

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:422  
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2010  
CLASSIFICATION OF FOREST AREA  
Rathod Shri Ramesh

**Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Union Government has classified or proposes to classify forest areas as "Go" and "No Go" for coal mining/exploration;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ;
- (c) whether the Government has also consulted all the States in the matter; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of these States in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL & MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) & (b) : In a recent meeting held between MoS (Environment & Forests) and MoS (Coal) on 7th January, 2010 MoS (Environment & Forests) proposed that digitized maps superimposing coal bearing areas on forest areas should be prepared for identifying coal bearing localities where there is least possibility of damage to dense forest cover thereby approval from forestry angle can be faster.

(c) & (d) : This proposal is in a nascent stage and Ministry of Environment and Forests is the nodal Ministry for this purpose.