

Title: Need to accord clearance to the projects of Government of Karnataka for undertaking anti-sea erosion measures in coastal areas of the State.

SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE (UDUPI): My constituency, Udupi in Dakshina Kannada has a long coast line. The shoreline is dotted with fishing villages and beach resorts like Malpe and Maravanthe. Many rivers drain into the Arabian Sea forming estuaries. The State had submitted a Master Plan to check sea erosion at critical reaches at an outlay of Rs.575 crore, to the Centre to seek external funding.

Critical reaches are identified which require immediate protection comprise of 48.75 km. of sea wall, 19 km. of river bank protection and a total of 25 km. for reformation of damaged sea walls and river bank fortifications.

Considering the volume of damage caused by sea erosion, uprooting habitats and fishing hamlets all along the coast, it is observed the quantum of funds made available by the Centre is too inadequate.

I would urge the Central Water Commission to seek clearance of the Planning Commission on all projects mooted by the Karnataka Government on anti-sea erosion at the earliest.