

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3888  
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2014  
ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE FOR STONE EXCAVATION  
Patle Smt. Kamla Devi

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

- (a) whether environmental clearance is granted for stone excavation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of such stone mines granted environment clearance particularly in Chhattisgarh; and
- (d) the number of stone mines working illegally at present and the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) and (b) The environmental clearance to the stone excavation Projects is granted as per the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006. Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified EIA Notification, 2006 vide S.O. 1533 (E), dated September 14, 2006 under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 which deals with the process to grant Environment Clearances. The projects of mining of minerals as stated in the schedule require prior environment clearance under this notification. Category 'A' Projects are being handled in the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MOEFCC) and Category 'B' projects are being handled in the respective State Environment Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAAs) notified by MOEFCC and following the procedure prescribed under the EIA Notification, 2006.

(c) and (d) In Chhattisgarh, 75 stone mines have been granted environmental clearance by SEIAA. The mining of minor mineral is regulated by the State Governments concerned under Section 15 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) [MMDR] Act, 1957.