

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2534

ANSWERED ON:26.08.2013

CLEARANCES TO PROJECTS

Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan ;Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to return the jurisdiction of Environmental Clearances of Category 'B' projects in critically polluted areas to respective State Level Expert Appraisal Committee/State Environment Impact Assessment Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (c) The General Condition under the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 inter alia provides that any project or activity specified in Category "B" will be treated as Category "A", if located in whole or in part within 10 km from the boundary of Critically Polluted Areas as notified by the Central Pollution Control Board from time to time. There is no proposal under consideration to give powers to grant Environmental Clearances of Category 'B' projects in Critically Polluted Areas to respective State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) /State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA).