

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:332  
ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010  
GRANTING ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE  
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

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

(a) whether the Union Government by amending the EIA notification 2006, has centralised the power to grant the environmental clearance by taking away the same from the State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) and giving to the Ministry of Environment and Forests for the areas falling within 10 kms. radius from the critically polluted areas identified by the Central Pollution Control Board;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the States in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) The Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification issued vide S.O. 1533 (E) dated 14.9.2006 has categorized the projects into Category 'A' and Category 'B', based on their impact potential, for the purpose of obtaining environmental clearance under the provisions thereof. The Category 'A' projects are appraised at Central Level in the Ministry of Environment & Forests, while Category 'B' projects are considered at State Level through the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA). As per the general condition prescribed there under, the Category 'B' projects will be treated as Category 'A', if located in whole or in part within 10 km from the boundary of critically polluted areas as identified by the Central Pollution Control Board from time to time. The amendment dated 1st December, 2009 made in the EIA Notification, 2006 has not made any change in this regard.

(b) & (c): Does not arise in view of (a) above.