GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 827 ANSWERED ON 27/07/2023

EROSION OF COASTLINE IN VISAKHAPATNAM

827. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which Government looks at the nearly 30 per cent erosion of coastline in Visakhapatnam as per experts;
- (b) the manner in which Government is planning continuous nourishment of beaches in the country, particularly Visakhapatnam and other beaches in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) the reply of the Government to experts' view that if adequate precautions are not taken, after 50 years, RK Beach in Visakhapatnam could be like Marine Drive of Mumbai?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

- (a) The study conducted by National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) an attached office of Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), reveals that 19% of the coastline of Visakhapatnam district is vulnerable to erosion, 43% is under accretion (growing) and remaining 38% is in stable state. For Visakhapatnam city, 22% coast is vulnerable to erosion.
- (b) NCCR has successfully demonstrated the innovative erosion mitigation measures in restoration and coastal protection at Puducherry and Chellanam in Kerala. Similarly, the technical support has been extended to coastal states including Andhra Pradesh in design of coastal protection measures at vulnerable stretches and preparation of Shoreline Management Plans.
- (c) The beach nourishment with sand dredged from ports of Visakhapatnam and Gangavaram should be continued to avoid further erosion at the RK beach and a comprehensive shore protection plan to be drawn to protect the coast.
