

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6357
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2013
ISSUE OF NOTICE BY NGT
Kumar Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the National Green Tribunal(NGT) has sought explanation regarding construction of cell phone communication towers without following mandatory provisions of law and necessary permission from competent authority in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the NGT has not received any response to its notice from the concerned in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) The National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi vide order dated 21st November 2012 in Application No.61/2012 filed by Dr. Aravind Gupta of NOIDA, has directed that no construction of cell-phone communication towers shall be made without following the mandatory provisions of law and without obtaining necessary permission from the Competent Authority.

(c) to (e) In the Application No.61/2012 filed before the National Green Tribunal, the Ministry of Communications and IT, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and other Public Sector Units and private firms have been made the respondents.

The applicant has prayed for implementation of the guidelines and regulations pertaining to installation of Telecom Towers in accordance to Office Memorandum No. F. No. 15-11/2010/WL-I dated 09.08.2012 of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The Ministry of Environment and Forests and the Ministry of Communications and IT have filed their responses before the National Green Tribunal. Ministry is not aware of the response of other respondents. The matter is sub-judice.