

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 2844**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.12.2018

**Environmental Clearance for Thermal Power Plants**

2844. SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that human health and the environment will feature as part of mandatory clearances necessary to grant Environment Clearance for new thermal power plants, and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also true the criteria will apply not only to coal and lignite based thermal power plants but also to energy plants waste that also pose a significant health burden on local population and communities and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a notification issued by the Government specified new conditions that now call for a baseline health status within the study area; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) & (b) In order to address health issues of the population living in the vicinity of the Thermal Power Plants, the Ministry vide Office Memorandum (OM) dated 19.11.2018 has prescribed several conditions on Human Health, to be stipulated in the Environmental Clearance for Thermal Power Projects. As part of these conditions, Project Proponents are required to assess Baseline Health Status within study area and furnish details of the mitigation measures to address any concerns. The OM also specifies that Health Impact Assessment Study needs to be conducted to assess the impact of air pollution from Thermal Power Plants. Bi-annual health check-ups are also required to be conducted for all workers to assess the impact that chronic exposure to noise has on human health.
- (c) & (d) The standard conditions to be prescribed in the Environmental Clearance vide Ministry's OM dated 19.11.2018 shall also be applicable to Waste to Energy (WtE) Power Plants based on Municipal Solid Waste.

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