

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1665
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2023

Coastal Land Erosion in Kerala

1665. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware of a recent study by the University of Kerala that revealed that 647 acres of coastal land along a 58 km. Stretch in Thiruvananthapuram has been lost to the sea in the last fourteen years;
- (b) whether the Government has requested or received any information from the Kerala State Government in this regard, including any conservation or restoration efforts, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Government of Kerala has sought financial assistance from the Government for coastal protection works and whether the same has been provided, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Government intends to set up any Committee, either solely or in conjunction with the State Government of Kerala, to further look into this matter and suggest urgent remedial and restorative measures, 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)&(b): Directorate of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Kerala has communicated that they are not aware of the details of the study by the University of Kerala on coast land stretch of Thiruvananthapuram. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has not received any information regarding the study conducted by the University of Kerala.

National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), an attached office of the Ministry of Earth Science (MoES), Government of India has been monitoring the shoreline changes for the entire Indian coastline using multispectral satellite images along with field-surveyed data since 1990. As a part of this study, the statistics for Thiruvananthapuram District are given below:

Land Loss (Ha)	Land Gain (Ha)	Erosion (%)	Stable (%)	Accretion (%)
85.37	127.57	34.4	34.4	31.2

(c): No proposal has been received from Government of Kerala for funding under Central Scheme. However, following Preliminary Projects Reports (PPRs) have been accorded consent as per the existing guidelines for the preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) by Central Water Commission, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India:

- (i) Kerala Sustainable Coastal Protection and Climate Resilience planning Project for External Assistance from Asian Development Bank (ADB) amounting to Rs.3500 Cr., and
- (ii) Additional Financing for Resilient Kerala Program – Coastal Protection Project (phase Ii) for external Assistance from World Bank amounting Rs.1590 Cr.

(d): Shoreline protection is in the mandate of State Governments and MoEFCC has not received any such proposal from the State Government of Kerala.
