

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2552
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012
CLEARANCES TO PROJECTS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up a separate machinery to immediately respond to appeals of small entrepreneurs at the highest levels to get environmental clearances;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the manner in which the Government proposes to address the clearance problem and make the system more responsive; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government against the officials who delay the matters ?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) The Government has no proposal to set up separate machinery to get environmental clearances since the same already exists. The cases for environmental clearances are processed in line with the provisions under the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006, issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (c) & (d) The steps taken for expediting appraisal of proposals for grant of environmental clearance include:
 - i) Regular meetings of the Expert Appraisal Committees covering the various sectors.
 - ii) Regular updation of project status on Ministry's website for the information of all stakeholders.
 - iii) Sector specific manuals have been prepared and uploaded on the Ministry website to facilitate better preparation of EIA reports by the project proponents.