

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7231
ANSWERED ON:21.05.2012
IRREGULARITY IN CLEARANCES PROCESS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been large scale irregularities in granting environmental clearances to new industries in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the big companies are occupying valuable land, water and licence by obtaining the said clearance on account of the said irregularities;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes not to grant any clearance to new industries for time being so as to check the said irregularities;
- (e) if so, whether the Government proposes to bring any white paper in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) As per the Environment Impact Assessment Notification (EIA), 2006, prior environment clearance is mandatory for the activities including industrial projects listed in its schedule. Environmental clearance to the industries is accorded as per the procedure laid down in the EIA Notification, 2006. The Expert Appraisal Committees (EACs) and State Environment Appraisal Committees (SEACs) constituted under the EIA Notification, 2006 appraise the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Report for optimization of natural resources and for suggestion of Environment Management Plan (EMP). Therefore, there has been no large scale irregularity in environment clearance process.

(c) to (f) Does not arise in view of the reply given above to parts (a) & (b).