

Clearance to proposals received from M.P.

†2309. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received from Madhya Pradesh Government proposals of concept note, insulation of power lines passing through forest areas and relocation of villages inside reserved areas for Badwani forest division for project, under French supported forest rural development scheme;

(b) if so, by when the proposals were received and the action taken thereon by Government; and

(c) by when the proposals are likely to be cleared and funds allocated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) No such proposal has been received by the Ministry of Environment & Forests from the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

Forest clearance to mines in Niyamgiri hills of Orissa

2310. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the mining giant Vedanta Resources has constructed road and infrastructure for a conveyor belt which is being built to carry bauxite from the proposed Lanjigarh mines in Niyamgiri hills of Orissa before getting the final forest clearance; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of action taken against the company for violation of norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The construction of following types have come to notice of the Central Government:

(i) Construction of approx. 50 meter approach road in the *Gramya Jungle* area without approval of the Central Government under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; and

(ii) Construction of an approach road and conveyer belt in the non-forest area without waiting for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.