

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1486
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.12.2018

Impact of cyclone 'Gaja' on Point Calimere Bird Sanctuary, Nagapattinam

1486. SHRI ANAND SHARMA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Cyclone 'Gaja' in Tamil Nadu has badly damaged Point Calimere Bird Sanctuary at Nagapattinam district, killing thousands of birds and wildlife besides affecting flora and fauna;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any study has been conducted to assess the extent of damage to the sanctuary, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) measures proposed by Government to repair the damage to the coastal sanctuary?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) and (b) As informed by the State Government of Tamil Nadu, 'GAJA' Cyclone had a huge impact in the Vedaranyam area, where Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary exists. The infrastructure of the Wildlife Sanctuary suffered the most with the Interpretation Centres, Forest Guest houses, Entry Gate, Compound walls etc. badly damaged.

As far as flora and fauna is concerned, the impact of the cyclone was marginal. State Government has recorded death of 710 birds from the Vedaranyam area. Further, 26 animal deaths have also been recorded in the aftermath of the cyclone. Details of the animal death are given below:

S.No.	Name of the dead animal	Nos.
1.	Black buck	21
2.	Spotted Deer	1
3.	Wild boar	4
	Total	26

- (c) Yes, Sir. The State Government has conducted study to assess the extent of damage to the sanctuary. Details are given in the **Annexure I**.
- (d) As informed by the State Government, following measures are proposed to be taken:
- Rehabilitation works for infrastructure in the Sanctuary.
 - Rehabilitation works for vegetation in the Sanctuary.

ANNEXURE
NAGAPATTINAM DIVISION

(Rs.in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Range	Name of Building	Year of Construction	Present usage	Details of damages	Amount required for renovation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1)	Vedharanyam	Ramarpatham steps and Safety wall	2006	Mythological place and important for eco-tourism	Steps damaged and No protection around the main sanctum	5.00
2)	Vedharanyam	Ramarpadham watch tower	2006	Crucial Watch Tower to mitigate Poaching Activities in Sanctuary	Major Part of Watch Tower is damaged	5.00
3)	Vedharanyam	MPCA Entry Gate near Ramarpadam	2006	Entry gate for Small Eco-trial of Medicinal Plants	The Entry gate is completely damaged	1.00
4)	Vedharanyam	Muniappan lake watch tower	1920	Crucial Watch Tower to observe Animal Movement and doing Anti-Poaching Activities	The Watch Tower had completely collapsed in Cyclone. Urgent need to build a new one	20.00
5)	Vedharanyam	Muniappan lake foot path maintenance	1920	This foot path leads to the Watch Tower used for Animal movement and Bird Watching	The foot path is completely damaged	10.00
6)	Vedharanyam	Forest Guard & Forest Watcher combined quarter at Kodiakadu -2Nos.	1969	Only Accommodation available to field staff in Vedaranyam	Walls, Roof, Flooring, windows, Doors, Bathrooms are completely damaged. Must be restored	10.00
7)	Vedharanyam	Kodiakadu Forester Quarters	1969	No other alternate residence available for staff	Walls, Roof, Flooring, windows, Doors, Bathrooms are completely damaged. Must be restored	10.00
8)	Vedharanyam	Kodiakadu Forester Quarters Campus within Compound Wall	1969	No other alternate residence available for staff in Vedaranyam	Most of the campus landscaping has been destroyed. Pathways and Syntax Water Storage Tanks have been destroyed.	20.00
9)	Vedharanyam	Kodiakadu Forest Guard and Forest Watcher Quarters area compound wall	1969	No other alternate residence available for staff	The Compound wall has broken down. The Gates of the compound wall are damaged beyond repair.	8.00

