

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1779  
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011  
DESTRUCTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL FORESTS  
McLeod Smt. Ingrid

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

- (a) whether the Government of Chhattisgarh has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for producing 40,000 MW power with different private companies at district of Janjagir Champa of Chhattisgarh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is against environmental laws and would require denudation of forests and acquiring of large scale agricultural land;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & b) While State Government promote investment in their territory covering various sectors through signing of Memorandum of Undertaking etc.; all the developmental projects, including power projects, are to be appraised under the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006, which is applicable to all the project proponents, including the private companies.
- (c) & d) The Environment Impact Assessment reports cover likely environmental impact due to the projects under appraisal, including land-use pattern and biodiversity and the Environmental Management Plan addresses the requisite mitigation measure.
- (e) The projects are appraised by the Central Expert Appraisal Committee concerned for projects classified as Category 'A' under the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 and by the State Environment Impact Assessment Committees for Category 'B' projects and based on their recommendations, the decision on grant of environmental clearance or otherwise is to be taken by the Ministry of Environment & Forests or the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, respectively.