

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1789
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2013
CLEARANCE TO POWER PROJECTS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the government has received any complaints regarding delay in environmental clearances to power projects in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of power projects proposals pending with the Government for want of environmental clearances during the last three years and the current year, State-wise, including Kudgi Super Thermal Power Project in Karnataka;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of the adverse impact of such delay in clearance on production capacity of the power projects;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the concrete steps being taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite the environmental clearances to such projects?

Answer

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

- (a) Power projects are perceived to be pending for environmental clearance with the Ministry of Environment & Forests for varying durations mainly due to non-submission of complete information by the project proponents in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) required for the projects submitted for environmental clearance and non-compliance of the procedures of the EIA Notification 2006 and Circulars of the Ministry.
- (b) There are 31 power projects pending for environmental clearance in the Ministry. The details are given at Annexure I. Environmental clearance was accorded to 3x800 MW (Stage-I) Kudgi Super Thermal Power Plant at village Kudgi, Basavana Bagevadi Taluk, Bijapur Distt., Karnataka by the Ministry on 25.01.2012.
- (c) to (e) The Ministry has taken various steps to facilitate timely decision on the projects by constituting sector specific Expert Appraisal Committees (EACs) as mandated in the EIA Notification, 2006, convening regular meetings of the Expert Appraisal Committees every month, preparation and uploading of Sector specific Manuals on the Ministry's website to facilitate better preparation of EIA-EMP Reports by the project proponents etc.