

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:111  
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2013  
CLEARANCE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF DAMS  
Singh Shri Radha Mohan

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

- (a) whether clearance for construction of several dams and hydro projects in the area from Gau-mukh to down stream Uttarkashi, Ganga Valley have been granted;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto along with the details of clear cut policy of the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to review the clearance process to construction of water related projects with view to save the lives of local populace; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Eleven (11) hydropower projects have been granted environmental clearance in the State of Uttarakhand downstream of Gaumukh since 2006.

The Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 provides detailed procedure for granting environmental clearance to various developmental projects including Hydropower projects, which is as follows:

- i. Category-A: Appraisal at Central level; by Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for Hydroelectric projects with capacity more than 50 MW.
- ii. Category-B: Appraisal at State level; by Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) for Hydroelectric projects with capacity from 25 MW to 50 MW.
- iii. Hydropower projects with capacity less than 25 MW do not require prior Environmental Clearance.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests accords environmental clearance (EC) for hydropower projects after conducting studies and following due procedures subject to compliance of various environmental safeguard measures as stipulated in the EIA Notification, 2006.

(c) & (d) The Ministry of Environment & Forests regularly and periodically monitor the compliance of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and associated other issues. Any violation in this regard is dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986