

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5097
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.04.2023

Pending Environmental Clearances

5097. SHRI GOPAL CHINNAYA SHETTY:

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

- (a) whether the development related construction works are adversely affected as environment clearances are not received on time;
- (b) whether the development is being held up in the country particularly of Mumbai metropolitan area due to pendency of environment clearance to many construction projects; and
- (c) if so, whether the Government has taken or proposes to take any steps to provide timely environmental clearances to the pending projects and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) The proposals received for grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) are examined expeditiously as per the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 as amended. As per procedure, the proposals are first appraised by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) at Central level or by the State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) at State/Union Territory level as the case may be. If recommended, the proposals are further considered by the Ministry or State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), respectively, for grant of EC.

(b) In case of Maharashtra, three SEACs have been constituted on request of the State Government so as to avoid pendency of EC. One of these three SEACs is dedicated exclusively for the building and construction related projects in the state.

(c) In order to expedite the EC process, the Ministry has launched a single window online PARIVESH portal which automates the entire process of EC starting from submission of application, preparation of agenda, and preparation of minutes to grant of clearances. Further various initiatives have been taken to amend the policies and regulations to ensure transparent and simplified process of EC without compromising on rigor of the environmental concerns. Due to various efforts taken by Government towards streamlining the EC procedure, overall time taken in grant of EC has been coming down steadily.
