

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3336  
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2009  
PERMISSION TO WORK IN FOREST AREAS  
Bhagat Shri Sudarshan;Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh

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

- (a) whether some of the industrial units have been permitted to work in forest or tribal area under the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court;
- (b) if so, the details of such units permitted during the last three years;
- (c) the likely impact thereof on the Central Government laws?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): As per the Supreme Court Order dated 15-09-2006 in IAs No. 1413, 1416 in W. P. (Civil) No. 202 of 1995, all proposals seeking prior approval of the Central Government involving diversion of more than 40 ha of forest land for non-forestry purposes, which required consideration and recommendation by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC), were sent to the Hon'ble Supreme Court for its approval. Accordingly, 192 such proposals were sent to the Supreme Court during this period and the Court permitted the Central Government to accept the recommendation of the FAC in respect of 169 proposals. Thereafter, the approval of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India was accorded to these proposals. However, the above order was reviewed by the Hon'ble Court on 02-05-2008 and with the constitution of new FAC on 26-05-2008, no proposals are now sent to the Supreme Court for its approval. These actions did not have any impact on the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.