

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2433
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2012
CLEARANCES TO DAMS
Kalmadi Shri Suresh

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

- (a) whether the Government has received requests from the various State Government regarding seeking environmental clearances for construction of dams in their States including Sapali Dam at Hingoli in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the present status of the proposals; and
- (d) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken along with the reasons for the delay in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Submission of application for environmental clearance (EC) for construction of dams & barrages and their processing is an ongoing activity. During last three years, 53 applications for grant of EC have been received. EC has been granted in respect of 36 of these projects.

In the year 2009, the Government of Maharashtra had submitted the Upper Penganga Irrigation Project Stage-II (Sapli Dam) in Hingoli and Nanded Districts of Maharashtra to the Ministry of Environment and Forests for seeking environmental clearance under Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006. The project was considered and appraised under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) constituted for River Valley & Hydroelectric Projects in its various meetings. It has been observed that public hearing for Hingoli District has not been conducted in the manner prescribed in the EIA Notification, 2006. The State Government has been requested to conduct public hearing in the Hingoli District, also.

(d) On receipt of complete and proper Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Report and other relevant information, the Ministry makes all endeavors to take a decision for granting EC in a timely manner.