

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1348

ANSWERED ON:03.03.2015

ERODING INDIAN COASTLINE

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

- (a) whether it has been reported that the rate of coastal erosion in over 40% of the Indian coastline is higher than the previous estimate of about 36%;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the action/steps taken/ being taken by the Government to check the coastal erosion?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change through the National Center for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai in association with the Institute of Ocean Management, Anna University, Chennai has conducted a study regarding "assessment of shore line change for the Entire Coast of mainland India, extending from Gujarat in the West Coast to West Bengal in the East coast". The shoreline change was assessed for a period of 38 years from 1972 – 2010. Accordingly, the coastline of India has been classified into high, medium and low erosion stretches as well as stable coastline stretch. The study has revealed that, on an average, around 40% of the Indian coast is subjected to coastal erosion (either high, medium or low).

(c) Keeping in view the shoreline changes occurring in the country due to various natural and anthropogenic reasons, the Coastal Regulation Zone, notification, 2011 prohibits developments in high eroding stretches of the coast, except those projects classified as strategic and defence related. In medium/ low eroding stretches and stable coasts, develop- ments like foreshore facilities are considered only based on comprehensive Environment Impact Assessment Study and permitted only with shore protection measures viz. beach nourishment, sand by-passing and regular monitoring of shore lines.