

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3991  
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2011  
CLEARANCE TO POSCO PLANT  
Viswanathan Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the Government has accorded sanction/clearance to POSCO Integrated Iron and Steel Plant in the State of Odisha;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has fixed any pre-condition in clearing the project;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the POSCO has made any commitment to take sustainable green initiatives and effective measures for conserving land and marine environment of the area; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Ministry of Environment and Forests has earlier accorded Environmental Clearance (EC) on 19.07.2007 to 4.0 MTPA capacity Integrated Iron and Steel plant in Odisha by M/s POSCO - India Pvt. Ltd. under the provision of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006. Forest clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, has been granted on 4.05.2011.

(c) & (d) The environmental clearance granted is subject to effective implementation of various conditions and environmental safeguards. The proposal was further looked at by the Expert Appraisal Committee (Industry), in the light of recommendations of the four member Committee constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests and vide letter dated 31.01.2011, additional conditions were stipulated for implementation of the project. These conditions inter- alia include provision of air pollution control devices, online continuous stack monitoring, installation of desalination plant to meet the drinking water requirement for the neighborhood, rain water harvesting, use of energy efficient technologies, development of green belt, Risk and Disaster Management Plan and measures for corporate social responsibility.

(e) & (f) M/s POSCO - India Pvt. Ltd., the project proponents, have to undertake effective measures to implement the stringent conditions and environmental safeguards stipulated in the EC referred above in parts (a) and (b), for conservation and protection of the environment of the area. The Regional Office of the Ministry at Bhubaneswar monitors the EC conditions. The project proponent is also required to submit six monthly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated conditions and to upload the status on their website in the public domain.