

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6355
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2013
COASTAL AREAS
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any Coastal Areas Regulation for coastal areas in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the coverage of the Coastal Area Regulation;
- (c) whether any discussions have been held with the organisations of the people living there and other stakeholders before formulating the Coastal Area Regulation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether employment opportunities for the people living in the areas of Coastal Area Regulation is likely to be taken care of;
- (f) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (g) The Ministry of Environment and Forests had issued the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification in 1991 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for protection and conservation of the coastal environment. A Committee under the chairmanship of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan was constituted in the year 2004 to review the CRZ Notification, 1991. The Committee submitted its report with various recommendations for strengthening the CRZ Notification, which inter-alia included protection and conservation of the coastal ecosystem, livelihood security of local communities, introduction of regulation to manage the proliferation of ports along the coasts, introduction of tighter standards for disposal of effluent into coastal waters, etc.

On the basis of the recommendations of the above Committee, draft Notifications on Coastal Regulation for main land and Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands were issued in the year 2010 for inviting objections and suggestions. Extensive consultations were held with various stake holders, including the State Governments and fishermen community. The objections and suggestions received on the two draft Notifications were examined in the Ministry and finally the CRZ Notification, 2011 for the main land and Island Protection Zone

(IPZ) Notification, 2011 for Lakshadweep as well as Andaman & Nicobar Islands were issued in January, 2011 in supersession of the CRZ Notification, 1991.

The CRZ Notification, 2011 covers 500 meters from the high tide line on the landward side, including the inter-tidal area on the seafront, and upto 12 nautical miles on the seaward side. It also covers 100 meters or width of the creek, whichever is less, from the high tide line on the landward side along the tidal influenced water bodies.

The CRZ Notification, 2011 provides special provisions for communities living in certain ecologically sensitive coastal stretches, islands in the backwaters of Kerala, local communities living along the coast of Goa and other traditional coastal inhabitants, slum dwellers and persons living in dilapidated and unsafe buildings in Mumbai, etc.