

Green Signal to radar station at Narcondam Island

†914. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) by when green signal will be given to the proposed radar station at Narcondam island of Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) whether environmentalists have raised any objection against setting up of this radar station;

(c) whether Government is formulating any separate policy for defence related projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) There is no proposal regarding Radar station at Narcondam Islands of Andaman and Nicobar Islands pending for wildlife clearance in the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

(b) The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change had, in 2012, received representations from environmentalists urging the need for conservation of the Narcondam Hornbills in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has decided to accord general approval under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land required for (i) construction and widening of two lane roads by the BRO and other road construction agencies entrusted with the job by the Ministry of Defence, in area falling within 100 kilometers aerial distance from the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and (ii) widening of roads (by BRO and other road construction agencies) which are identified by the Ministry of Defence as link roads, between Border Roads in the area within 100 kilometers aerial distance from the LAC.

Regarding environment clearance for Defence projects, a dedicated Expert Appraisal Committee has been set up.

Open web-based National Forestry and Environmental Information System

915. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details about the Greening of degraded lands, afforestation and eco-restoration of ecologically sensitive areas and the technology-based monitoring of forest cover, biodiversity through dedicated satellite by 2017;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.