

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2070
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010
RESTORATION OF FOREST COVER
Rathod Shri Ramesh

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to involve mining industries in the restoration of the forest cover devastated by their activities during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, State-wise; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present position of the programme?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)& (b): So far, there is no proposal to involve mining industries in the restoration of the forest cover devastated during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. However, the Mine Owners are required to reclaim and rehabilitate the mined over area before handing over back to the State Forest Departments in cases mines involve forest lands. Further, the State Forest Departments also take up compensatory afforestation in lieu of forest areas diverted for mining under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 at the cost of the mining project.