

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:938

ANSWERED ON:28.11.2011

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCES OF CATEGORY 'B' PROJECTS

Kanubhai Patel Jayshreeben

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to return the jurisdiction of Environmental Clearances of Category 'B' projects in critically polluted areas to respective State Level Expert Appraisal Committee/State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEAC/SEIAA);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) & (b) The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 provides that all projects, except the projects covered under Item 8 of the Schedule to the said Notification, falling within 10 km from the boundary of critically polluted areas, identified by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) from time to time, are to be treated as Category A projects for consideration by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for the environmental clearance.

(c) & (d) Do not arise in view of the reply to parts (a) and (b) above.