

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 319
ANSWERED ON 02.12.2025

**COASTAL ZONE REGULATION AND BIODIVERSITY CONCERNS IN GREAT
NICOBAR PROJECT**

319. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:

Will the Minister of PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposed port site under the Great Nicobar project falls within the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) 1 A, which prohibits port construction in turtle nesting and coral reef areas;
- (b) whether the report of the high-powered committee and the ground-truthing exercise reclassifying this site have been made public and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures being taken by Government to protect critical marine biodiversity including turtle nesting grounds, coral reefs and the habitat of the Nicobar long-tailed macaque and dugong?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a), (b) & (c) The matter related to the EC and CRZ for the Port site at Great Nicobar, is sub judice. Providing a reply on the merits of the questions would not be appropriate at this stage.
