

- (b) how many of them are from Gujarat;
- (c) by when these cases are likely to be cleared; and
- (d) whether Central Government intends to decentralize its power to State Authorities for fast clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) A total of 832 proposals received from various States, including 43 proposals received from the State of Gujarat are pending for environmental clearance.

(c) Project proponents are required to furnish complete information in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) prepared for projects and fulfilment of other requirements of the EIA Notification 2006 and Circulars thereunder, for obtaining early environmental clearance.

(d) The EIA Notification 2006 provides for setting up of State Level Impact Assessment Authorities for environmental clearance of projects falling under Category B listed in Schedule to the EIA Notification 2006.

Projects pending for environment clearance from States

†639. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases submitted by Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka and Jharkhand that are under consideration with the Ministry for environmental clearance;

(b) the number of cases lying pending for the Minister's approval after completion of all formalities, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) whether there is any action plan to dispose off these cases in time-bound manner and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) A total of 140 proposals received from the States of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka and Jharkhand are pending at various stages for environmental clearance.

(c) The steps taken for early environmental clearance include the following:

(i) Regular meetings of the Expert Appraisal Committees are held for early consideration of proposals received for environmental clearance.

(ii) Minutes of meetings of Expert Appraisal Committees (EACs) of various sectors are regularly uploaded on the MOEF website.

(iii) Sector specific EIA Technical Guidance Manuals have been prepared

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and uploaded on the Ministry website to facilitate better preparation of EIA-EMP Reports by the project proponents.

- (iv) A number of Circulars on the EIA Notification 2006 on the process for obtaining environmental clearance have also been uploaded on the MOEF website to facilitate the project proponents in preparation of EIA-EMP reports with all relevant information.

World Bank aid for Tiger Conservation Programme

640. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is accepting the World Bank's aid for the tiger conservation programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years to protect the tigers in our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Environment impact assessment to industrial units

641. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's policy includes ordering Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) to industrial units at the time of closure and the details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has made it mandatory to organize public meetings/hearings to communicate the findings of EIA and to include them in the process of oversight; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) Ministry of Environment and Forests appraises projects for grant of environment clearance in terms of the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 in respect of the projects/activities listed thereunder, based on the project documents submitted by the project proponent including environment impact assessment report. The generic structure of EIA document *inter-alia* includes anticipated environment impact and mitigation measures during construction, operation and final de-commissioning or rehabilitation of a completed project. There is no separate provision for Environment Impact Assessment at the stage of closure of industrial units.