

Jamgaon, Raigarh under Section 5 of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 and in case of M/s Jindal Steel and Power Ltd., Raigarh, direction were issued under Section 18(1) b of the Air Act, 1981 to the Chhattisgarh SPCB.

Legal status of riverine forests of Mizoram

1639. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the legal status of those ‘riverine reserved forest’, and ‘such private properties owned by Mizoram Tribals’ covered under Land Settlement certificate and periodic pattas issued and accepted by the State Government falling within the ‘riverine reserved forest’ in view of Mizoram Government issued notification, declaring land within half a mile ‘on either side of the 16 rivers’ under Mizoram Forest Act, the details thereof; and

(b) whether State Forest Department approved in the past, payment of due compensation for private lands acquired from some riverine reserve, the same compensation is discriminately denied to Land Settlement certificate holders for the submergence of their land by Tuirial Hydel Project, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR) : (a) As reported by the Government of Mizoram, the forests within half a mile on either side of 16 major rivers in the State of Mizoram have been notified as “Riverine Reserved Forests” as per the provisions of the Mizoram Forest Act, 1955. These rivers are Tlawng (Dhaleswari), Tut (Gutur), Teirei (Pakwa), Langkaih (Longai), Serlui, Chemlui, Tuivai, Tuivawl, Tuirini, Tuirial, Tuiruang, Khawthlangtuipui (Karnafully), Tuichawng, Kau, De and Phairuang.

The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is applicable in Riverine Reserved Forests. Land Settlement Certificates and Periodic Pattas in these Reserved Forests can only be issued after following due procedures under the Forest (conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) As all Land Settlement Certificates and Periodic Pattas issued in “Riverine Reserved Forests” without following the due procedures under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 contravenes the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the question of paying compensation to holders of such Certificates and Pattas does not arise.