GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2155 ANSWERED ON:10.03.2015 GREEN MEMORIAL AT DANDI

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

- (a) whether the Government in collaboration with the Society for Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Gujarat Ecology Commission has undertaken a project for development of a green memorial at Dandi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the said project;
- (c) the expenditure likely to be incurred in this regard along with the amount allocated during each of the last three years; and
- (d) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government for ecological conservation of Dandi in view of its historical significance?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) The Central Government, notified Dandi and their adjacent five villages in the State of Gujarat as the Dandi Eco-Sensitive Zone vide notification no. S.O. 786(E) dated 26th April 2011. Under the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change through Society of Integrated Coastal Management (SICOM) has taken up 'Green Action for National Dandi Heritage Initiative (GANDHI) Memorial' Project in Dandi and adjacent five villages in Gujarat. The notification regulates developmental activities such as Quarrying and Mining, use of plastics, cutting of trees, noise pollution, discharge of sewage and effluents and solid waste disposal. The non-polluting, non-hazardous small scale industries which do not cause adverse environmental impact are permitted in Eco Sensitive Zone.

The draft Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Dandi and adjacent five villages has been prepared and activities like mangrove plantation, shelter-belt development, renovation and restoration of ponds, beach cleaning and sanitation work, solid waste management, installation of solar lights, and community mobilization have been carried out. Rs. 25.00 crore has been earmarked for this project. The details of expenditure during each of the last three years are Rs. 51.68 lakh (2011-2013); Rs. 54.29(2012-2013); Rs. 62.89 (2013-2014) and Rs.89.28 (2014-2015).