GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:170
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCES TO PROJECTS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals received from various States for environmental clearances for projects in their States during the last three years and the current year State/UT/ Project-wise;

(b) the number of projects cleared out of them and the number of such projects still pending for grant of environmental clearances, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether the Government has set up or proposes to set up a mechanism for granting environmental clearances for the proposed projects within a fixed time limit; 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) The State/UT-wise details of project proposals for which environment clearance was issued by the Ministry of Environment & Forests during the last three years and the current year (up to 31st July, 2013) are at Annexure-I. The State/UT-wise details of project proposals pending for environment clearance in the Ministry are at Annexure-II.

(c) & (d) The cases of environment clearance to projects are dealt with as per the statutory provisions under the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification 2006, as amended from time to time. The EIA Notification prescribes the procedure for processing the cases for environmental clearance as also the time-lines for processing such cases. Various steps taken by the Ministry to fast track the environment clearance process without compromising the quality of the appraisal or the integrity of the environment include continuous monitoring of status of pending projects, regular and longer duration meetings of Expert Appraisal Committees for consideration of projects in different sectors, streamlining of process, etc.