

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:965
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2009
INTRODUCTION OF VULNERABILITY LINE
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a new standard called Vulnerability Line to replace the Coastal Regulation Zone;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the manner in which Vulnerability Line will be defined; and
- (d) the norms/criteria formulated therefor?

Answer

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

(a)& (b) No, Sir. However, to examine the issues relating to CRZ Notification, 1991, the Ministry had constituted a Committee under Prof. M. S. Swaminathan in June, 2004. The Committee submitted its Report in February, 2005. Further, the Ministry constituted another Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. M. S. Swaminathan to examine the suggestions and objections received in the draft Coastal Management Zone Notification, 2008 in June, 2009. The Report of this Committee was received in 16th July, 2009. Both the above Committees emphasized the need for demarcating a vulnerability line along the coast in order to safeguard the life and property along the coastal areas from natural hazards arising from the sea. Accordingly, the Ministry had initiated pilot studies with the help of reputed national institutions namely, Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad, Centre for Earth Science Studies, Trivendrum, Department of Ocean Development, Chennai and Survey of India, Dehradun. Since, the above activity is in an experimental stage no decision has been taken with regard to introducing the vulnerability line in the CRZ Notification, 1991.

(c) & (d) Under the above pilot study the vulnerability line is demarcated taking into account waves, tides, sea level rise and shoreline change with the help of satellite images, tidal data and manual survey.