

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6966  
ANSWERED ON:13.05.2002  
DEGRADATION OF FORESTS DUE TO MINING ACTIVITY  
ANANTA NAYAK

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the large scale degradation of forests in the country due to increasing mining activities;
- (b) if so, the total forest land degraded in the country due to mining activities during the last five years, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by each public and private sector mining industry/company to undertake compensatory afforestation in and around the degraded areas, State-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

- (a) Ministry of Environment & Forests grants permission under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 only for such mining proposals which are site-specific. While granting such permission, conditions are imposed to ensure that impact of mining is minimal.
- (b) A State-wise list showing the extent of forest land, which has been diverted for mining including renewal of existing mining leases, in respect of major proposals involving diversion of more than 20 hectare forest land received for forestry clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 during the last five years i.e. 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 is annexed.
- (c) Details of compensatory afforestation carried out by the public and private sector mining industries, in lieu of the forest land diverted for mining referred to in the Annexure is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

**ANNEXURE**

ANNEXURE IN RESPECT OF PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6966 ON 'DEGRADATION OF FORESTS DUE TO MINING ACTIVITY' FOR REPLY ON 13.05.2002

STATE NO. OF  
PROPOSALS APPROVED AREA (HECTARE)

Andhra Pradesh	13	4549.6000
Chhattisgarh	15	7415.1790
Goa	1	36.3800
Gujarat	1	31.2000
Himachal Pr	3	345.5770
Jharkhand	9	2253.7650
Karnataka	12	770.9250
Madhya Pradesh	15	2631.0940
Maharashtra	7	2447.4400
Orissa	18	4271.2281
Rajasthan	30	5095.7666
Tamil Nadu	1	177.9600
West Bengal	1	296.0000

TOTAL 126 30322.1147