

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:719  
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2012  
PROTECTED AREA  
Rajesh Shri M. B.

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

- (a) whether the Government has declared the 'Sewri Mangrove' Park a protected area in Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to minimise environmental damages in this region?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (Independent Charge) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) & (b) According to the information received from the State Government of Maharashtra, no such declaration has been made by them so far. However, an area of 14.82 ha. in Survey number 865 at Sewri in Mumbai has been notified as Protected Forest under the provision of Indian Forest Act, 1927.

(c) The State Government has also informed that it has created a separate Mangrove Cell, headed by Chief Conservator of Forests along with 37 posts, for conservation and management of the mangrove areas in the State. The headquarter of the Cell is at Mumbai, with jurisdiction along the coast of Maharashtra. This cell has also been given the additional responsibility of coastal biodiversity conservation. Mangroves are also protected under The Maharashtra Felling of Trees (Regulation) Act, 1964 and are included in the Schedule under the said Act. Further, the mangroves throughout the coastal regions of country, including Maharashtra, are protected under the provision of CRZ Notification, 2011 and Island Protection Zone Notification, 2011.