

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1853
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.02.2021

Environmental Clearance for projects

1853. SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:
SHRI ARUN SAO:

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

- (a) whether a number of projects relating to construction of roads, hydro and thermal power railways and coal mining are pending with the Union Government for forest/environmental clearance;
- (b) if so, the project-wise and State/UT-wise details thereof and the reasons thereof along with the total number of such cases received from various States;
- (c) the total number of such projects granted forest/environmental clearance during each of the last three years and the current year, project-wise and State/UT-wise;
- (c) the current status of such projects along with the time by which such projects are likely to be granted forest/environmental clearance;
- (d) whether the Union Government proposes to delegate the power of granting forest/environmental clearance of such projects to State authorities; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

- (a) Grant of approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is a continuous process. All the proposals for approval for use of forest land for non-forestry use (roads, hydro and thermal power railways and coal mining) are processed as per the provision of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Rules, and Guidelines frame thereunder. Proposals received from the States/UTs for various non-forestry purposes are examined by the Central Government for their completeness. Prompt decision is taken by the Central Government on the proposal which are complete in all respect.
- (b) & (c) During the last three years a total no. of 1618 proposals of the above categories have been received from the States/UTs. Out of which, a total no of 725 projects have been granted final approval under the FC Act, 1980. The States/UTs wise details of these proposals is annexed at **Annexure-I**.

Similarly, the Ministry has received 133 applications for Environmental

Clearance (EC) relating to construction of roads, hydro and thermal power projects and coal mining projects during April, 2018- 05th February, 2021. Out of which, 105 projects have been granted approval under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The State/UT-wise details of such projects granted are at **Annexure-II**.

The Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003 (FC Rules) and EIA Notification, 2006 lays down detailed process for application, appraisal and grant of forest clearance (FC) and environmental clearance (EC). The said notification also specifies time period for processing and grant of FC/ECs. In some of the cases the time period may be more because of litigations, directions of courts/tribunals and additional project specific studies desired by the expert committees, etc.

- (d) & (e) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had already delegated the powers to Regional Empowered Committees (RECs) constituted at each Integrated Regional Office to finally dispose of proposals involving diversion of upto 40 hectares of forest land (except the proposals relating to mining, regularisation of encroachments and hydel projects) and all proposals involving diversion of forest land for linear projects irrespective of area of forest land involved.

As per the provisions of EIA Notification 2006, the powers have already been delegated to the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAAs) to grant EC for the category B projects in the schedule of the Notification.

Annexure-I

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1853 By SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE, SHRI ARUN SAO REGARDING 'ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE FOR PROJECTS' DUE FOR REPLY ON 12-02-2021

S. No.	States / UTs	Total proposals received	Stage-II approval accorded	Stage-I approval accorded	Proposals at different stages of processing	Closed /Rejected /Returned/Revoked /Withdrawn
1	Andhra Pradesh	13	0	12	13	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	7	0	2	7	0
3	Assam	1	1	0	0	0
4	Bihar	53	26	27	27	0
5	Chhattisgarh	20	2	8	18	0
6	Dadar& Nagar Haveli	5	4	1	1	0
7	Daman and Diu	1	0	1	1	0
8	Delhi	3	0	1	3	0
9	Goa	5	0	2	5	0
10	Gujarat	75	38	20	37	0
11	Haryana	448	302	113	146	0
12	Himachal Pradesh	55	15	11	38	2
13	Jammu and Kashmir	1	0	1	1	0
14	Jharkhand	23	3	12	20	0
15	Karnataka	24	2	15	21	1
16	Kerala	8	1	6	7	0
17	Madhya Pradesh	46	19	11	25	2
18	Maharashtra	60	1	44	59	0
19	Manipur	12	0	2	12	0
20	Meghalaya	3	0	2	3	0
21	Mizoram	5	0	3	5	0
22	Orissa	36	10	17	26	0
23	Punjab	279	196	70	83	0
24	Rajasthan	53	19	15	34	0
25	Sikkim	19	0	11	19	0
26	Tamil Nadu	10	2	4	8	0
27	Telangana	34	3	18	31	0
28	Tripura	13	3	6	10	0
29	Uttar Pradesh	156	67	59	89	0
30	Uttarakhand	145	10	76	131	4
31	West Bengal	5	1	3	4	0
Grand Total		1618	725	573	884	9

Annexure-II

	STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1853 By SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE, SHRI ARUN SAO REGARDING 'ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE FOR PROJECTS' DUE FOR REPLY ON 12.02.2021			
S. No.	States / UTs	Total proposals received	EC Granted	Proposals at different stages of processing
1	Andhra Pradesh	3	1	2
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
3	Assam	1	1	0
4	Bihar	2	2	0
5	Chhattisgarh	16	13	3
6	Dadar& Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
7	Daman and Diu	0	0	0
8	Delhi	2	1	1
9	Goa	0	0	0
10	Gujarat	2	2	0
11	Haryana	3	2	1
12	Himachal Pradesh	2	1	1
13	Jammu and Kashmir	1	0	1
14	Jharkhand	13	11	2
15	Karnataka	3	2	1
16	Kerala	0	0	0
17	Madhya Pradesh	14	12	2
18	Maharashtra	18	18	0
19	Manipur	0	0	0
20	Meghalaya	0	0	0
21	Mizoram	0	0	0
22	Orissa	13	10	3
23	Punjab	1	0	1
24	Rajasthan	8	8	0
25	Sikkim	1	1	0
26	Tamil Nadu	4	2	2
27	Telangana	12	8	4
28	Tripura	1	1	0
29	Uttar Pradesh	4	3	1
30	Uttarakhand	3	2	1
31	West Bengal	6	4	2
Grand Total		133	105	28