

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4689

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010

MINING IN SARISKA

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

- (a) whether the Government has given clearance for stone mining in the area adjacent to Sariska Reserve in Arawali;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether such clearance was given on questionable technical grounds despite a ban on mining in Arawali Hills;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the impact of such mining on the animals of Sariska Reserve has been ascertained; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the corrective action being contemplated in the matter?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has not accorded any fresh forest and environment clearances to any mining in the areas adjacent to Sariska Reserve in Arawali hills under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 and EIA Notification 2006. However, 40 mining proposals, located within 20 to 80 km from Sariska Tiger Reserve boundary, were pending before the Environmental Expert Committee of the State Government as on 19.10.2010. As per information received from the State Government of Rajasthan, no environmental clearance has so far been given to any mining proposal.

(e) & (f) No specific studies have been conducted to ascertain the impact of mining on the animals of Sariska Reserve so far. However, to address this issue, proposals for creation of eco-sensitive zones and buffer area around Sariska have been prepared and are under consideration of the State Government. The State Government has also informed that all mining activities both inside as well as within 1 km from the boundary of the Sariska Tiger Reserve have been stopped in compliance to the Supreme Court order dated 04.08.2006 prohibiting any mining activities within 1 km from the boundaries of the National Park and sanctuaries.