

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5435

ANSWERED ON:29.04.2013

CLEARANCES TO PROJECTS

Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram;Pathak Shri Harin;Patil Shri C. R. ;Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai;Veljibhai Jat Poonamben

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to return the jurisdiction of Environmental Clearances of Category 'B' projects in critically polluted areas to respective State Level Expert Appraisal Committee/State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SLEAC/SEIAA);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Sir, As per General Condition prescribed in Schedule under the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006, any project or activity specified in Category 'B' will be treated as Category 'A' if located in whole or in part within 10 Km from the boundary of critically polluted areas as notified by the Central Pollution Control Board from time to time.

The Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) has constituted an Expert Committee on 30.01.2013 to categorize Category 'B' projects/activities into Category 'B1' & 'B2' under EIA Notification, 2006 and review classification of projects/activities into 'A' & 'B' and General Condition as contained in aforesaid Notification. As of now there is no proposal under consideration of MoEF to return the jurisdiction of Environment Clearances of Category 'B' projects in critically polluted areas to respective State Level Expert Appraisal Committee / State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority.