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Title: Need to provide central assistance to the Government of Karnataka to check sea erosion in the coastal areas of the State.

SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL (DAKSHINA KANNADA): Sea erosion or coastal instability has been a huge problem in the coastal districts of Karnataka every year during the monsoon season. Erosion along the beaches near river mouths has been commonly noticed along Karnataka coast. Coastal erosion and submergence of land have been reported at Ankola, Bhatkal, Malpe, Mulur, Mangalore, Honnavar, Maravante, Ullal and Gokarn in Karnataka. About 60 km of beach (19% of the total length of shoreline) is affected by erosion. The problem is relatively more severe in Dakshina Kannada and Udupi coasts, where about 28% of the total stretch is critical. Coastal erosion threatens property, businesses and puts people living near cliffs and shorelines at risk. The unmitigated acceleration of developmental work has begun to show an increased impact along the Karnataka coastline. The two models used to tackle the problem so far, the gabion box model and the boulder model – have proved ineffective, although the same models have succeeded in neighbouring Kerala. According to the people living and working in the area, the sea has claimed, more than 2,000 metres over the past many years. The concerned Union Ministry should also work out the details of a compensation and resettlement package for those whose homes have been gobbled up by the sea. Adequate measures have to be taken for controlling sea erosion in the coastal areas of Karnataka. Therefore, I urge the Minister for Water Resources to provide Central assistance at the earliest to the State Government to enable them to undertake works related to anti-sea erosion.