st. No.	Range	Name of Building	Year of Construction	Present usage	Details of damages	Amount required for renovation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10)	Vedharanyam	Thainbusainy I Ham (Guest House) Suite- I	1920	Heritage Structure built in 1920s. Only Accommodation available for visiting Senior Officers	Walls, Roof, Flooring, windows, Doors, Bathrooms are completely damaged. Ceiling has been completely damaged	10.00
11)	Vedharanyam	Thambusamy Illaln (Guest House) Suit-2	1920	Heritage Structure built in 1920s. Only Accommodation available for visiting Senior Officers	Walls, Roof, Flooring, windows, Doors, Bathrooms are completely damaged. Ceiling has been completely damaged	10.00
12)	Vedharanyam	Tlaarnbusamy Illam (Guest House) sitting area and landscaping	1920	Heritage Structure built in 1920s. Only Accommodation available for visiting Senior Officers	All the setout areas are completely damaged. Entire Landscaping of the garden outside the rest house is in Ruins	20.00
13)	Vedharanyam	Thambusainy Illam (Guest House) driver/staff quarters - 2Nos.	1920	No other alternate residence available for staff	Walls, Roof, Flooring, windows, Doors, Bathrooms are completely damaged. Must be restored	10.00
14)	Vedharanyam	Thainbusamy I Ham (Guest House) Equipments and Furniture	1920	Heritage Structure built in 1920s. Only Accommodation available for visiting Senior Officers	Most of the Equipment including Fans, TVs, AC, Bed, Mattress, Dining Table, Cutleryetc have been damaged beyond Repair.	8.00
15)	Vedharanyam	Blackbuck Guest house - Compound Wall	2000	Only accommodation available in Point Calimere for visiting Faculty, Tourists, Study Groups, Researchers etc	The Compound wall of the Guest House has fallen due to tree collapse. Must be restored	6.00
16)	Vedharanyam	Blackbuck Guest house - Windows and Doors - 15 Rooms	2000	Only accommodation available in Point Calimere for visiting Faculty, Tourists, Study Groups, Researchers etc	Most of the Windows and Doors of the Rest House have been damaged beyond Repairs. Must be restored	10.00
17)	Vedharanyam	Blackbuck Guest house - Bedding and Mattresses - 15 Rooms	2000	Only accommodation available in Point Calimere for visiting Faculty, Tourists, Study Groups, Researchers etc	Most of the Beds are broken and Mattresses have water seepages and completely unusable. These are very old and must be replaced immediately	8.00

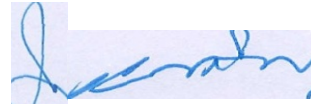
S1. No.	Range	Name of Building	Year of Construction	Present usage	Details of damages	Amount required for renovation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18)	Vedharanyam	Blackbuck guest house - Maintenance of Roof, Ceiling, Electrical equipments, Bathrooms etc	2000	Only accommodation available in Point Calimere for visiting Faculty, Tourists, Study Groups, Researchers etc	Roof, Ceiling, Electrical equipments, Bathrooms etc have partial to complete damage due to cyclone. Overall maintenance of Guest house is absolute necessity	10.00
19)	Vedharanyam	New flamingo guest House Maintenance - 4 Rooms	2000	Only accommodation available in Point Calimere for visiting Faculty, Tourists, Study Groups, Researchers etc	Electrical Equipment, Doors, windows, Furniture etc are damaged.	8.00
20)	Vedharanyam	Interpretation Centre at Point Calimere Sanctuary	2005	This interpretation Centre houses various details about the Rich Biodiversity of Point Calimere Sanctuary	Roof, Infrastructure, Doors, walls, windows etc have been completely damaged	4.00
21)	Vedharanyam	MPCA meeting hall maintenance	2006	This is only conference hall within the Sanctuary which can house 50-60 people for meetings. Visiting Students, Research teams, Visitors use this hall for meetings, presentations, conferences etc	Roof, Infrastructure, Doors, walls, windows etc have been completely damaged	10.00
22)	Vedharanyam	Forest Range Officer Quarters maintenance	2013	Only Accommodation available for FRO, Vedaranyam	Walls, Roof, Flooring, windows, Doors, Bathrooms are completely damaged. Ceiling has been completely damaged	3.00
23)	Vedharanyam	Maintenance of Foresters Quarters at Kodiakarai	1969	No other alternate residence available for staff	Walls, Roof, Flooring, windows, Doors, Bathrooms are completely damaged. Must be restored	2.00
24)	Vedharanyam	Maintenance of Forest Guard Quarters at Kodiakarai (2 Nos.)	1969	No other alternate residence available for staff	Walls, Roof, Flooring, windows, Doors, Bathrooms are completely damaged. Must be restored	2.00

