

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2486  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2010  
CLEARANCE TO LLMC  
Basavaraj Shri Gangasandra Siddappa

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

- (a) whether the Government has given final environmental clearances to Lafarge Limestone Mining Co. in Meghalaya in 2010 and permitted it to resume mining operations;
- (b) if so, whether a body of the tribal villagers named Shella Action Committee has now challenged the clearance given by the Centre based an environmental impact assessment notification which had not considered concealment of vital facts and false information provided by Lafarge Company;
- (c) if so, whether the Shella Action Committee has alleged selective and discriminatory application of the EIA notification; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

- (a): Ministry of Environment & Forests had originally granted environmental clearance to the Limestone Mining Project in Meghalaya on 9.8.2001 in the name of Lum Mawshun Minerals Pvt. Ltd., which was transferred in the name of M/s Lafarge Umiam Mining Pvt. Ltd. on 30.7.2002. Subsequently, as the said clearance became a subject matter of a case in Hon'ble Supreme Court essentially due to the nature of the land involved in the project, the matter was re-examined and additional conditions and environmental safeguards were stipulated on 19.4.2010.
- (b) to (d): Shella Action Committee has filed an interlocutory application challenging the revised environmental clearance dated 19.4.2010 and forestry clearance 22.4.2010 on the grounds inter-alia of submission of false information, concealment of information and procedural deficiencies in the conduct of public hearing prescribed under the EIA Notification.