

(b) whether Ministry conducts any investigation on its part before giving sanction to any project to ascertain the possible effects of the concerned project on environment; and

(c) the mechanism adopted by the Ministry to combat the adverse impact of project post its permission, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) Fifty one (51) Hydropower and River Valley projects comprising dams/barrages have been granted environmental clearance (EC) during the last 5 years in the country including Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.

(b) The Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 provides detailed procedure and methodologies to be followed for considering proposals and granting environmental clearance to various developmental projects including Hydropower projects. Among other things, scientific investigation and detailed Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Studies are carried-out, Public Hearing conducted and an Environment Management Plan (EMP) is formulated to address various concerns arising out of such projects.

(c) The Ministry of Environment & Forests regularly and periodically monitors the compliance of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) provisions and other associated issues. Any violation is dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Study to ascertain the reasons for damage in Uttarakhand

503. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the early monsoon rain has led to a colossal damage of property and deaths of many people in Uttarakhand; and

(b) if so, whether Government has made any study to ascertain whether it was due to climate change or due to construction of irrigation projects by China in the Himalayas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) The heavy rains (12-24cm in a day) in the entire region starting from June 14, 2013 lasted for four days in

Uttarakhand. The colossal damage of property and deaths of many people in Uttarakhand are not due to heavy rains only. The combined effect of very heavy rainfall, heavy snowmelt and breaching of the Chaurabari lake in the upstream resulted in a gushing outflow with large amounts of debris which caused damage of property and loss of life in Uttarakhand, more so in Kedarnath.

(b) No study has been conducted.

Pending development projects of International Airports

504. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that due to pending environmental clearance the development projects of some International Airports, a green field projects, are pending with Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) As on date, 3 numbers of Airport projects including two Green Field Airports are awaiting environment clearance. Details alongwith the status are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of the projects awaiting environmental clearance

Sl. No.	State	Name of the Project	Status
1	2	3	4
1.	Kerala	Development of Airport at Mallappuzhasserry, Aranmula Kerala by M/s KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd.	The proposal for development of Airport at Mallappuzhasserry, Aranmula and Kidangannur villages, Kozhencherry Taluk, Patthanamthitta District, Kerala on a plot-area of 500 Acres was