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Title: Need to provide clearance to the power project unit run by the Cheyyur Ultra Mega Power Plant.

SHRI P. VISWANATHAN (KANCHEEPURAM): The Cheyyur Ultra Mega Power Plant (CUMPP) proposed by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is expected to have a generation capacity of 4000 MW of power, half of which is proposed for Tamil Nadu with an investment of Rs. 16,000 crores. The total amount to be spent for implementation of Environment Management Plan is Rs. 81 million. Apart from the above, the project would provide employment opportunities to many of the villagers who do not have any decent source of income. Besides, the power plant would also bring in people from other nearby villages which would provide more business opportunities for locals.

The new Coastal Regulatory Zone guideline issued by Ministry of Environment and Forests is the main reason for the delay. The main change in the scope of regulation by the Ministry of Environment and Forests has been to expand the CRZ policy to include territorial waters as protected zones. Secondly, the Power Ministry should give assurance to the local villages especially Panayur Chinnkuppam and Panayur Peria Kuppam and other nearby villages about the rehabilitation and assured environmental clearance. As per the Ministry of Environment and Forests guidelines a public hearing was held on 28.12.2011 regarding captive jetty and Coal Conveyor off a Panayur Chinnkuppam and the minutes thereof were posted in website.

I request the Power Ministry to clear the proposal from MoEF and initiate action for implementation of the project in my parliamentary constituency immediately. Further, I request the Government to award market based proper compensation to the villagers (549 Project Affected Families) for acquiring land and their rehabilitation in a proper way in the interest of public.