

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1192
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2017

Impact of Climate Change

1192. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

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

- (a) whether the Climate Change has any adverse impact on low lying coastal regions in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has identified the regions, districts in the country that are vulnerable to ill effects of Climate Change; and
- (d) if so, the State-wise details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) As per the Fifth Assessment Report of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the global mean sea level has risen by 0.19 m over the period 1901-2010. In India, the sea level rise and increase in extreme weather events due to climate change may increase flooding, submergence, ingress of saline water in low lying coastal areas.

(c) & (d) Earth System Science Organization has carried out mapping and demarcation of multi-hazard coastal vulnerability. The Gulfs of Kambhat and Kachchh in Gujarat show very high vulnerability indices, with the inlets of Kachchh showing localized vulnerability. Relatively low vulnerability indices are reported along the zones of mangroves that help in breaking the large amplitude waves, dissipating the energy and hence act as a natural barrier.

Thirty two States and Union Territories have prepared State Action Plan on Climate Change to prioritise state specific issues relating to climate change including on coastal areas.

Further, the Government has carried out a detailed mapping of high tide line, environmentally sensitive areas, critically vulnerable coastal areas, sediment cells and hazard line for all the coastal stretches in the country taking into account shoreline changes and impact of climate change on sea level rise. All the States have been requested to formulate coastal zone management plans with the objective of sustainable development of these areas including measures required for adaptation against impacts of climate change.
