

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 822
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2022

Public Hearing on Environmental Issues

822. MS. CHANDRANI MURMU:

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

- (a) whether the Government will let the House know who are eligible to participate in Public Hearing which is held to address environmental issues caused by industries and mines;
- (b) whether a Member of Parliament cannot be part of public body;
- (c) if not, whether the Government will make provisions to include local Member of Parliament to participate in such Public Hearing; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (d) As per the extant provisions of EIA, 2006, Public Consultation is one of the steps involved in the Environment Clearance process wherein the concerns of local affected persons and others who have plausible stake in the environmental impacts of the project or activity are ascertained with a view to taking into account all the material concerns in the project or activity design, as appropriate. The Public Consultation process comprises of two components namely public hearing at the site or in its close proximity- district wise, to be carried out in the prescribed manner by the concerned State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) or the Union Territory Pollution Control Committee (UTPCC) for ascertaining concerns of local affected persons and obtaining responses in writing from other concerned persons having a plausible stake in the environmental aspects of the project or activity.

There is no restriction for a public/elected representative to participate in any public hearing being held in his/her constituency.
