92	Written Answers to		[RAJYA SABHA]			Unstarred	Questions
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5	National River Conservation Plan	25.38	36.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	National Afforestation Programme	11.54	11.03	10.48	15.15	2.71	3.75
7	Green India Mission	0,00	0.00	0.00	0.90	0.00	0.00
8	Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats	0.92	1.02	0.64	0.71	1.80	0.00
9	Project Elephant	0.45	0.18	0.15	0.00	0.11	0.00
10	Project Tiger	0.57	1.38	1.56	1.54	4.05	1.21
11	Intensification of Forest Management Scheme	2.7	0.00	1.36	0.00	0.00	0.38
12	National Green Corps Programme	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.57
13	National Environment Awareness Campaign	0.44	0.56	0.67	0.69	0.76	0.00

<sup>\*</sup> Programme was started in 2010-11.

## Projects cleared by Forest Advisory Committee

491. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Forest Advisory Committee has cleared

<sup>#</sup> Programme was discontinued after 2009-10.

<sup>\*\*</sup> As on 31.07.2013.

several projects it had earlier rejected for falling foul of green regulations or being too damaging to environment, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that many such proposals are still pending with the Forest Advisory Committee for approval, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) Proposals seeking prior approval of Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (FC Act) for diversion of more than forty hectares of forest land, along with site inspection report, wherever required, are referred to the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) for its advice. In some of the proposals where FAC tendered advise to decline approval under the FC Act for diversion of forest land, concerned State Governments or the user agencies submitted representations containing detailed justification for reconsideration along with comments on the grounds on which FAC recommended to decline approval under the FC Act to these proposals. FAC after examination of representations, recommended to accord approval under the FC Act to some of these proposals which were initially recommended for rejection. Details of proposals, where FAC, in modification of its earlier recommendation, recommended grant of approval under the FC Act during the year 2013 are as below:

- (i) Diversion of 999.328 hectares of forest land in Raigad Forest Division No. 2 for drinking water supply project on Kalu River by Konkan Irrigation Development Corporation in District, Thane, Maharashtra.
- (ii) Diversion of 3.0825 hectares (originally 67.725 hectares) of forest land in favour of the Public Works Department, Uttarakhand for construction of two lane road from Baniyawala to Thano-Raipur- Sahastradhara.
- (iii) Diversion of 258.867 hectares of forest land in favour of M/s. Jaiprakash Associates Limited for their Hinauti Extension limestone mining project in compartment No. 752 and 753 of Govindgarh Reserved Forest in district Satna, Madhya Pradesh.
- (b) Revised proposal along with representation from the Government of Madhya Pradesh to reconsider decision of the Central Government, based on recommendation of the FAC, to decline prior approval of Central Government under the FC Act for diversion of 154.91 hectares of forest land in favour of Water

Resources Department, Madhya Pradesh for construction of Runjh Medium Irrigation Project in Panna District, Madhya Pradesh has been referred to Forest Advisory Committee for its consideration in next meeting.

## Pending projects for forest clearances

- 492 . DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of projects that are pending in the Ministry for forest clearance and the policy in place in this regard;
- (b) the major issues due to which projects are pending in the Ministry for forest clearances; and
- (c) the number of industrial and infrastructure projects pending in the last 3 years for forest clearance and the issues pending to be sorted out by the Ministry with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) At present there are 282 proposals, comprising of 117 proposals above 40 ha and 165 below 40 ha category, under consideration in the Ministry for clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The proposals seeking prior approval of the Central Government for use of forest land for non-forestry purposes are examined in accordance with the provisions given under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Rules and Guidelines framed thereunder. The forest clearance to proposals received in the MoEF under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for forest clearance is a continuing process.

- (b) The main reasons for pendency of the proposals are as follows:
  - (i) Detailed Site Inspection by Regional Offices of the MoEF is required in proposals involving more than 100 ha of forest land.
  - (ii) Quite often, the proposals received are not complete in all respects and the Central Government has to seek further details/documents from the concerned State Governments.
- (c) At present there are 128 proposals pertaining to infrastructure, comprising of 44 proposal above 40 ha and 84 below 40 ha category, under