

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2545
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2014
PROTECTION OF OCEAN MARINE ECO SYSTEM
Adhikari Shri Sisir Kumar;Puttaraju Shri C.S.

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to protect ocean and marine eco system by banning and reducing the practices that may cause irreversible damage to the eco system as well as restoring the damage caused to the eco system;
- (b) whether the Government has initiated any steps for the protection of various marine species and if so, the details thereof and the success achieved therein; and
- (c) the manner in which the said steps are likely to help in sustaining the livelihood of the fishing community, particularly women?

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 is implementing an Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project with the assistance of the World Bank for conserving and protecting the coastal environment. The project envisages that several measures such as control of pollution by sewage discharge, solid waste management, cleaning of beaches etc. are being implemented with the objective to project and conserve the marine ecosystem. Under the above said project, conservation and protection of various marine species including ecosystems such as mangroves, coral reefs, turtle nesting sites, bird nesting habitats, horse shoe crabs etc., are being mapped and delineated. To increase the coral cover, measures to regenerate the coral, coral transplantation and regeneration have been taken up with the conservation and protection of such ecosystems. The livelihood of the local fishing community including women would improve as the fish catch would increase with the measures taken under the project.

Further, the State Pollution Control Boards of all the coastal States are controlling waste water collection, treatment and disposal in their respective states as per the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has laid down effluent standards under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 in order to ensure that the industries comply with the standards. In addition, Coastal Aqua Culture Authority has been established under the Coastal Aqua Culture Authority Act, 2005 to regulate the coastal aqua culture activities with an objective to protect the coastal environment. Comprehensive Legislation has been enacted under Section 3(1) and Section 3(2) (v) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and 5(3)(d) of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 declaring Coastal Stretches as Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) to regulate the activities in the CRZ.