

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3610
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2012
DEMARCATON OF FORESTS
Das Gupta Shri Gurudas;Lingam Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the panel to suggest demarcation of forest to classify them as inviolate patches based on a set of norms has submitted its report;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the recommendations made in this regard; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (c) To formulate objective parameters for identification of pristine forest areas where any mining activity would lead to irreversible damage, and such other forest areas which needs to be conserved and protected to meet the larger objective of the long term conservation of forest and wildlife resources in the country, the Ministry of Environment and Forests constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Environment and Forests.

The committee in its report recommended that classification of a patch of forest as inviolate may be based on six parameters namely; the forest cover, forest type, biological richness, wildlife value, landscape integrity and hydrological value.