

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:534

ANSWERED ON:14.05.2012

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE TO PROJECTS NEAR SANCTUARIES

Gandhi Smt. Maneka Sanjay

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

- (a) whether the Government has any specific policy/guidelines for giving environmental clearance to the factories/projects in the areas adjoining the reserved forests or sanctuaries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has granted the environmental clearance to a steel plant near Daroji Bear Sanctuary in Bangalore;
- (d) if so, whether the proposed project is within the eco-sensitive area of the sanctuary;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 534 REGARDING "ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE TO PROJECTS NEAR SANCTUARIES" ASKED BY SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI DUE FOR ANSWER ON 14.05.2012.

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) had issued an Office Memorandum on 2.12.2009 detailing the procedure for consideration of proposals for grant of environmental clearance under the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 which involve forest land and or wildlife habitat (Core Zone of elephant / tiger reserve etc.) and or located within 10 km of the National Park / Wildlife Sanctuary. The project proponent is required to submit their application for wildlife clearance/ clearance from Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife to the Competent Authority before obtaining environment clearance.

(c) to (f): The proposal of M/s JSW Steel Ltd. for the expansion of steel plant from 4 MTPA to 10 MTPA at Village Tornagallu, District Bellary, Karnataka was accorded environmental clearance on 7.5.2007. Subsequently, environmental clearance was accorded on 13.1.2012 for the Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) Plant of 1.2 MTPA capacity which is located within the premises of the 10 MTPA steel plant subject to obtaining clearance under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 from the National Board for Wildlife. The steel plant is located within 10 km distance of the Daroji Bear Sanctuary. While according environmental clearance, environmental safeguards have been stipulated which inter alia include installation of online ambient air quality monitoring stations, continuous stack monitoring facilities for the stacks, electro static precipitators & bag filters to control the particulate emissions, display of monitored data in the public domain, compliance with the prescribed standards under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, adoption of zero effluent discharge, development of green belt in 33% of the plant area.