

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 772
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2021

High Risk Flood Areas

772. SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI:

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

- (a) whether the Indian cities along coastal areas are at high risks flood zone due to faster rising sea levels;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has made any survey/ report in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

(a) and (b) According to the information received from the Ministry of Earth Sciences, sea level rise is a slow phenomenon and varies globally depending on local site factors. Recent studies by Indian scientists find that the trend in sea level rise is about 1.3mm/year along the Indian coasts during the last 40-50 years.

(c) and (d) A wide range of coastal vulnerability maps on different spatial scales have been generated for the entire coast of India by various agencies primarily for providing forewarning of various ocean hazards viz., tsunami, cyclone-related storm surges. An atlas on Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI) on a 1:1,00,000 scale has been prepared for the entire Indian coast. On a pilot scale, 3-Dimensional Geographical Information System (3D GIS) maps for the coastal stretch between Cuddalore and Nagapattinam have been completed in association with industry partners. A set of shoreline change maps have been prepared for the entire country on a 1:25000 scale to assess the erosion and sediment deposition rates. A National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM) has been established by MoEFCC in Chennai to promote research and development in the area of coastal management including demarcation of hazard line for mapping the entire coastline of mainland India.

(e) The Government has taken a number of initiatives to protect India's coastal areas and coastal communities, which include:

- (i) Under the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) project of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the 'Erosion line' is projected to the next 100 years based on the annual rate of erosion computed from high-resolution aerial photographs and satellite images and has been delineated over the entire coastline.
- (ii) Regulatory measures like the issuance of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification 2019 and the Island Protection Zone Notification 2019 to regulate high impact activities on the coast and in maintaining coastal sustainability.
- (iii) Formulation of the National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP).
- (iv) ICZM Project also includes the development of the Shoreline Management Plans by the State Governments for five coastal stretches namely, Gulf of Kachchh (Gujarat), Gopalpur to Chilika (Odisha), Paradip to Dhamra (Odisha), Digha to Sankarpur (West Bengal) and Sagar Island (West Bengal).
- (v) National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai has implemented two demonstration shore protection projects in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry for beach restoration.
- (vi) The Government has also initiated a project co-funded by the Global Climate Fund (GCF) across the States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Odisha on enhancing the climate resilience of India's coastal communities in these States.
