

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3121
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2021

Mining in Protected Forest Areas

3121. SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL:

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

- (a) whether there is a prohibition on mining activities in protected forest areas;
- (b) if so, the details of circulars/orders issued by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether mining activities are being carried out in protected forest areas of many States across the country and if so, the details of such cases including those reported from Rajasthan;
- (d) whether the Government has granted any permission for carrying out mining activities in protected forest areas; and
- (e) if so, the legal basis of the same along with State-wise details of such cases during the last ten years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) to (e) As per the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 04.08.2006 in the Writ Petition (C) no. 202/1995 the permission for mining can not be granted inside any National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary.

However, the mining activities can be permitted in Protected Forest (PF) Areas by the concerned State Government subject to prior approval of Central Government under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The State/UT wise details of such cases approved during last 10 years under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for mining in forest areas (including Protected Forest Areas) is **annexed**.

Annexure

Annexure referred to the part (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha UnStarred Question No. 3121 asked by Shri Hanuman Beniwal regarding "Mining in Protected Forest Areas" due for answer on 06.08.2021

Category : Mining		During the Period : 01.04.2011 to 31.03.2021
S. No.	State / UT	Area Approved (in Ha.)
1	Andaman and Nicobar	3.13
2	Andhra Pradesh	2161.53
3	Assam	427.50
4	Chhattisgarh	7086.85
5	Goa	17.31
7	Himachal Pradesh	242.97
8	Jharkhand	3440.82
9	Karnataka	155.79
10	Madhya Pradesh	6135.48
11	Maharashtra	562.85
12	Meghalaya	266.07
13	Orissa	14158.34
14	Rajasthan	145.45
15	Tamil Nadu	16.72
16	Telangana	3699.90
17	Tripura	28.07
18	Uttarakhand	23.75
19	West Bengal	274.17
Total		38846.7

Source: <https://parivesh.nic.in> (During the Period : 01.04.2011 to 31.03.2021)