Sl. No.	Range	Name of Building	Year of Construction	Present usage	Details of damages	Amount required for renovation
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25)	Nagapattinair	Forest Range Officer Quarters, Nagapattinam inaintenance	2011	Only Accommodation available for FRO, Nagapattinam	Walls, Roof, Flooring, windows, Doors, Bathrooms are completely damaged. Ceiling has been completely damaged	8.00
26)	Nagapattinain	Maintenance of Foresters Quarters at Nagapattinaln	2011	No other alternate residence available for staff	Walls, Roof, Flooring, windows, Doors, Bathrooms are completely damaged. Must be restored	5.00
27)	Sirkhazhi	Maintenance of Forest Guard Quarters at Sirkhazhi (2Nos.)	2006	No other alternate residence available for staff	Walls, Roof, Flooring, windows, Doors, Bathrooms are completely damaged. Must be restored	5.00
28)	Sirkhazhi	Maintenance of Forest Range Office, Sirkhazhi	2006	FRO, Sirkhazhi Office	Walls, Roof, Flooring, windows, Doors, Bathrooms are completely damaged. Must be restored	5.00
29)	Vedharanyam	Black buck rest house water facilities	2000	Only accommodation available in Point Calimere for visiting Faculty, Tourists, Study Groups, Researchers etc	The water pipeline system in the rest house is completely damaged and needs to be replaced	2.00
30)	Vedharanyam	Over Head Tank in Adhivasi colony for Water Supply during Dry season	2011	Water is pumped into the Water Troughs of Sanctuary using this Over Head Tank during Dry Seasons. Highly essential Tank for water Supply in Summers	The existing OHT is already in unstable condition before cyclone. The tank is completely unusable for water storage and pumping after the cyclone due to severe damage to the structure	25.00
31)	Vedharanyam	Maintenance of sanctuary area compound wall	2011	Compound Wall is the demarcation between the Sanctuary and outside area	The compound wall suffered damages at various parts	20.00
32)	Vedharanyam Nagapattinain	Sanctuary area Signage and information board (75 boards)	2011	Signage and Information boards are necessary for the visitor's information and promotion of the Sanctuary	90% of the Signages and Information boards have collapsed due to very high intensity winds	20.00

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33)	Vedharanyam	No.3 Gate ticket counter maintenance	2012	For Visiting Public with small information boards	Doors, Windows, Computer, Furniture etc has been damaged	5.00
34)	Vedharanyam	Near No.3 gate incomplete building (anti-poaching house) construction	2012	Highly essential for the stationed staff in the Sanctuary	The building was left incomplete due to lack of funding and parts of it is damaged in the cyclone	20.00
35)	Vedharanyam	Maintenance of interpretation centre at No.3 gate	2005	This interpretation Centre houses various details about the Rich Biodiversity of Point Calimere Sanctuary	Doors, windows, furniture etc damaged	2.00
36)	Vedharanyam	Maintenance of Eco shop centre at No.3 gate	2005	Eco-Shop to sell Souvenirs and other items	Doors, windows, furniture etc damaged	1.00
37)	Vedharanyam	Maintenance of entrance arch at sanctuary	2003	Entrance Arch	Damages and Maintenance works	1.00
38)	Vedharanyam	Maintenance of sanctuary road from No.3 Gate to Chozha light house	2003	This is the only motorable earthen road as of now within the sanctuary for Eco-Tourism and Anti-Poaching Activities. The road is also used to provide water to wildlife through tankers during dry seasons	1. Desilting of side drain	2.00
					2. filling of pot holes	20.00
					3. Cause ways and Irish bridges repair works	20.00
					4. Side wall repair works	6.00
39)	Vedharanyam	Old chozha light house maintenance	2003	Heritage structure and landmark of Sanctuary	Damages and Maintenance works	3.00
40)	Vedharanyam	Maintenance of beach watch tower	2006	Crucial Watch Tower to observe Animal Movement and doing Anti-Poaching Activities	Damages and Maintenance works	1.00
41)	Vedharanyam	Maintenance of managed watch tower	2006	Crucial Watch Tower to observe Animal Movement and doing Anti-Poaching Activities	Damages and Maintenance works	3.00
42)	Vedharanyam	Tobacco well near Adhivasi colony maintenance - motor, motor shed and compound wall repair etc	2011	Water is pumped into the Water Troughs of Sanctuary from these wells during Dry Seasons. Highly essential Tank for water Supply in Summers	Pipeline system, Motor shed, Motors, well system etc have been completed damaged	20.00

