

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4658  
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010  
AFFORESTATION OF OPEN MINING PITS  
Biswal Shri Hemanand

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

- (a) whether afforestation of open mining pits is being undertaken in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the allocations of funds made therefor during the last three years;
- (c) the physical and financial achievements made during the said period;
- (d) whether the Government has authorised any agency to monitor the afforestation undertaken in the open pits are being afforested after mining;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

( a) to (f) While according prior approval to the proposals received from State/UT Governments for diversion of forest lands for open cast mining, condition on reclamation of mined-over pits and plantation thereon is invariably stipulated. The inspection of these areas carried out by Regional Offices of the Ministry of Environment and Forests using statistical methods for assessment reveals that the compliance of the conditions is far from satisfactory.