

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2282

ANSWERED ON:22.08.2013

CLEARANCE FOR HYDEL POWER PROJECTS

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Chitthan Shri N.S.V.;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the hydel power projects pending due to environmental and forest clearance, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Cabinet Committee on Investment had recently considered such pending hydel power projects and if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether Ministry had also taken up the matter with the Ministry of Environment and Forests and if so the details thereof and the response of that Ministry thereto;
- (d) whether the association of power producers have represented in this regard and if so, the details thereof including the steps taken/being taken by the Government to address the issue; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to expedite the commissioning of hydel power projects in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

- (a) : Nineteen hydro-electric projects (HEP), which have been accorded concurrence by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), are pending for environmental and forest clearances. The State-wise details of these projects are attached at Annex.
- (b) : The Cabinet Committee on Investment in its meeting held on 31.07.2013 has directed the Ministry of Defence to accord 'No Objection Certificate' to the Etalin HEP in Arunachal Pradesh.
- (c) & (d) : The issues relating to environment and forest clearances to hydro projects including the requests of Association of Power Producers have been taken up by Ministry of Power with Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF). As a result, several issues such as including clearance to projects, Terms of Reference requirements for Environment Clearances, conduct of Basin and Cumulative Impact Assessment studies, etc. have been clarified/resolved. Further clearances to specific Projects have also been obtained.
- (e) : The Government has taken several steps to expedite commissioning of Hydel Projects in the country which inter alia include review of projects by Central Electricity Authority and the Power Projects Monitoring Panel of the Ministry of Power, the Task Force on Hydro Power Development, Inter-Ministerial Consultation with Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Defence, Border Road Organization, Ministry of DONER, etc.