

# Jindal's Raigarh plant gets green nod

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** The environment ministry's panel for examining green compliance of industrial projects (Expert Appraisal Committee) has recommended that the 2,400-MW expansion plan of industrialist-parliamentarian Naveen Jindal's power plant in Chattisgarh's Raigarh district be cleared.

The recommendation paves the way for Jindal Power—a subsidiary of Jindal Steel and Power—to go ahead with work at the site. The project had hit a roadblock after

the ministry withdrew its initial clearance in June. In August, however, the ministry restored the terms of reference (ToR) for the initial approval.

EAC then suggested the project be examined as per the original ToR. The panel, after hearing out the company and examining information provided by it in November, has finally recommended clearance, company sources said.

The firm proposes to invest Rs 13,410 crore in the project and has tied up a Rs 10,000 crore debt component.



**DECKS CLEARED FOR EXPANSION**

It envisages adding four 600 mw generation units to the existing plant with a capacity of 1,000 mw in Raigarh's Tannar area. This plant was built with an investment of Rs 4,338 crore, and is operating at 95% of its capacity.

Jindal Power has placed order for turbines and generators worth Rs 5,000 crore with state-run Bhel, and has paid an advance of Rs 765 crore. Coal linkages, too, have been approved for the first two units. The company has set a target of switching on the first two units before March 2012.