

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7225
ANSWERED ON:21.05.2012
CLEARANCE TO NEW PROJECTS
Chitthan Shri N.S.V.

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

- (a) whether the Government has examined/proposed to examine all new developmental projects for granting environmental clearances along the coastal region to conserve and manage ground water resources in the wake of increased salinity due to over-extraction;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has decided to include a member from Central Ground Water Board in the expert committee for all developmental and tourism projects along the coast to ensure that necessary measures are taken while according environmental clearance to the projects;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) Ministry of Environment and Forests had notified the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification (CRZ) dated 06.01.2011 in supersession of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification dated 19.02.1991. The Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 2011 prohibits setting up of new Industries and expansion of existing industrial units in CRZ areas. Only activities which require foreshore facilities viz Ports, fishing harbour and Beach resorts, pipeline for sea water intake / outfall, transmission lines etc. are permissible within CRZ. Further, the Notification, prohibits the ground water drawal within CRZ area to prevent sea water intrusion. Drawal of ground water within CRZ area is permitted only in the areas which are inhabited by the local communities and only for their use and in the area between 200mts-500mts zone only when done manually through ordinary wells for drinking, horticulture, agriculture and fisheries and where no other source of water is available.

(b) to (d) An expert Member having expertise in the field of water resources has been inducted as a member of the Expert Appraisal Committee for the CRZ and Infrastructure projects.