

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2589  
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2013  
ACQUISITION OF FOREST LAND  
Das Shri Ram Sundar;Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni

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

- (a) whether the Government has acquired forest land from the States/ Union Territories (UTs) for building dam, mining and other non-forest activities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of acquired forest land during the last three years; State/ UT-wise;and
- (c) the compensation worked out and provided by the Government to the State Governments in lieu of the acquired forest land?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) &(b) Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) did not acquire forest land from the States Union-Territories (UTs) for building dam, mining and other non-forest activities. However, as per the provision of the Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, use of forest land for non-forest purpose requires prior approval of Central Government. State/UT-wise details of approvals under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 accorded by the MoEF for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes during the last three years and the current year (i.e. with effect from 01.01.2010 to 20.08.2013) is annexed.

(c) As the MoEF did not acquire forest land from the States/Union-Territories (UTs) for building dam, mining and other non-forest activities no compensation in this regard has been provided by the MoEF to State/ Union Territories. However, approvals under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 accorded by the MoEF for use of forest land for non-forest purposes are subject to fulfillment of inter-alia the conditions that the concerned State/UT Government shall realize the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land and the amount required for creation and maintenance of compensatory afforestation, afforestation and fencing of safety zone (for mining projects), implementation of Catchment Area Treatment Plan (for irrigation and dam projects), implementation of Regional and/or site specific Wildlife Conservation Plan etc. from the concerned user agencies and transfer the same to the Ad- hoc CAMPA.