

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6180
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2012
CLEARANCE TO POSCO PLANT
Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday

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

- (a) whether the National Green Tribunal has suspended the environmental clearance given to the POSCO Steel Project in Odisha;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a), (b) & (c) Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) had granted environmental clearance on 19.7.2007 to an integrated iron and steel plant by M/s POSCO - India Pvt. Ltd. in Orissa subject to various environmental safeguards. Based on the reports submitted by a four member Committee, additional conditions were stipulated on 31st January, 2011.

In an appeal filed before the National Green Tribunal (NGT) challenging the environmental clearance accorded on 19.7.2007 as well as the order dated 31st January, 2011 imposing additional conditions, the NGT vide its Judgment dated 30th March, 2012 has suspended the order dated 31st January, 2011 of MoEF. NGT has further directed that MoEF shall make a fresh review of the Project with specific reference to the observations/ apprehensions raised by the Review Committee by issuing fresh TORs.