### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

# RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1792 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2022

#### Forest clearances approved by Government

#### 1792 SHRI BINOY VISWAM:

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

- (a) the details of in-principle forest clearances and final clearances approved by the Union Government and the area thereof, since 2019, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the details of instances where State Governments have objected to or sought withdrawal of clearances provided by the Union Government since 2019; and
- (c) the details of clearances provided in areas of national parks and wildlife sanctuaries since 2019?

#### ANSWER

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

(a) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has launched an online portal namely 'PARIVESH' for submission and processing of proposals for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Grant of approvals under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is a continuous process. Proposals received from the States/UTs for various non-forestry purposes are examined by the Central Government for their completeness. Prompt decision is taken on the proposals which are complete in all respects as per the Rules and guidelines framed under FCA, 1980.

As per information available on the portal, a total of 1486 projects have been accorded "In-principle" approval during 2019-20 to 2021-22. During the same period proposals that were earlier accorded "In-principle" approval have been taken up for consideration and a total number of 2819 proposals have been accorded "Final approval". The State/Union Territory-wise detail is given in **Annexure-I.** 

- (b) During the period between 2019-20 to 2021-22 a total number of 31 proposals have been withdrawn. State/UT wise detail is enclosed at **Annexure-II.**
- (c) As per the information available with this Ministry, a total number of 303 proposals pertaining to variousProtected Areas have been recommended by the National Board for Wildlife since 2019.

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## Annexure-I

| Category :- All Categories |                     | Ouring the period :- 2019-20 to 2021-22 |                 |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------|
| S. No.                     | State/ UTs          | In-Principle approvals                  | Final Approvals |
|                            |                     |   | Total           |
| 1                          | Andaman and Nicobar | 7                                       | 15              |
| 2                          | Andhra Pradesh      | 20                                      | 26              |
| 3                          | Arunachal Pradesh   | 20                                      | 38              |
| 4                          | Assam               | 6                                       | 4               |
| 5                          | Bihar               | 71                                      | 133             |
| 6                          | Chhattisgarh        | 17                                      | 20              |
| 7                          | Delhi               | 4                                       | 3               |
| 8                          | Goa                 | 7                                       | 4               |
| 9                          | Gujarat             | 74                                      | 199             |
| 10                         | Haryana             | 164                                     | 325             |
| 11                         | Himachal Pradesh    | 118                                     | 250             |
| 12                         | J & K               | 113                                     | 13              |
| 13                         | Jharkhand           | 37                                      | 45              |
| 14                         | Karnataka           | 55                                      | 49              |
| 15                         | Kerala              | 6                                       | 8               |
| 16                         | Madhya Pradesh      | 55                                      | 189             |
| 17                         | Maharashtra         | 163                                     | 58              |
| 19                         | Manipur             | 21                                      | 3               |
| 20                         | Meghalaya           | 5                                       | 5               |
| 21                         | Mizoram             | 1                                       | 7               |
| 22                         | Odisha              | 61                                      | 100             |
| 23                         | Punjab              | 63                                      | 326             |
| 24                         | Rajasthan           | 35                                      | 67              |
| 25                         | Sikkim              | 40                                      | 16              |
| 26                         | Tamilnadu           | 10                                      | 23              |
| 27                         | Telangana           | 29                                      | 45              |
| 28                         | Tripura             | 10                                      | 64              |
| 29                         | Uttar Pradesh       | 1                                       | 576             |
| 30                         | Uttarakhand         | 264                                     | 205             |
| 31                         | West Bengal         | 9                                       | 3               |
| Grand Total                |                     | 1486                                    | 2819            |

|   |                   | Annexure-II                                     |  |  |
|---|-------------------|---|--|--|
| Annexure referred to part (b) of the RSUQ No. 1792 dated 22.12.2022 regarding |                   |   |  |  |
| 'Forest clearances approved by Government' asked by Shri BinoyViswam          |                   |   |  |  |
| Category: Withdrawal of   |                   |   |  |  |
| clearances  |                   | During the period:-1st April 2019 to 31st March |  |  |
| S. No.  | State/UTs         | 2022  |  |  |
| 1   | Arunachal Pradesh | 1   |  |  |
| 2   | Haryana           | 7   |  |  |
| 3   | Madhya Pradesh    | 4   |  |  |
| 4   | Manipur           | 1   |  |  |
| 5   | Mizoram           | 2   |  |  |
| 6   | Punjab            | 14  |  |  |
| 7   | Tamilnadu         | 1   |  |  |
| 8   | Telangana         | 1   |  |  |
| Grand Total   |                   | 31  |  |  |