

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1162
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

Setting up of solar power/ wind power projects in eco-sensitive zones

1162 Shri Parimal Nathwani:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has in principle agreed to allow setting up of solar power and/or wind power projects in the eco sensitive zones (ESZs) around wildlife sanctuaries/ national parks;
- (b) the details of such permissions in vogue in ESZs around wildlife sanctuaries in the States of Gujarat, Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) whether the study of likely adverse effects on wildlife due to setting of such power plants and transmission lines is undertaken by the National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) or other agencies, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a)to(c) Solar and wind power projects do not fall under the ambit of the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006. Accordingly, they do not require recommendations from the Standing Committee for National Board for Wild Life when proposed inside Eco-sensitive Zones.

The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 enables the National Board for Wild Life to promote conservation of wild life and forests by carrying out or causing to be carried out the impact assessment of various projects and activities on wildlife and its habitat.
