

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2494

ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009

COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION WORK IN MINING AREAS

Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh; Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

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

- (a) whether the Government has made provisions for plantation at mining sites where felling of trees have taken place due to mining;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of trees felled, State-wise including Jharkhand and Orissa; and
- (d) the details of the companies/persons against whom action was taken in the country during the last three years for not undertaking plantation as per the rules in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b): The diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes is permitted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 after ensuring commensurate mitigative measures such as compensatory afforestation to reduce the adverse impact of the mining and other developmental activities on environment and ecology of the area. So far, 5,10,255 ha of the degraded forest land and 5,54,635 ha of non-forest land has been identified for raising compensatory afforestation in lieu of diversion of 11,83,472 ha of forest land for non-forest purposes.

(c) & (d): Trees growing on the forest land diverted for mining and other purposes are sometimes felled, as per the necessity of the project. The State Forest Department of the concerned States/Union Territories maintains record of such felling of trees. No compensatory afforestation work could be undertaken in the state of Jharkhand and Orissa since 01.04.2007 due to non-authorization to adhoc CAMPA by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to release money to the States/UTs.