

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3855

ANSWERED ON:17.12.2012

CLEARANCES TO PROJECTS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there is a strong resentment among experts since the views of the experts are being ignored in clearing projects by obfuscating their dissents in official records;
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Non-Governmental wildlife experts are planning to make their resentments in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent such situation in future?

Answer

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(c) to (e) The regulatory authority for considering non-forestry project proposals pertaining to Protected Areas and Eco-sensitive Zones is the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (NBWL), under the Chairpersonship of Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests. The Standing Committee of NBWL comprises both official and non-official experts. There has been no instance where any member expressed resentment or raised allegation of ignoring his / her views in the Standing Committee of NBWL in consideration of project proposals during the meetings. The minutes of the meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL also encompass the dissent notes, if any, by the members.