

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1547
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2012
CHECK ON SEA EROSION
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the coastal areas have become more insecure in terms of erosion of sea/sea coasts, as a result of global warming in the country;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether any study is being conducted in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any scheme has been introduced to control the erosion; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) Scientific studies and relevant assessments recognize possible threats to coastline and beaches from global warming and likely impacts of sea level rise. The key impacts of sea level rise include coastal erosion, saline intrusion into freshwater lanes, and increased flooding from the sea.

(b) Vulnerability of Coastal areas in India has been engaging the attention of Government. Government has been attempting to address this issue through science-based assessments of the vulnerability, while coordinating adaptation actions at the national and state level.

(c) & (d) Indian Network for Climate Change Assessment (INCCA) launched by Ministry of Environment and Forests in 2009 undertook a scientific assessment of this problem through a '4x4 Assessment – A Sectoral and Regional Analysis for 2030s'. The report analyses inter-alia, the impacts of projected rise in temperature, pattern of precipitation, cyclone, storm surges and sea level rise on the coastal regions. As per the report, a variation of precipitation in the coastal belt is indicated from 6-8% with respect to 1970. Assessments based on existing data indicate that the sea level along the Indian coast has been rising at the rate of about 1.3 mm/year on an average.

(e) & (f) The Government of India has notified the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification in 2011 with an aim of protecting livelihoods of fisher folk communities, preservation of ecology and promotion of economic activity in coastal areas.

Further, the Government has initiated, with the assistance of the World Bank, a project on 'Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan' for mapping of a hazard line along the coastal areas of the country taking into account the sea level rise and other parameters such as, shoreline change, tides and wave.

Government of India is also implementing the National Mission on Sustainable Habitat under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) which includes activities for managing the coastal zone.