GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 589 ANSWERED ON 04/12/2025

COASTLINE OF THE COUNTRY

589 SHRI GOLLA BABURAO:

Will the Minister of Earth Sciences be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which India has added more than 3,500 kms of coastline to the existing figure;
- (b) the manner in which the coastline of Andhra Pradesh has become third from the second position after Gujarat;
- (c) the administrative, developmental and security implications of change; and
- (d) whether the new coastline would impact the areas covered under CRZ rules and if so, how Government is going to address the same?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

(a)& (b) Sir, length of India's coastline of 7516.6 km has been re-assessed to 11098.81 km by National Hydrographic Office (NHO) in coordination with Survey of India (SoI) as per the latest terms of references provided by National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS). The updated measurements were carried out using modern GIS software and high-resolution data of High-Water Line (HWL) based on latest surveys thereby capturing more intricate details. Coastal Protection and Development Advisory Committee (CPDAC) accepted the revised coastline length of India after obtaining concurrence from all coastal States/UTs. Based on the report published by Survey of India, the revised length of coastline was promulgated by Ministry of Ports Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) circular dated 29th April 2025. Accordingly, the state wise length of the coastline of India has changed and the details have been given in the table below. In view of the revision of the length of coastline across the country, the length of Andhra Pradesh's coastline has become third in position.

State / UT	Old Coastline (km)	Revised Coastline (km)
Gujarat	1,214.70	2,340.62
Tamil Nadu	906.9	1,068.69
Andhra Pradesh	973.7	1,053.07
Maharashtra	652.6	877.97

West Bengal	157.5	721.02
Kerala	569.7	600.15
Odisha	476.4	574.71
Karnataka	280	343.3
Goa	160.50	193.95
Daman & Diu	100.30	54.38
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1,962.00	3,083.50
Lakshadweep	132	144.8
Puducherry	30.60	42.65
Total (India)	7,516.6	11,098.81

- (c) The updated coastline supports better planning for developmental activities such as ports, infrastructure, tourism zones, and disaster-risk assessments, enabling governments to prepare more effectively for cyclones, erosion, flooding etc. Improved baseline data supports India's maritime in improved management of territorial waters and EEZ boundaries, and enhances the security.
- (d) No Sir. The revised coastline length of 11,098.81 km does not affect areas covered under the CRZ regulations, as CRZ boundaries are determined solely on the basis of the actual High Tide Line (HTL) demarcated by the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai, under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF & CC). The HTL mapping was carried out using very high-resolution digital aerial photographs from the Survey of India, captured at a much finer scale and subsequently validated through detailed ground verification. Therefore, the updated coastline measurement has no bearing on CRZ jurisdiction or its regulatory framework.
