

जयराम रमेश
JAIRAM RAMESH



D. O. No. 1-5000 MOS (I/C) E & F / 10

राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

पर्यावरण एवं वन

भारत सरकार

नई दिल्ली-110003

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW DELHI - 110 003

22nd October 2010

My dear Ashokji -

1. I have been writing to you repeatedly on the issue of mine leases near Sariska.
2. I attach yet another newsitem that appeared in yesterday's Times of India on the subject. It is shocking that the Rajasthan Government has given 40 mine leases near Sariska. This will further endanger the already threatened tiger habitat. Sariska is more than just a tiger habitat. It is a region of the most magnificent biodiversity that needs to be preserved and protected for ecological reasons that will benefit both the state and the country.
3. If the state government is going to insist on awarding mine leases near Sariska, I am afraid we would be betraying Indira Gandhi herself under whose leadership Project Tiger was launched in April 1973.
4. I would once again urge you to take immediate action to cancel all these leases. It is only a matter of time before somebody approaches the Courts. If and when this happens, the MoE&F will fully support the petitioner. That is why it is better the state takes action now.

Warm personal
With regards,
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Yours sincerely,

Jairam Ramesh
(Jairam Ramesh)

Shri Ashok Gehlot
Chief Minister
Government of Rajasthan

Encl: as above