

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2068  
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014  
PROTECTION OF GULF OF KUTCH  
Rathwa Shri Ramsinh Patalyabhai

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

- (a) whether a proposal of the State Government of Gujarat has been received for protection of Gulf of Kutch under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change had received a proposal from the State Government of Gujarat for declaring Eco-sensitive Zone around Marine National Park and Marine Sanctuary situated in the Gulf of Kutch, District Jamnagar, Gujarat under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The Ministry had since issued a notification in the Gazette of India vide S.O. No. 2561 (E) dated 22nd August 2013.

The Eco-sensitive Zone around Marine National Park and Marine Sanctuary includes an area of up to a length of one kilometer from the coastal boundary towards landward side and an area within 200 meter from the boundary of Marine National Park and Marine Sanctuary towards the seaward side. Further, the Eco-sensitive Zone also includes 31 rivers flowing into the Gulf of Kutch with their lengths varying from 0 to 5 kilometers and a width of 250 meter from the centre of the river on both sides of the river from the boundary of the Protected Area as Eco-sensitive Zone.

The Eco-sensitive Zone covers a total area of 326.26 square kilometer, of which 208.58 square kilometer is the area towards landward side, 105.14 square kilometer towards seaward side and 12.53 square kilometer is the area covered by rivers. The notification provides for prohibition and regulation of certain identified activities in the Eco-sensitive Zone.