GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.460 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.12.2015

Restrictions in Coastal Regulation Zone

460. PROF. SAUGATA ROY:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to relax the existing restriction in the Coastal Regulation Zone;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has launched any pilot project to protect the bio-diversity conservation through the involvement of various stakeholders including general public and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the visions of the National Biodiversity Authority for the bio-diversity conservation in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) The Ministry has received representations from the coastal states for amendments in the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011. A committee headed by Shri Shailesh Naik, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences was constituted to examine and suggest amendments in the said Notification. The committee has recommended certain amendments therein.

(c) & (d) To meet the challenges of biodiversity conservation, the Ministry has taken certain steps with the involvement of various stakeholders, which *inter-alia* include, survey and inventorization of flora and fauna, assessment of forest cover, establishment of Protected Area network, conservation and community reserves, species oriented programmes etc.

The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 aims at conserving biological resources in the country and regulation of access to ensure equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their use. The National Biodiversity Authority and State Biodiversity Boards have been set up for implementing provisions of the Act.