

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1626
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011
SETTING UP OF NEW AUTHORITY
Anuragi Shri Ghansyam

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to constitute a new authority for regulation of all environmental norms on lines of the US Environmental Protection Authority;
- (b) if so, the major features of the new authority; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government under the said scheme to avoid delay in issuing environmental clearance?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) A proposal to established a National Environment Assessment and Monitoring Authority (NEAMA) to strengthen the regulatory framework and to improve the environmental governance in the country particularly in the fields of environment impact assessment and coastal zone management is in a conceptual stage. The earlier National Environment Protection Authority (NEPA) has been rechristened as NEAMA in line with its proposed mandate. The major features of the proposed authority are covered in a discussion paper on "Reforms in Environmental Governance with special reference to establishment of NEAMA" which has been uploaded on the Ministry's website on 26.11.2010 for comments.