

### Environment clearance to Athirapally Hydro-Electric Projects

1869. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI P.R. RAJAN:

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether environmental clearance was granted to Athirapally Hydro-Electric Project, Kerala, based on the EIA study conducted by the Water and Power Consultancy Services India Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government has sent a notice to the Kerala State Electricity Board to furnish reasons as to why the environmental clearance granted to the Project should not be withdrawn;

(d) if so, the circumstances under which such a notice was sent to the KSE Board;

(e) whether the Board/State Government has responded to the notice;

(f) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(g) whether required clearance will be granted to the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Athirapally Hydro-Electric Project in Kerala was accorded environmental clearance on 17th July, 2007 based on the Environmental Impact Assessment study carried out by WAPCOS.

(c) and (d) On the basis of representation received from Shri Rajendra Singh (Ramon Magsaysay Awardee) regarding impact on biodiversity and local tribals, a showcase notice was issued on 04.01.2010 to the Kerala State Electricity Board.

(e) to (g) The response has been received from the Kerala State Electricity Board, which will be considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee for River Valley and Hydro-Electric Projects at its next meeting for taking a decision.

### Climate change

†1870. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA:

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is difference of opinion among experts on Government's approach in Copenhagen on the issue of climate change;

(b) whether per capita allowed emission can affect some parts of the country adversely in the future;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.