

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:901

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2012

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCES TO PROJECTS

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to bring a fast track mechanism for according environmental clearance to various projects for rapid industrial development in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) the total number of environmental clearance proposals pending with the Government till now; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): Ministry of Environment & Forests has brought out the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006, which requires projects/ activities listed thereunder to obtain prior environment clearance. All the projects submitted for obtaining environment clearance are appraised in terms of the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 as per the procedure and time frame prescribed there under. For the purpose, meetings of the Expert Appraisal Committees, sector-wise are held every month for 2-3 days.

(d): As on February, 2012, 760 projects are awaiting environment clearance from Ministry of Environment & Forests.

(e): Efforts are made to adhere to the time limit prescribed in the Notification by holding regular and longer duration meetings of Expert Appraisal Committees.