

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:35

ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010

ILLEGAL MINING IN WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES/NATIONAL PARKS

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the illegal mining in wildlife sanctuaries/national parks;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether in spite of the Supreme Court's ban, 30-40 mines are operating inside the Sariska sanctuary;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check illegal mining in this area?

Answer

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

(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 35 REGARDING "ILLEGAL MINING IN WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES/NATIONAL PARKS BY SHRI.B.B.PATIL AND SHRIMATI JAYA PRADA DUE FOR REPLY ON 10.11.2010

(a), (b) & (c) Hon'ble Supreme Court has vide its order dated 4th August 2006, prohibited mining both inside as well as within 1 Km outside from the boundaries of the National Park and Sanctuaries. Management of the National Parks, Sanctuaries and other Protected Areas are under the administrative control of the concerned State/Union Territory Governments. Details of illegal mining, if any, occurring within the National Parks, Sanctuaries and other Protected Areas are not generally compiled in the Ministry.As per information received from the Government of Rajasthan, no mines are in operation inside Sariska Tiger Reserve.

(d) In view of the above, question does not arise.

(e) The State Governments are empowered under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to check illegal mining in National Parks, Sanctuaries and other Protected Areas.