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43)	Vedharanyam	MGR Nagar committee hall maintenance	2011	Meeting hall for conducting EDC Meetings	Roof, Doors, Windows etc Damaged	1.50
44)	Vedharanyam	Mettu street committee hall maintenance	2011	Meeting hall for conducting EDC Meetings	Roof, Doors, Windows etc Damaged	2.00
45)	Vedharanyam	Anna Nagar committee hall maintenance	2011	Meeting hall for conducting EDC Meetings	Roof, Doors, Windows etc Damaged	1.50
46)	Vedharanyam Nagapattinam Sirkhazhi	Olive Ridley Turtle egg hatching centre (8 Nos.)	2011	Temporary hatchery for olive ridley conservation	Temporary hatcheries have been completely wiped off during cyclone	4.00
47)	Vedharanyam	Maintenance of library hall at Aarkattuthurai	2011	Meeting hall for conducting EDC Meetings	Roof, Doors, Windows Damaged	1.00
48)	Vedharanyam	Maintenance of committee hall at Kovilthavu	2011	Meeting hall for conducting EDC Meetings	Roof, Doors, Windows Damaged	2.00
49)	Vedharanyam	Vehicle maintenance EDMC, SML van		Used for Eco-Tourism Purpose	Vehicle damaged	0.75
50)	Vedharanyam	Vehicle maintenance of EDC van		Used for Eco-Tourism Purpose	Vehicle damaged	1.00
51)	Vedharanyam	Maintenance committee hall (FDA) at Kodiakadu	1969	Meeting hall for conducting EDC Meetings	Roof, Doors, Windows Damaged	4.00
52)	Vedharanyam	Camera trap (10 Nos.)		No camera traps available as of now with the division	Essential for tracking the animal movement	5.00
53)	Vedharanyam	Solar panel, inverter and battery for black buck rest house		No inverter, battery etc are available as of now	Essential for the guest house	5.00
54)	Vedharanyam	Generator for blackbuck rest house	2000	No Generator available for rest house as of now	Essential for the guest house	3.00
55)	Nagapattinam	Maintenance of Wildlife Warden Office	2013	Wildlife Warden Office	Gates, Windows, Doors, Outside Garden Area etc have been damaged partially to fully. Furniture also was damaged.	5.00

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56)	Nagapattinam	Maintenance of Wildlife Warden Camp Office	2013	Wildlife Warden Camp Office	Gates, Windows, Doors, Outside Garden Area etc have been damaged partially to fully. Furniture also was damaged.	8.00
57)	Nagapattinam	Maintenance of Forest Range office, Nagapattinam	2013	FRO, Nagapattinam Office	Gates, Windows, Doors, Outside Garden Area etc have been damaged partially to fully. Furniture also was damaged.	5.00
58)	Sirkhazhi	Maintenance of Forest Range office, Sirkhazhi	2013	FRO, Sirkhazhi Office	Gates, Windows, Doors, Outside Garden Area etc have been damaged partially to fully. Furniture also was damaged.	5.00
59)	Vedharanyam Nagapattinam Sirkhazhi	Generators for Range offices and WLW office		No Generator available for rest house as of now	Essential for the guest house	3.00
60)	Vedharanyam Nagapattinam Sirkhazhi	Clearing Works of Debris		Debris in various Places	Clearing debris is immediate requirements	5.00
Total Cost						465.75



for Principal Chief Conservator of
Forests & Chief Wildlife
Warden

