

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 26.07.2010
ANSWERED ON
EXPANSION OF NALCO PLANT .

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Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING MINES be pleased to state :-

(a) whether it is a fact that permission is not being granted to NALCO for modernization/expansion and one more smelter plant at Jharsuguda; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B. K. HANDIQUE)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) has informed that State Government of Odisha had accorded in principle approval in November, 2008 to the Company's proposal for establishment of 0.5 million tonnes per annum smelter plant and 1260 mega watt power plant at Brajarajnagar in Jharsuguda District subject to certain stipulations such as environmental considerations, land and water availability, no ore linkage commitment by the State Government, etc.

In view of environmental concerns, State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) is conducting study based on carrying capacity for formulating Regional Environmental Management Plan (REMP) for the Sambalpur, Jharsuguda region. The Consultant appointed by SPCB has recommended in its interim report submitted in March, 2010, only such industries which are already in operation and are proposing to expand or establish and have obtained environmental clearance from Ministry of Environment & Forests. In the absence of requisite recommendation of the consultant appointed by SPCB for NALCO's project on grounds of environment sustainability, the Company has been advised by the State Government to look for alternative locations.