GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4310
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2023

PARIVESH Portal

4310.   SHRI POCHA BRAHMANANDA REDDY:
            DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI:

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

(a)   the aims and objectives of the PARIVESH Portal;
(b)   the number of clearances provided through the PARIVESH Portal since its inception,
        year-wise;
(c)   the details of average time taken for granting clearance through the Portal;
(d)   whether the Portal drastically reduced the time taken for grant of various clearances and
        if so, the details thereof;
(e)   whether it is true that increased scope for the portal may dilute environmental safeguards
        in place;
(f)   if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to address the situation;
(g)   the number of pending proposals for clearance with the Government;
(h)   whether the PARIVESH portal has been efficient in reducing the time taken for obtaining
        environmental clearances; and
 (i)   if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

ANSWER

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

(a)   PARIVESH is a web based, role based workflow application which has been developed
for online submission and monitoring of the proposals submitted by the proponents seeking for
Environmental (EC), Forest (FC), Wildlife (WL) and Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) clearances.
Main aim and objective of the PARIVESH portal is to provide a "single window" solution by
process automationof aforementioned four major clearances through process & data
synchronization, leveragingemerging technologies such as GIS, Advance Data Analytics etcfor
an expeditious, transparent and effective decision making without compromising onthe
environmental safeguards.

(b)   In pursuance of the spirit of 'Digital India' and capturing the essence of Minimum
Government and Maximum Governance, the government had launched a single window portal
"PARIVESH (Pro Active and Responsive Facilitation by Interactive and Virtuous
Environmental Single-window Hub)" on 10.08.2018 at Central level and on 16.08.2019 at State

level for handling four major clearances as mentioned in reply to para (a) above.As per the details available on PARIVESH Portal, the total number of clearances (EC, FC, WL and CRZ) granted since inception, is as under:

Year	Number of Clearance granted
2018	577
2019	3498
2020	8169
2021	8793
2022	12496

(c)**(d) (h)& (i)**Ministry of Environment, forest and Climate Change has taken several measures through policy and technological interventions in order to remove redundancy and to streamline the clearance process with the environmental safeguards. Due to the above measures, the average time taken for grant of EC and CRZ clearance at the central level has reduced significantly from more than 150 days in 2019 and 102 days in 2020 to less than 70 days in 2022, respectively. Similarly, average time taken for grant of 'in-principle' FC approval has been calculated to be ~180 days for the financial year (FY) 2021-22 against 188 days in the previous FY.

(e)& (f) Theexisting PARIVESH portal launched at the Central level in August 2018 has met its objectives and facilitated uninterrupted services to the industries even during difficult period of CoVID. However, in order to enhance the Users experience, scope of existing PARIVESH has been expanded to ensure due diligence and adherence to environmental safeguards while examining project proposals by including new functionalities based on emerging technologies, such as GIS, advance Data Analytics etc. Some of the transformational modules includedin the expanded scope are: Know Your Approval (KYA) moduleto provide the tentative list of clearances required and to support the project proponent in assessing the environmental sensitivity and planning of the project before its execution; Decision Support System (DSS) a spatial-based visualization and analytical module to provide tools for exploration of the project proximity andto help the expert committees and regulatory authority in taking a considered decision in expeditious manner; Common Application Form (CAF) and Application Form Management module to minimize the repetitive efforts of the Users and at the same time to ensure the single version of the truth across all applicable clearances and Compliance Management module to ensurereduction in compliance burden and improving ease of doing business. However, all processing of proposals for grant of EC is on the basis of EIA/EMP, examined by the duly constituted Expert Appraisal Committees (EACs) and final approval is given only after incorporating general and specific conditions so as to ensure compliances of environmental standards and safeguards.

(g) Grant of clearances/approvals under different Acts and Rules is a continuous process. Proposals received for various activities are examined / appraisedas per the procedure defined in different Acts and Rules. Prompt decision is taken by the Central Government on the proposals which are complete in all respect as per the timeline prescribed in different Acts and Rules/Guidelines.

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