in the reply to parts (c) & (d) above have helped reducing the pendency of cases.