

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2521
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009
STUDY ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT DUE TO EXCESSIVE MINING
Mahant Dr. Charan Das

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to study the environmental impact on yearly basis in excessive coal mining areas of the country including Chhattisgarh and the areas affected by thermal power plants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study and Environmental Management Plans (EMP), including for coal mining and thermal power projects, are prepared prior to grant of environmental clearance. These studies are not conducted on an annual basis.

(c) Project proponents are required to submit six-monthly reports to the Ministry of Environment and Forests on the compliance status of conditions stipulated in the environmental clearance letter. Inspections are also carried out on the status of compliance. In addition, Environmental Action Plans have been prepared by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) for critically polluted areas where a conglomeration of coal mining and thermal power plants exist, which include Angul-Talcher in Orissa, Singrauli in Madhya Pradesh, Korba in Chhattisgarh and Chandrapur in Maharashtra.