GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OFENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

RAJYA SABHA

QUESTION NO09.08.2011

ANSWERED ON

ACTION AGAINST LAVASA FOR VIOLATION OF GREEN LAWS .

957 Shri Y. S. Chowdary

Will the Minister of COALCOALPETROLEUM AND NATURAL GASENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :-

(a)whether Government has asked the State of Maharashtra Government to take action against Lavasa for violation of green laws;

(b)if so, the details thereof;

(c)whether it is also a fact that Government has given conditional clearance to the hill city project located near Pune;

(d)whether construction in 681 hectare area was in progress without obtaining prior environment clearance; and

(e)if so, the action taken by Government against the defaulting unit?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b)The Ministry asked the Government of Maharashtra on 10th June, 2011 to take action against M/s Lavasa Corporation Limited under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 because certain violations have been noticed during the site visit by the Committee headed by Shri Naresh Dayal and also during the appraisal by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) constituted under the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006.

(c) & (d)M/s Lavasa Corporation Limited submitted a proposal seeking environmental clearance on 2nd February, 2011 for 2000 hectares (Phase-I). The proposal was appraised by the Expert Appraisal Committee in its various meetings and the Committee recommended the proposal with certain conditions. The Ministry has informed M/s Lavasa Corporation Limited regarding the requirement of the five pre-conditions before the issue of Environmental clearance. Environmental clearance is not issued as on date.

(f)Ministry has earlier issued a Show cause notice under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to M/s Lavasa Corporation Limited on 25th November, 2010 and issued final directions on 17th January, 2011. M/s Lavasa Corporation Limited has filed writ petitions in the Hon'ble High Court of Bombay challenging the Show cause notice and final directions.