

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5647
ANSWERED ON 27.03.2026

SEA EROSION IN COASTAL AREAS

5647. SHRI ROBERT BRUCE C:

Will the Minister of PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS be pleased to state:

पत्तन,पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) the details and status of sea erosion in the coastal parts of Tirunelveli District of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to combat the said issue, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a) to (c) National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) under Ministry of Earth Sciences(MoES),has been undertaking periodic, pan-India shoreline mappingonce every 2-3 years using multi-decadal satellite data and field validation. As per shoreline changes assessment (1990-2022)of NCCR,about 39.23% of Tamil Nadu coastline is under erosion. District-wise erosion details including Tirunelveli are available at annexure-I.

Ministry of Earth Sciences has informed that as per the request of Tamil Nadu government, NCCR has recently undertaken a study on climate change adaptation through eco-friendly solutions for rehabilitation of coastal habitat along Tamil Nadu coast. It has also prepared a Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) for the entire Tamil Nadu coast considering coastal processes, geomorphology, infrastructure, and socio-economic factors.

These reports have been submitted to the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Tamil Nadu for appropriate action and integration into coastal zone management and planning frameworks as per requirement.

District-wise details of erosion along Tamil Nadu coast over the period 1990-2022

District name	Coastal length (km) *	Erosion	
		Km *	%
Tirunelveli	49.7	7.5	15.1
Tiruvallur	39.66	7.74	19.5
Chennai	43.94	17.64	40.1
Chengalpattu	73.58	49.42	67.2
Villupuram	33.6	18.96	56.4
Cuddalore	41.32	19.54	47.3
Mayiladuthurai	48.88	34.7	71.0
Nagapattinam	81.52	29.88	36.7
Thiruvarur	22.14	11.92	53.8
Thanjavur	43.42	14.22	32.7
Pudukkottai	43.28	15.28	35.3
Ramanathapuram	279.96	95.42	34.1
Thoothukudi	121.3	24.06	19.8
Kanniyakumari	69.18	42.68	61.7
Overall	991.48	388.96	39.2

*The length represents the coastal lengths for analysis purpose only
