

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1254**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.06.2019

**Protection of Forest Areas**

1254. SHRIMATI RATHVA GITABEN VAJESINGBHAI:

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

- (a) the methods adopted by the Government to demarcate the forest areas to make them out of bounds for mining or protect them against illegal mining;
- (b) whether the Government has carried out any fresh forest survey to determine the extent to which targets have been achieved in plantation of trees over the years; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the area under the green cover at present?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)**

- (a) The forest areas are normally demarcated by creating permanent boundary pillars at appropriate points to segregate them from other areas. However, additional precaution is taken while according approval for mining in forest areas by invariably inserting following conditions:
  - (i) The project area shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, using four feet high RCC pillars, with each pillar inscribed with the serial number, forward and backward bearing and distance between two adjacent pillars.
  - (ii) Fencing, protection and regeneration of the safety zone area (7.5 meter strip all along the outer boundary of mining lease area) shall be done at the project cost.
- (b) & (c) The Government of India has not conducted any survey to assess the survival of the plantation undertaken in States. However, Forest Survey of India under Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change carries out forest survey at every two years to assess the forest cover of India and it publishes India State of Forest Report (ISFR) showing different statistics related to forest cover of the country. As per the latest estimate by India State of Forest Report-2017, the area under forest and tree cover is 80.20 million hectare which is 24.39% of the geographical area of the country.

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