

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6401
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2005
IMPACT OF MINING ON WILDLIFE
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Singh Shri Uday

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the tigers in Orissa are facing a fresh threat from the proposed mining of Bauxite at Karlapat in the forest rich Kalahandi district as reported in the 'Pioneer' dated April 10, 2005;
- (b) if so, the facts and the details in this regard; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent mining operations in the forests?

Answer

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

(a)&(b) The State has informed that a proposal has been received for diversion of 755 ha. of forest land at Langigarh in Kalahandi and Rayagada districts for bauxite mining and alumina project. A portion of the Karlapat Wildlife Sanctuary falls within a belt of 20 kms around the project area. A wildlife management scheme for mitigating threats to tigers and other wild animals in the project impact area, comprising of the areas within a radial distance of 20 kms from the project, has been prepared.

(c) The mining proposals pertaining to forests are examined under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and only site specific projects are considered on merit. Such projects are also required to take environmental clearance.