

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:168  
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2006  
DEVELOPMENT WORK IN FOREST AREAS  
Athawale Shri Ramdas;Moghe Shri Krishna Murari

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

- (a) whether road construction and other various schemes have come to a stand still in tribal and forest areas of the country after the enforcement of The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to provide any special relaxation to start developmental works under the Government schemes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government in this regard during the last three years and the current year; and
- (f) if so, the action taken or being taken by the Government in this regard ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.168 BY SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE, SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE REGARDING "DEVELOPMENT WORK IN FOREST AREAS" DUE FOR REPLY ON 04.12.2006

(a) No, Sir.

(b) & (c) For development of tribal villages/forest-fringe villages, the Central Government has granted one-time general approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for certain essential developmental and security related activities. The projects pertaining to schools, dispensary/hospital, electric and telecommunication lines, drinking water, water harvesting, minor irrigation canal, non-conventional sources of energy, skill-upgradation, power sub-stations, communication posts and police outposts involving less than one hectare of forest land in each case are considered by the respective States/Union Territory Government as per the guidelines issued by the Central Government in this regard.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) & (f) 3986 Development projects received from State /Union Territory Governments during the last three years were considered and disposed in the time-bound manner by the Central Government.