

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1835
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2013
CLEARANCE TO PROJECT IN KUTCH AREA
Ray Shri Saugata

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

(a) whether the Government has given the permission to some private companies including Adani Group to continue their development projects in Kutch area of Gujarat by compensating for ecological damage; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (b) Ministry had granted Environmental and CRZ clearance to M/s Adani Port and SEZ Limited (APSEZL) (Formerly Mundra Port and SEZ Limited) on 12.01.2009 for the development of port facilities at Mundra, District Kutch, Gujarat.

In view of the representations against the port facility of M/s APSEZL, Ministry constituted a Committee under the Chairpersonship of Ms Sunita Narain in September, 2012 to examine the allegations. The Committee submitted its report in April, 2013. The report has pointed out certain violations with respect to creeks, mangroves etc. and made recommendations for effective deterrence for non-compliance and remedial measures which includes creation of an Environment Restoration Fund, mangrove conservation, strengthening of monitoring abilities, preservation of the creeks, fly ash management and disposal, lining of intake and outfall channels, ground water quality monitoring, CSR activities for fishermen and cancellation of North Port project etc. Based on the recommendations, Show Cause Notice with directions were issued to M/s APSEZL and Gujarat Maritime Board under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.