GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA UASTARRED QUESTION NO. 1818 TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2023

Forest Clearance for NIT campus

1818. SHRI K. VANLALVENA:

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

- (a) whether Government has any plan to issue Forest Clearance approval for the Riverine Reserve Forest violation at Lengpui, Kawntengek Land meant for the permanent Campus of NIT Mizoram; and
- (b) whether there are any issues preventing Government from giving final Forest Clearance approval, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) The proposals for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purpose are considered under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 on case to case basis as per the Rules and Guidelines made there under. The use of forest land for non-forestry purpose is allowed only when such use is unavoidable and bare minimum. The Ministry has received a proposalseeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 63.441 ha of Reserved Forest land for the construction of National Institute of Technology at Lengpui in Mamit Forest Division, Aizawl District, Mizoram which involves violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The proposal was placed before the Forest Advisory Committee in its meeting dated 13.06.2022 which deferred the proposal and sought certain essential details from the State Government for further consideration.
