

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 06.12.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE TO MAJOR PROJECTS**

2837

Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy

Will the Minister of COALENVIROMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether the Prime Minister has asked a panel under the Planning Commission to look at the solutions to address the environmental concerns while speeding up the pace of major projects;
- (b) if so, whether the Prime Minister also felt that there is a need to strike a balance between environmental clearance and pace of work on major projects;
- (c) if so, whether environmental clearances are holding major projects in power, coal and other major sectors;
- (d) whether the Ministry has put road blocks for major global players like Vedanta and POSCO; and
- (e) to what extent the Ministry has given its clearance to these projects?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

- (a) & (b) A Working Group was constituted under the chairmanship of Member (Energy) Planning Commission to suggest changes in policy regime for allocation of alternative coal blocks in lieu of allotted coal blocks.
- (c) No, Sir. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 requires that all projects including power, coal and other major projects listed thereunder to obtain prior environmental clearance. A time limit of 105 days is provided in this notification, from the date of receipt of complete information for grant or otherwise of environmental clearance.
- (d) & (e) All projects, including Vedanta and POSCO, are required to comply with the provisions of EIA Notification 2006 and laid down in the environmental clearance. \_\_\_