

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 586
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2023

Steps to prevent Erosion in Coastal Areas

586. SHRI RAMALINGAM S.:
SHRI DULAL CHANDRA GOSWAMI:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has taken any steps to prevent erosion on low lying habitations on Mayiladuthurai and Nagapattinam districts and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Union Government has taken any steps to make National Coastal Zone Management Authority (NCZMA) as a permanent body and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to develop a special forest area in the coastal areas of the country to prevent erosion due to floods;
- (d) if so, whether there is any plan for developing forest areas to prevent erosion in Katihar, Purnia and Kishanganj in Bihar; and
- (e) 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 ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a): The subject of coastal protection falls within the purview of States. Accordingly, the measures of erosion control in coastal areas are formulated and implemented by concerned maritime States and UTs as per their priority. The Union Government supplements the efforts of States/UTs through technical assistance, regulatory measures as well as through financial support from schemes such as National Coastal Mission for mangrove plantation. Key measures taken by the Government are as follows:

- (i) Under the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) project of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the Erosion line projected to the next 100 years based on the annual rate of erosion computed from high resolution aerial photographs and satellite images has been delineated over the entire coast line covering the mainland coastal states/UTs, by the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai in co-ordination with the Survey of India (SoI), as part of Hazard line mapping carried out by the SoI.
- (ii) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has notified Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 2019 with a view to conserve and protect coastal stretches, marine areas and to ensure livelihood security to the fisher and other local

communities. The coastal regulations however permit setting up of erosion control measures in the coast. The notification also provides for No Development Zones (NDZ) along various categories of coastal areas to protect India's coastline from encroachment, erosion and accretion.

- (iii) A national strategy for coastal protection along with guidelines has been framed for all Coastal States and Union Territories by MoEFCC.
- (iv) The Flood Management scheme of Ministry of Jal Shakti, including anti-sea erosion schemes, are planned and executed by the State Governments with their own resources as per priorities of States. Union Government renders assistance to states which is technical, advisory, catalytic and promotional in nature.
- (v) Considering the importance of collection of data on coastal processes towards coastal protection measures, a new component 'Coastal Management Information System (CMIS)' was initiated under the Central Sector Plan Scheme 'Development of Water Resources Information System'. CMIS is a data collection activity carried out to collect near shore coastal data which can be used in planning, design, construction and maintenance of site specific coastal protection structures at vulnerable Coastal stretches. Establishment of three sites each in the State of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry has been completed.

(b): MoEFCC constituted the National Coastal Zone Management Authority (NCZMA) on 26th November, 1998 under Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. There are 25 members in NCZMA, out of which 24 are *ex-officio* members and one non-official expert member which makes NCZMA as *de-facto* permanent and continuing authority.

(c) to (e): Union Government is implementing several schemes for increasing forest and tree cover in the country, including mangroves in coastal areas, to prevent erosion. The scheme for 'Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs' is being implemented on a 60:40 fund sharing basis between the Center and the States. There are other schemes/programmes such as Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), National Afforestation Programme etc., that support afforestation activities across the country, including districts in Bihar. Besides, States/UTs have their own conservation and afforestation programmes, including for mangroves.
