

Need to prevent coastal erosion in Kerala

SHRI T. N. PRATHAPAN (THRISSUR): Coastal erosion in Kerala brings an alarming situation in the State primarily and to the nation as it is an important strategic marine border of our country. The southern state, having 600 km long coastal belt, faces a grave threat due to the increasing gravity of coastal erosion. The traditional fisher folk and people who live in coastal areas are forced to flee from their land due to the coastal attacks and floods. According to the study conducted by the Centre for Coastal Research, Kerala stands on third position in the list of mostly affected states with coastal erosion. The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had warned stating that Kerala's 63% of the coastal area is prone to the severe sea attacks. People are suffering as they lose their shelters, boats, fishing equipment, land and their lives itself. The ongoing efforts of Kerala state to resist this coastal erosion is not sufficient right now. It requires more efficient projects to reinstate the coastal area that are taken by the sea. I kindly request the Government of India to list the sea attacks and coastal erosion as natural calamities and shall provide a special financial package for the scientific and efficient protection for Kerala's coasts.