

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3961

ANSWERED ON:06.08.2014

MANGROVE CONSERVATION

Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun;Mullappally Shri Ramachandran

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

- (a) whether destruction of mangroves is creating adverse environmental impact in coastal areas across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to preserve the existing mangrove forests and increase the mangrove cover, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of financial assistance provided to the States for protection of mangroves during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Few complaints on mangrove destruction have been received. However, no report on destruction of mangroves creating adverse environmental impact in coastal areas across the country is available. The Government seeks to protect, sustain and augment mangroves in the country by both regulatory and promotional measures. Under the regulatory measures, the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification (2011) recognizes the mangrove areas as ecologically sensitive and categorizes them as CRZ-I which implies that these areas are afforded the highest protection. In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-sections (1) and (3) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986), the Government of India has notified the National Coastal Zone Management Authority (NCZMA) and State Coastal Zone Management Authorities for all coastal States and Union Territories for the implementation of the provisions of CRZ Notification, 1991/ 2011.

Under the promotional measures the Ministry has a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Conservation and Management of Mangroves of India. Under the Scheme, the Ministry provides 100% central assistance to coastal States/Union Territories, for implementation of their approved Management Action Plans which comprise components such as Survey and Demarcation, Afforestation and Restoration of Mangroves, Alternate and Supplementary Livelihoods, Protection Measures, education and awareness etc.

(c) Details of financial assistance provided to the States for protection of mangroves during the last three years and the current year, State-wise are placed at Annexure.