

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 06.12.2010
ANSWERED ON
SURVEY OF ARAVALI RANGES TO ASSESS DAMAGES

2812

Smt. Kusum Rai

Will the Minister of COALENVIROMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether over 200 mines are still functional in the Aravali hills;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Supreme Court has directed the Forest Survey of India (FSI) to conduct a survey of Aravali ranges and assess the damages;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether FSI has conducted the survey;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b):The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide their order dated 19.2.2010 have restrained 157 mines in Aravali Hills of Rajasthan from mining till further orders. The matter is sub-judice. Further, all mining operations in the State of Haryana are reported to have been closed since 1.3.2010 except sand mining in Sonapat and Panipat.

(c) & (d):The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 19.2.2010 has directed mapping of mining areas of Aravali Region of Rajasthan in 15 Districts, in cooperation with State of Rajasthan and to report the same to the Central Empowered Committee (CEC). As per the order, the CEC and the State Government of Rajasthan are required to coordinate the whole work with Forest Survey of India (FSI), which inter-alia; involves delineation of 'Aravali Hills' in the State of Rajasthan, status of mining vis-à-vis leased area, forest cover and identification of critical areas.

(e) to (g):The FSI has not started the work for want of requisite information from the State of Rajasthan.