

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1496
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.01.2018

Timely clearance of projects

1496. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to clear projects on war footing basis and set a strict time-frame;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Impact Assessment (IA) division of the Ministry has already missed the first deadline fixed by Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (d). Ministry Of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has streamlined the process of according environmental clearances (EC) from time to time, which expedited the disposal of EC applications. The initiatives taken by the Union Government, *inter alia*, include, online system of processing of environmental clearances, introduction of Short Message Service (SMS) functionality for Project proponent, auto alert system, separate module to track the progress of recommended projects etc. Due to continuous efforts, the average number of days taken in granting Environment Clearances has come down substantially from 600 days (prior to 2014) to less than 200 days.
