

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 693**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2018

**Status of infrastructure projects in Amravati**

693. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) has rejected eight proposals from the Andhra Pradesh Government entailing the diversion of about 3,300 hectares of forest land for infrastructure projects in the new capital city Amaravati;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government will consider giving approval to aforesaid proposal, as an exceptional case, taking into consideration the huge amount of investment made by Andhra Pradesh Government in constructing the new Capital;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

- (ato e) The MoEF&CC had received eight proposals from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for seeking prior approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 3306.55 hectares of forest land for infrastructure projects in the new capital city Amaravati. These proposals were placed before Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) which, after thorough examination and discussion with concerned officials, decided not to recommend for according Stage-I approval. Forest Advisory Committee felt that the project sites were neither site specific nor due diligence was exercised by State Government to find alternate sites for these proposals. Moreover, it was also highlighted by Forest Advisory Committee that area under Reserved Forest (RF) is less than 5% of the entire area of Capital Region, which is too less area as a green cover for any capital city.

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