GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:575
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013
CLEARANCE TO PROJECT
Rajesh Shri M. B.

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

(a) whether the Government has granted environmental clearance to the proposed Aranmula airport project in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the necessary formalities have been followed in granting clearance to the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it would create any adverse affect on environment;

(f) if so, the details thereof and (g) the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Environment Clearance for development of Airport at Mallappuzhasserry, Aranmula and Kidangannur villages, Kozhencherry Taluk, Patthanamthitta, District, Kerala on a plot area of 500 Acres was granted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) on 18.11.2013.

(c) & (d) : The proposal for grant of Terms of Reference (ToRs) to the project was considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) in its meeting held on 21st−23rd September, 2010 and the Committee recommended issuance of ToRs. The ToRs for the project were accorded by MoEF on 13.10.2010. Public Hearing was conducted on 10.05.2011 at Pathanamthitta, District Collectorate. The project along with final Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report and public hearing proceedings was considered by the EAC in its meetings held on 21st − 23rd September, 2011, 15th − 16th December, 2011 and 16th −17th August, 2012. The EAC, after due consideration of the relevant documents submitted by the project proponent and additional clarifications furnished in response to its observations, recommended the project for grant of Environment Clearance.

(e) to (g): No, Sir. The environment clearance letter dated 18.11.2013 stipulates various conditions and environmental safeguards to be met by the project proponent.