

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2573  
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012  
PROVISION OF LAND FOR AFFORESTATION PURPOSES  
Kora Shri Madhu

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

- (a) whether the Government has any provision for the lease holders of industry and mining works on forest land area to make equal land available at some other place for afforestation to the Ministry vis-a-vis the land provided to them for nonforest area related work in the country;
- (b) if so, whether a number of companies belonging to the private and public sectors are engaged in industrial and mining works in Jharkhand;
- (c) if so, the details of the forest land area being used for non-forest activities; and
- (d) the number of leasing holder companies in Jharkhand which have made available equal land to the Ministry against the land provided to them for non-forest area related work?

**Answer**

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

- (a) The Ministry while granting approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes stipulates condition of compensatory afforestation over non-forest land in accordance with the Act, Rules and Guidelines made thereunder. However, the compensatory afforestation is permitted over degraded forest area double in extent to the diverted forest land in case of Central Sector projects executed by Central Government/ Central Government Undertakings. The compensatory afforestation is not insisted in certain other cases like underground mining below 3 meters and projects involving upto 1 ha forest land.
- (b) & (c) The details of industrial and mining projects in Jharkhand in respect of which approval for diversion of forest land has been granted is attached in the Annexure. The State Government is required to obtain non-forest land, afforest and notify the same as reserved forest in accordance with the conditions stipulated by the Ministry.
- (d) The condition stipulated regarding compensatory afforestation does not require the non-forest land to be made available to the Ministry of Environment & Forests. The details of non-forest land made available for afforestation to the State/Union Territory Governments are not compiled in the Ministry.