GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2855 ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011 ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCES TO PROJECTS

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

- (a) the details of the proposals received from various States for environmental clearance of the developmental projects viz, irrigation, power, housing, mining, etc. and are pending with the Ministry for clearance, State and Union Territory-wise at present;
- (b) the reasons for the pendency along with the period since when they are pending, project-wise;
- (c) the number of projects cleared during each of the last three years and the current year, State and Union Territory-wise;
- (d) the number of projects rejected during the above period, State and Union Territory-wise along with the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/strategy proposed by the Government for early clearance of pending projects in the country and formulate a viable policy for clearing such proposals?

Answer

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

- (a) The details of the developmental projects covering hydropower sector including irrigation, thermal power, mining, building and construction projects which includes housing and industry which are pending presently with the Ministry of Environment & Forests for environmental clearance, State and Union Territory-wise are given at Annexure-1.
- (b) Projects awaiting environmental clearance under the Environmental Impact Assessment
- (EIA) Notification, 2006 are pending for varying periods of time mainly due to non-submission of complete information by the project proponents in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP).
- (c) The details of developmental projects covering hydropower sector including irrigation, thermal power, mining, and building and construction projects which includes housing and industry which have been granted environmental clearance by the Ministry of Environment & Forests during the last three years and during the current year State and Union Territory-wise are given at Annexure-2.
- (d) The details of developmental projects covering hydropower sector including irrigation, thermal power, mining, and building and construction projects and industry rejected environmental during the last three years and during the current year State and Union Territory-wise are given at Annexure-3.
- (e) The steps taken for expediting appraisal of proposals for grant of environmental clearance include:
- i. Regular meetings of the Expert Appraisal Committee covering the various sectors.
- ii. Regular updation of status of projects for environmental clearance on the Ministry's website for the benefit of all stakeholders.
- iii. Sector specific Manuals have been prepared and uploaded on the Ministry website to facilitate better preparation of EIA-EMP Reports by the project proponents.
- iv. A number of Circulars on the EIA Notification 2006 and the process for obtaining environmental clearance have also been uploaded on the MOEF website to facilitate the project proponents in preparation of EIA-EMP reports with all relevant information.