

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4081

ANSWERED ON:26.08.2011

POWER TRANSMISSION PROJECTS

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo

**Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether problems in acquiring land and delays in environment clearance have grounded various power transmission projects in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether certain power companies have requested the Government that power transmission projects be exempted from some of the provisions of the Forest Rights Act, 2006;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to avoid huge delay in implementation of power transmission projects in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Implementation of various transmission projects have been adversely affected due to problems in acquiring lands for substations. The delays are mainly on account of resistance by land owners demanding higher compensation. The transmission projects are not covered under `Environment(Protection) Act, 1986. Therefore, environmental clearance is not applicable for transmission projects. However, as per MoEF notification dated May 7, 1992, it is only applicable in some notified areas of Aravalli range in two districts i.e Gurgaon in Haryana and Alwar in Rajasthan and no transmission project has been grounded in these areas due to environmental clearance.

The details of ongoing transmission projects affected on account of delays in land acquisition are attached at Annex.

(c) & (d) : Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.(PGCIL) has requested Ministry of Power (MoP) and Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) for exemption of transmission projects or granting relaxation by providing extra time for compliance of FRA provisions wherein consent of concerned Gram Sabha has been made compulsory under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 (FRA, 2006).

(e): In order to expedite the implementation of transmission projects, the following steps have been taken/are being taken by the Government;

(i) Ministry of Power (MoP) and Central Electricity Authority (CEA) have been conducting review meetings on regular basis to assess the progress of the transmission projects and matter is taken up with the state authorities as well as MoEF and its regional offices for resolving the issues affecting the execution of the projects.

(ii) Power Panel Monitoring Consultant has been appointed in the MoP for monitoring the progress of transmission projects. The Consultant is regularly visiting the site to assess the progress of construction of transmission projects and suggest remedial action on critical areas.

(iii) Ministry of Power has taken up the issue of exemption of transmission project or of granting relaxation by providing extra time for compliance of FRA provisions with MOEF.

(iv) State Governments and District Administration are extending their help to the project implementing agencies in resolving Right-of-Way (RoW) issues.