GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4807 ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010 COMMITTEE ON CRZ Das Shri Khagen

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made a number of amendments and appointed a number of Committees for Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the current status of the said act/policy;
- (c) whether any draft policy/act has been prepared;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government had agreed to redevelop slums of Mumbai which would replace the poor and facilitating backdoor entry of large land developers;
- (f) if so, the details thereof including the names of States/places identified for redevelopment; and
- (g) the remedial steps taken/being taken by the Government for redrafting the policy/act to save the poor in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

- (a) & (b) To address specific issues raised by various agencies, including the Central Ministries, State Governments, NGOs with regard to the provisions of the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991, the Ministry had constituted specific Expert Committees to examine these issues and provide recommendations. Based on the recommendations made, the CRZ Notification, 1991 was amended in accordance with the Environment(Protection) Act, 1986.
- (c) & (d) Based on Prof. M. S. Swaminathan Committee Report dated 16th July, 2009 and the consultations held with the coastal communities, the Ministry has issued a draft CRZ Notification, 2010 vide S.O.No. 2291(E) dated 15th September, 2010 inviting suggestions and objections from stakeholders.
- (e) & (f) Based on the request made the Government of Maharashtra, the draft CRZ Notification, 2010 includes provisions for undertaking Slum Redevelopment Scheme (SRS) in Greater Mumbai. In order to ensure that this scheme is undertaken in a transparent and accountable manner, checks have been provided in the draft Notification, which include 51% stake in the SRS project by the State Government, applicability of the Right to Information Act, fiscal auditing by the Comptroller and Auditor General.
- (g) One of the objectives of the draft CRZ Notification, 2010 is to protect the life and livelihood security of the local communities for which specific provisions have been incorporated, such as permitting infrastructure facilities like fish drying yards, auction halls, ice plants etc. in the CRZ area, inclusion of the aquatic area, hazard mapping of the coastal areas.