

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2234  
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010  
BAN ON CONSTRUCTION IN FOREST AREA  
Ram Shri Purnmasi

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

- (a) Whether roads which are in existence and passing through forest area for more than 30-40 years have been blocked by the forest department in the State of Bihar causing inconvenience to the people of Bihar;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken to allow construction of all such roads which are passing through forest area in the State of Bihar?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) According to the report received from the Bihar State Forest Department, no roads, which are in existence and passing through forest areas, have been blocked by the forest department. However, the use of roads passing through the Protected Areas (National Parks/Wildlife Sanctuaries) is subject to regulations by the concerned Authorities in view of the safety measures to be taken for protection of Wildlife.

(c) For widening and metalling of the existing roads passing through the forest areas, prior approval of the Central Government is required under the provisions of the Forests (Conservation) Act, 1980.