

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3771

ANSWERED ON:17.12.2012

USE OF GROUND WATER FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES

Panda Shri Prabodh;Tarai Shri Bibhu Prasad

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

(a) whether the Wildlife Society of Odisha (WSO) has lodged any complaint to the Government asking of an enquiry into the alleged abuse of ground water for industrial use by some private company including Jindal Steel and Power Limited in Odisha for its projects in Angul and Berbil; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Environment and Forests received a complaint from the Wildlife Society of Odisha (WSO) in November 2010 regarding violation by M/s Jindal Steel and Power Ltd. (JSPL) for drawl of huge quantity of ground water by digging bore wells for construction of 6 Million Tonnes per Annum of Integrated Steel Plant and 1000 MW Captive Power Plant at Kerjang in District Angul in Orissa. The complainant had also alleged that the environmental clearance granted to M/s JSPL on 22.2.2007 stipulates that the water would be obtained from the Brahmani River/ Samal Barrage.

The matter was investigated by the Ministry of Environment and Forests and it was found that M/s JSPL has obtained permission on 5th October, 2007 from the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India for withdrawal of 5,000 m³/day of ground water besides obtaining permission for drawl of 95.16 cusecs (9,700 m³/hr) of water from River Brahmani on 26th August, 2008 from Department of Water Resources, Government of Odisha.