

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2138
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2025

Great Nicobar Island Development Project

2138 . MS. DOLA SEN:

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

- (a) the location for the compensatory afforestation envisaged under the Great Nicobar Island Development project;
- (b) whether a site-specific study of earthquake risk has been conducted and if so, the details thereof and if not, the details therefor; and
- (c) whether similar Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) were conducted for the Campbell and Car Nicobar areas and if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The Central Government vide letter dated 27.10.2022 has accorded Stage-I/In-principle approval for diversion of 130.75 Sq. Km of forest land for sustainable development in Great Nicobar. The said approval stipulate that the Compensatory Afforestation (CA) on non-notified forest land in the State of Haryana. In case these areas in Haryana do not fulfill CA norms, the areas for CA may be identified on DFL in Madhya Pradesh or States adjoining to NCR.
- (b) While conducting the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)/Environmental Management Plan (EMP) studies for the project, suitable risk assessment study including seismological studies have been taken into account including anthropogenic and natural disasters and its vulnerability and disaster management plan have been prepared accordingly. In the EIA document the detailed risk assessment study has been carried out and Environmental Management Plan has also been prepared accordingly.
- (c) The study area comprises of the west coast of Great Nicobar Island from Campbell Bay to the Indira point and Galathea River mouth in the southern part. No studies were conducted at Car Nicobar Island as there is no impact envisaged during construction and operation of the project, on the Island.
