

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2824
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2022

Environmental Clearance to Gas based Electricity Projects

2824. SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:

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

- (a) whether the Government has granted environmental clearance to gas based electricity projects during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the criteria/norms/methods stipulated for granting such clearance;
- (c) the number of projects still pending with the Government across the country including Maharashtra along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which these projects are likely to be approved by the Government along with the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) The gas based thermal power project is considered for grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) under the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006, as amended. The Gas based Thermal Power project of ≥ 5 MW electricity generation capacity are required to obtain EC under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006. Thermal Power project with capacity of ≥ 500 MW is considered by the MoEF&CC at central level as Category 'A' project; whereas, the project with capacity of ≥ 5 MW and < 500 MW are considered by the MoEF&CC at State level as Category 'B' project. The EIA Notification, 2006, as amended *inter-alia* provides for preparation and submission of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Report, Environmental Management Plan (EMP), Disaster Management Plan (DMP) and Public Consultation by the project proponent for consideration of the EAC. The Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) comprising domain area experts after detailed examination and deliberation on various environmental and social aspects of the project viz. environmental sensitivity, location, impact on local environment and population etc., recommend the project for grant of Environmental Clearance suggesting suitable preventive measures to minimize the environmental and social impacts associated with the project.

During the last three years one gas based thermal power project has been granted EC by the MoEF&CC at Central Level; whereas, one gas based thermal power project has been granted EC by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) during the said period. No proposal of gas based thermal power project is pending with the Ministry for grant of Environmental Clearance.
