

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:657
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2012
EXPEDITION IN CLEARANCE PROCESS
Ramasubbu Shri S.

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

- (a) whether the Government has given clearance to large number of companies to extract several million tonnes of coal in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of clearances made and the projects which are underway;
- (c) whether the projects which were cleared have started their operations or facing further hurdles;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen the monitoring process and to expedite the clearance process in the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): The Ministry of Environment and Forests has granted Environment Clearance to 182 coal mining projects during past five years which are at various stages of operation .The Ministry of Environment and Forests, through its Regional Offices, monitors the implementation and compliance of conditions stipulated in the Environment Clearances. The steps taken to expedite the environment clearance process include continuous monitoring of status of the pending projects, regular and longer duration of Expert Appraisal Committee meetings, streamlining of the procedure for appraisal of projects, etc.