

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2567
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012
AREA UNDER NO-GO POLICY
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

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

the details of extent of area in coal region under 'No- Go' policy and the percentage it constitutes of total forest cover in the country?

Answer

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

The Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted by the Cabinet Secretariat to consider the environmental and developmental issues relating to coal mining and other development projects in their fifth meeting held on 20.09.2011 inter-alia decided that concept of Go/ No-Go should be done away with and each of the proposals seeking diversion of forest land for coal mining be processed and considered by the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) on their merit.

Accordingly, the MoEF vide their letter dated 30.08.2012 informed the concerned State Governments that they may process the proposals seeking prior approval of Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for coal mining projects in accordance with the said decision of GoM and send these proposals to the MoEF for further necessary action to consider these proposals on case to case basis and on merit.