

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTIONNO. 4082
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.01.2019

Biodiversity Rich Islands

4082. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY

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

- (a) whether biodiversity rich islands which are part of Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands are on the verge of disappearance due to coastal erosion;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the casualties and biodiversity losses during the last three years and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the area on the coastline that is subjected to any form of coastal erosion; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to deal with coastal erosion and preserve biodiversity losses?

ANSWER

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

(a)to(d) Few biodiversity rich Islands of Lakshadweep are vulnerable to coastal erosion. However, the Andaman group of Islands are relatively stable and not under threat of coastal erosion.

There have been no casualties owing to coastal erosion. However, biodiversity losses in the form of sea grass meadows, coastal shrubs, coral reefs etc. have been observed in inhabited Islands of Agatti, Kavaratti, Bangaram, Kalpeni, Kadamat, Chetlat and Minicoy during the last three years. No biodiversity losses have been reported due to coastal erosion in the Andaman Islands.

The Lakshadweep Administration has taken several measures for erosion prevention and protection of shoreline by installation of Tripods /Tetrapods etc. Seawalls of varying heights have also been constructed in Kavaratti, Andrott, Amini, Kadamat and Minicoy islands. In the Andaman Islands, seawalls have been constructed in Port Blair to protect the shoreline from coastal erosion.
