GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 56 TO BE ANSWERED ON JULY 22, 2021 CENTRAL VISTA PROJECT

No. 56. SHRI T.R. BAALU:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that the elaborate way in which the Central Vista project has been parceled into a range of different projects, amidst tweaking of regulatory institutions, has meant that most of the constituent projects have avoided any form of environment clearance, or any form of public scrutiny;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 56 FOR 22.07.2021 REGARDING CENTRAL VISTA PROJECT

(a) to (c): No Sir. All the projects under the Development/ Redevelopment of Central Vista Master Plan are taken up after following due processes and obtaining necessary clearances, as per extant laws/ bye laws, including Environment Clearance (EC).

EC for New Parliament Building was granted by Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change vide their letter dated 17th June, 2020. EC has been obtained on 31st May, 2021 for other projects as part of Development/ Redevelopment of Central Vista Master Plan, which includes Common Central Secretariat Buildings and Central Conference Centre, Prime Minister's Residence, Special Protection Group (SPG) Building and Vice President's Enclave through a comprehensive application as per requirement of laws/ bye laws.

As a part of the process of obtaining EC, Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) studies were carried out for all the projects of Central Vista Master Plan, which are under various stages. This study also included the environment impact of the buildings proposed in Executive enclave (comprising Prime Minister's Office, Cabinet Secretariat & National Security Council Secretariats) and ongoing construction of New Parliament Building (for which EC has been already obtained on 17 June, 2020) in addition to the projects for which EC was applied for. Based on this study a comprehensive EIA report was submitted for the consideration of Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC). EAC recommended EC after scrutiny of the EIA report. After due process Environmental Clearance was granted vide Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change letter dated 31st May, 2021.