

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4207
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2012
RELAXATION IN LAND TRANSFER RULES
Viswanathan Shri P.

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rules for transfer of land under PPP projects for infrastructure have been relaxed by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to establish a High Powered Committee for single window clearance for infrastructure projects; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): Early last year, a ban had been imposed on all transfer of government owned land to any entity except in cases where land was to be transferred from one government department to another. This was leading to long delays in awarding concessions for infrastructure projects, particularly PPP projects. The Government has now relaxed the ban for certain categories of projects including PPP projects by allowing land alienation for all cases of land transfer on lease or rent or license to a concessionaire which have been appraised through the Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC) route and approved by the Finance Minister or by the Ministers concerned or by the Cabinet, as the case may be, depending upon the value of the project. The government continues to own the land which is leased or licensed out.

(c) & (d): No, Madam. However, the Cabinet has recently approved a proposal for constitution of a Cabinet Committee with Prime Minister as the Chairman to expedite decisions on approvals/clearances for implementation of projects. This Cabinet Committee would monitor and review the implementation of major projects to ensure accelerated and time-bound grant of various licenses, permissions and approvals. The Cabinet Committee would also prescribe different time limits, in consultation with the Ministries concerned, for taking decisions on different types of approvals and clearances for each sector under that Ministry/ Department. The Ministry/ Department would be expected to take a decision after due diligence on the application within the stipulated time period. In case the decision is not taken within the stipulated time period, the Cabinet Committee would look into the reasons for delays and facilitate decision-making on critical issues to de-bottleneck key impediments by fast-tracking the required approvals/clearances.