

an>

Title: Need to construct tide-breakers along the Coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI GOKARAJU GANGA RAJU (NARSAPURAM): The Andhra Pradesh state has the second longest coastline of 972 km among all the states of India and my constituency Narasapuram is in one of the coastal districts in West Godavari in Andhra Pradesh. Many habitations have come up across the coastline about decades back. Every year the sea is taking away agricultural land, coconut trees *are* being uprooted due to soil erosion on the coast and many villages are being washed away regularly by surging sea waves. Many families have lost their livelihood due to the nature's fury. If there is a major cyclone or calamity, the loss will be severe. People are living under constant fear. Soil erosion has damaged cashew, coconut, casuarinas, pulses and other commercial crops in thousands of acres. In just one year, about 10 acres of patta land got washed away into sea in a village. Every day, along the seashore, a part of the land slides down due to high tides, which is creating panic among locals. The fishermen across the coastline are panic-struck.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to understand the seriousness of soil erosion across the coastline in Andhra Pradesh especially in West Godavari, East Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts and find a permanent solution to the problem in order to save the villages and valuable soil by constructing high-tide breakers.