GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 2803 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2022

Projects Pending for environmental clearance

2803: DR. RAMAPATI RAM TRIPATHI:

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

- (a) the details of those development projects of Uttar Pradesh which have not yet got environmental clearance from the Union Government;
- (b) the average time taken in granting the clearance to the development schemes relating to the construction of roads and bridges;
- (c) the number of projects relating to construction of National highways stalled owing to nonclearance by the Government especially in Uttar Pradesh; and
- (d) the details of the prompt action taken by the Government on the requests from the State for grant of clearance to the development projects?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) As per information available on PARIVESH portal, 205 proposals relating to grant of Environment Clearance (EC) for developmental projects have been submitted from the State of Uttar Pradesh, out of which, 3 proposals are with the Ministry at Central level and 202 proposals are with State Environment Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAAs), Uttar Pradesh. The average time taken at the Central level for granting EC to the development projects relating to the construction of roads was 172 days in 2020, which has reduced to 108 days in 2021.

A number of steps have been taken by the Central Government to streamline and expedite Environment Clearances, which *inter-alia* includes following:

- i. Ministry has launched a single window online PARIVESH (Pro-Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous and Environmental Single-window Hub) portal on 10th August, 2018 in an effort to automate the entire process of clearances.
- ii. Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) meetings for appraisal of projects for EC at Central level are now conducted twice a month in the ministry.
- iii. Various other initiatives have also been taken by the Ministry through administrative, policy and technological interventions to remove redundancies and to ensure transparent and simplified process of clearance without compromising on rigor of the environmental concerns.