

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2521

ANSWERED ON:27.08.2012

CLEARANCES TO PROJECTS

Baitha Shri Kameshwar ;Biju Shri P. K.;Chanabasappa Shri Udasi Shivkumar;Dhanaplan Shri K. P.;Dhurve Jyoti;Hazari Shri Maheshwar ;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Sainuji Shri Kowase Marotrao;Saroj Smt. Sushila;Singh Shri Jagada Nand;Singh Shri Mahabali;Tagore Shri Manicka;Tandon Shri Lal Ji;Upadhyay Seema;Verma Smt. Usha;Vishwanath Shri Adagur H;Yadav Shri Madhusudan

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

- (a) the details of the proposals received from various States for environmental and forest clearances of the developmental projects viz, irrigation dam, highways and infrastructure etc. are pending with the Ministry for clearance, State and Union Territory-wise including Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka;
- (b) the reasons for the pendency along with the period since when they are pending, State-wise, year-wise and project-wise including Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka;
- (c) the number of projects cleared during each of the last three years and the current year, State and Union Territory wise;
- (d) the number of projects rejected during the said period, State and Union Territory-wise along with the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/strategy proposed by the Government for early clearance of pending projects in the country and formulate a viable policy for clearing such proposals?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

- (a) & (b) A total of 51 projects are pending for Environmental clearance including 16 River Valley and Hydroelectric projects, 35 highways and infrastructure projects. 374 projects are pending for forests clearance. Details enclosed. (Annexure-I).
- (c) During last three years, a total of 399 projects including 36 of River Valley and Hydroelectric projects and 363 of highways and infrastructure projects were granted environmental clearance. 2568 projects were granted forest clearance . List is enclosed. (Annexure-II).
- (d) During last three years, 262 projects were rejected. Details enclosed. (Annexure-III).
- (e) A number of steps have been initiated by the Ministry to expedite the clearance process, which inter-alia include
 - (i) Regular and longer duration meetings of the Expert Appraisal Committee(s) in various sectors,
 - (ii) Further streamlining of the procedure for appraisal of projects,
 - (iii) Finalization of thirty seven sector specific manuals, which have been uploaded on the Ministry's website for benefit of all Stakeholders,