

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7252
ANSWERED ON:21.05.2012
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCES
Naqvi Shri Zafar Ali

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

- (a) whether the Government has imposed ban on the issuance of No-Objection Certificate for environmental clearances to the various industries located in Asansol-Haldia industrial sector of West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Ministry had sent any high level committee for conducting inspection in Asansol-Haldia section in order to lift the said ban;
- (d) if so, whether the committee has submitted its report to the Ministry;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Ministry is contemplating to lift this ban so that the stalled development work in Haldia area may be restarted; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Ministry of Environment & Forests had imposed a temporary moratorium on 13.1.2010 for grant of environmental clearance in terms of the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 in respect of developmental projects to be located in identified critically polluted industrial clusters / areas including Asansol and Haldia in West Bengal, based on Comprehensive Environment Pollution Index (CEPI).
- (c): Central Pollution Control Board had deputed its teams for assessment of progress of implementation of Action Plans in the critically polluted areas of Asansol and Haldia.
- (d): Ministry of Environment & Forests has not received the inspection report from Central Pollution Control Board.
- (e): Does not arise, in view of reply to part (d) above.
- (f) & (g): The Ministry of Environment & Forests has sought an update on the progress of implementation of Action Plans in respect of the identified critically polluted industrial clusters / areas including Asansol and Haldia in West Bengal where moratorium is still continuing for considering the matter.