

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3318
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2009
ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT
Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan

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

- (a) whether there is a proposal to exempt modernization and expansion plans from environmental notification on the basis of self certification;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the benefit likely to accrue by implementation of the process;
- (c) whether proper assessment has been made in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Union Government to review draft amendments of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (e): Ministry of Environment & Forests vide Notification S.O. No. 195(E) dated 19-01-2009 had proposed various amendments to EIA Notification, 2006 inviting comments / suggestions. The proposed amendments inter-alia included; exemption from the provisions of EIA Notification in respect of modernization or expansion proposals without any increase in pollution load and or without any additional water and or land requirement based on self certification to be submitted by the project proponent.

The comments received on the draft Notification were examined by a Committee constituted for the purpose. Based on the recommendation of the Committee, the Government has not agreed to exempt modernization and expansion proposals on self certification basis and the Notification has been finalized accordingly.