

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1941
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2022

Galathea Bay Wildlife Sanctuary

1941. SHRI RITESH PANDEY:

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

- (a) whether the de-notification of the Galathea Bay Wildlife Sanctuary is beneficial for ecology and marine turtles and if so, the details in this regard;
- (b) whether it helps the Government to fulfil its mandate of wildlife conservation and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the notification of a zero-extent ecosensitive zone for the Galathea National Park (to make land available for the project) ensure forest protection and biodiversity conservation of the country especially of Great Nicobar Island and if so, the details in this regard?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (c) After denotification of Galathea Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration was directed that a comprehensive management plan may be prepared in consultation with Wildlife Institute of India (WII) and other relevant stakeholders, and followed for conservation and protection of Leatherback Turtles in Great Nicobar Islands. The Central Government has also subsequently notified an area to an extent of zero to one kilometre around the boundary of the Galathea National Park as Eco-sensitive Zone on 12th March, 2021 with the objective to ensure forest protection and biodiversity conservation in the area.
