

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2553
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2004
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE FOR THERMAL POWER PROJECTS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Governments have been delegated with power for granting environmental clearance for Thermal Power Projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI. NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per EIA Amendment Notification S.O. 318(E) dated 10th April, 1997, powers have been delegated to State Governments for granting environment clearance for the following category of Thermal Power Projects:

1. Co-generation Captive Plants:

(i) Co-Generation Plants All Co-generation Plants irrespective of the installed capacities.

(ii) Captive Power Plants Upto 250 MW(both coal and gas/naphtha based) coming up separately and not along the main industry.

II Utility Projects:

(i) Coal based plants upto 500 MW using fluidized bed technology subject to sensitive areas restrictions.

(ii) Coal based Power Plants upto 250 MW using conventional technologies.

(iii) Gas/Naphtha based plants upto 500 MW.

However, Thermal Power projects proposed to be located in a critically polluted area or within a radius of fifteen kilometers of the boundary of reserved forests, ecologically sensitive areas which include national parks, sanctuaries, biosphere reserves; and any State, would require environmental clearance from the Central Government, as per Notification S.O. 891(E) dated 4th August, 2003.