

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4526  
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2015  
LIFTING OF BAN ON REMOVAL OF SAND  
Bhaleram Shri Dharambir

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

- (a) whether the farmers of Haryana are unable to cultivate their land owing to deposition of 8 to 10 feet sand in their field and restriction on the removal thereof as a result of release of excess water in Yamuna river during rains or flooding of Yamuna river;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has taken a decision to lift the ban on removal of sand from the fields;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the immediate measures taken by the Government to lift the ban on removal of sand so as to ensure cultivation in the fertile land of farmers of Haryana adjoining river Yamuna?

**Answer**

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

- (a): The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has not received any representation from the State of Haryana stating that their farmers are not able to cultivate their land owing to deposition of sand in their field.
- (b) to (d): The MoEFCC has not banned the removal of sand. MoEF&CC has notified Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006, as amended from time to time, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 which deals with the process to grant Environmental Clearance. The projects of mining of minerals including sand require prior environmental clearance. As per EIA Notification 2006, all the Project Proponents including sand mining projects needs to prepare a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment/Environmental Management Plan for obtaining Environmental Clearance. While according environmental clearance, the Expert Appraisal Committee stipulates necessary conditions for safeguarding the environment. The status of compliance of stipulated conditions of the environmental clearances of different projects, including mining projects, is monitored by ten Regional Offices of this Ministry in the Country.