

(b) to (d) As per the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003, a time limit of 60 days has been prescribed for the Central Government to take a decision on the complete proposals received from the State Government for diversion of forest land under forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The proposals for diversion of forest land are considered on the merit of the case, and in accordance with the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and rules and guidelines made thereunder.

Environmental Clearance to Western Free-way Sea Link Project

1655. DR.P.C. ALEXANDER: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have stipulated a condition while granting environmental clearance to the Western Free-way Sea Link Project in Mumbai that there should be a permanent transfer of the Municipal Corporation land extending to 15.90 acres at Worli to the Naval Establishment;

(b) if so, why a condition unrelated to the Project has been included in the clearance; and

(c) whether the project will be given clearance deleting the condition so that this very important project designed for decongesting the existing choked Western Road network can be carried out expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The said condition was stipulated in the light of the comments received from Ministry of Defence based on the agreement arrived at between Mumbai Municipal Corporation and Headquarters of Western Naval Command, Mumbai.

(c) No, Sir.

Draft Policy on Environment

1656. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed draft policy on environment has in its purview the problem of pollution specially that of noise, air and water pollution caused by industries located in residential areas in urban habitations;