

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3592
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010
PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO PLANNING COMMISSION
Punia Shri P.L.

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of proposals submitted to the Planning Commission by various Union Ministries during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the details of proposals that are pending;
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed the reasons for pendency of the projects;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSION(SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) : Sir, Planning Commission appraises Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC)/Public Investment Board (PIB) plan proposals of Union Ministries/Departments costing Rs. 100 crore and above (enhanced from Rs. 50 crore to Rs. 100 crore w.e.f. 1.4.2010 by Ministry of Finance). Planning Commission received 310 EFC/PIB proposals from Union Ministries during 2007-08, 246 proposals during 2008-09, 216 proposals during 2009-10 and 86 proposals during 2010-11 (April 2010 to October 2010). These proposals have been appraised by Planning Commission and appraisal notes issued for consideration by EFC/PIB. A statement showing sector-wise number and costs of EFC/PIB proposals is enclosed at Annexure-I.

(b) : As on 26.11.2010, 20 EFC/PIB proposals submitted by the Union Ministries to Planning Commission are pending for appraisal. A statement showing status of EFC/PIB proposals pending for appraisal is enclosed at Annexure-II.

(c) : In order to expedite process of appraisal and approval of EFC/PIB plan proposals, Government reviews the extant instructions to streamline the appraisal and approval process of such proposals from time to time. As per the existing guidelines on appraisal and approval of Plan schemes/projects, appraising agencies are given 4 weeks time to appraise the projects/schemes. However, a few projects have not been appraised within four weeks as in many cases discussions have to be held with the concerned Ministry on specific issues or funds may not be available for the scheme/project in the Annual/Five Year Plan. The progress of appraisal of EFC/PIB plan proposals of Union Ministries are reviewed on weekly basis so as to ensure that appraisal note is issued within stipulated timeframe of four weeks. The status of appraisal is also available on Planning Commission's website which is updated every week.

(d) : At the instance of the Prime Minister of India, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission had examined and reviewed extant procedures/guidelines on processing of cases relating to appraisal and approval of projects/schemes/programmes of the Union Ministries. In pursuance of decisions taken, necessary instructions have been issued to Union Ministries especially regarding formulation of schemes/projects in qualitative manner, ensuring adequacy of Plan funds, delivery mechanism in social sector schemes etc. In order to cut down time for processing EFC/PIB proposals, Government has also revised time frame of appraisal from 6 weeks to 4 weeks w.e.f. December 2009. Government of India has also enhanced the delegation powers to Appraisal and Approval systems of Plan proposals of Union Ministries w.e.f. 01.04.2010. Details are at Annexure-III.

(e) : Not Applicable.