

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. * 418
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.08.2010**

ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE FOR ATOMIC POWER PLANTS

***418. SHRI MANISH TEWARI:**

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the four nuclear plants proposed by the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) at Fatehabad, Mandla, Srikakulam and Bhavnagar have not been given a green signal to even secure the terms of reference for conducting an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study because of shoddy documentation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is stiff resistance from the local inhabitants to the location of the Nuclear Power Plants (NPPs);
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether NPCIL officials who went to collect soil samples in Bhavnagar in Gujarat were physically prevented by officials from doing so;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the time by which the EIA of these and other sites for NPP is sought to be commenced?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), PMO, PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS.
(SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 418 FOR ANSWER ON 25.08.2010 BY SHRI MANISH TEWARI REGARDING ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE FOR ATOMIC POWER PLANTS.

- (a) & (b) NPCIL had submitted applications for approval of Terms of Reference (TOR) for Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Studies for the sites in Fatehabad, Haryana; Mandla, Madhya Pradesh; Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh; and Bhavnagar, Gujarat to the Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF). The TORs are to be approved by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) of MoEF. EAC after review of the submissions of NPCIL has advised NPCIL to provide additional details on land use and environmental setting of site. Each of the projects has an associated township for the employees. EAC also advised that TORs for township be also submitted along with projects so that both can be approved together. The revised TORs, as advised by EAC have been submitted to MoEF in respect of Haryana project. In respect of the other three projects, the township location and other details are being finalized with the respective state governments, after which the revised TORs will be submitted for approval of MoEF.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e)&(f) NPCIL has awarded geo technical investigations for the site at Bhavnagar to Gujarat Power Corporation Limited (GPCL). GPCL team was prevented from collecting soil samples by the local villagers at the site on June 6, 2010. The issue has been taken up with State Government and work is expected to resume soon.
- (g) The EIA work on the sites is expected to be started in the year 2010 progressively for all sites after approval of respective TORs by MoEF.
