

an>

Title: Need to conceive a master plan for the socio-economic development of fishermen and under-privileged people living in the coastal area of Tamil Nadu .

SHRI R.K. BHARATHI MOHAN (MAYILADUTHURAI) : The length of Tamil Nadu coastline is 1100 kms. In addition to Ports and harbours, desalination plants and thermal power plants etc are situated in the coastline. The seasonal circulation in the Bay of Bengal influences currents in the coastal water off Tamil Nadu.

The major portion of Cauvery delta shoreline exists in my Mayiladuthurai parliamentary constituency. The length of shoreline available in my constituency is 63 kms. As many as 11 rivers merge into Bay of Bengal in the region. The historical towns of Poompuhar and Tranquobar are existing in the coastal area. The coastline of Poompuhar has been declared as an erosional coast by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. In Poompuhar severe erosion (to the extent of 75m) was observed during October 2014.

It is very essential to understand the extent of erosion and accretion to conceive a master plan for the socio-economic development of lakhs of fishermen and under-privileged people living in the area and proper coastal zone management to utilize the coastal area optimally. Further funds may be allotted liberally for the developmental schemes.