GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:573 ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013 CLEARANCES TO PROJECTS Bhujbal Shri Sameer

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

- (a) the details of environmental and forest clearances given to various projects particularly drinking water and hydro-power projects including projects pending for clearance and already rejected in the country during the last three years and the current years, Statewise and project-wise;
- (b) the details of criterion fixed and practices being adopted by the Government towards issuing environmental clearance particularly to a project, wherein impact assessment is made; and
- (c) the details of policies being adopted by Government and criterion fixed for issuing the environmental clearance inspite of their impact on environment and resulting in Global Warming and Climate Change?

Answer

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

- (a) During the last three years and the current year, the Ministry has granted Environmental Clearance to 27 river valley & hydro-electric projects and one project proposal was rejected. 9 hydro-electric project proposals are pending for grant of Environmental Clearance. During the same period 91 drinking water projects and 91 hydro-electric projects were given Forest Clearance by the Ministry and one project was rejected. 19 project proposals are pending with the Ministry for Forest Clearance.
- (b) & (c) The Ministry considers the projects for Prior Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006, as amended. The objective of the environment impact Assessment is to assess the possible environmental impacts due to the proposed project and incorporate required mitigation measures in the environmental management plan with a view to facilitating sustainable development.