

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2134
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2026

Receding of sea in Surat

2134. SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of incident of sudden receding of the sea (Dry Sea Shore) in the coastal area of Surat, Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any study has been conducted regarding tides, climate change or other natural causes in this regard;
- (d) whether the said incident has had any adverse impact on local residents, fisheries, marine biodiversity and the coastal environment; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the preventive measures and public awareness initiatives undertaken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (c): The Government of Gujarat has confirmed the incident of sudden receding of the sea (Dry Sea Shore) along the coastal area of Surat, Gujarat. As informed by the State Government, the incident is generally attributed to natural tidal variations. The funnel shaped Gulf of Khambhat experiences a high tidal range, and gently sloping and shallow coastline of Surat may lead to significant seaward recession of the shoreline during low-tide conditions, exposing mudflats and sandbanks.

The Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad has informed that it is involved in the study on estimation of mudflat topography using satellite imagery and modelling the inundation and exposure of tidal mudflats during high and low tides, respectively. These studies simulate the natural recession of the sea under low-tidal conditions.

(d) and (e): As informed by the Department of Fisheries, Government of India, no study report has been received indicating any adverse impact of the incident on local residents, fisheries, marine biodiversity or the coastal environment. However, the Department of Fisheries, in coordination with State Governments and concerned environmental agencies, has undertaken measures to strengthen coastal resilience. Under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana, implemented since 2020-21 with an outlay of ₹20,050 crore, support is provided for disaster-resilient infrastructure, ecosystem restoration and sustainable fishing practices. Various departmental schemes also provide support for climate-resilient livelihood activities, including aquaculture and mariculture of seaweed, food and ornamental fishes, bivalves and other species.
