

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:14  
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2015  
ALLOTMENT OF FOREST LAND  
Misra Shri Ajay (Teni)

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to allot such forest land which no longer has forest cover to the farmers for cultivation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (c) Use of forest land for non-forest purpose requires prior approval of Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Prior approval under the afore-mentioned Act is accorded only after examining the all possible alternatives Central Government is satisfied that requirement of forest land for non-forest purpose is unavoidable and bare- minimum. Prior approval of Central Government for use of forest land for non-site specific activities, such as agriculture, is generally not accorded.