

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4495
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6th May, 2010

SUBMERGING OF AN INDIAN ISLAND

4495. SHRI RAJ KUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that an island habituating 4000 persons near Sunderban in West Bengal submerged in sea;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of Indian islands submerged during last 20 years and details of islands prone to submerge in near future; and
- (d) the steps being taken to rehabilitate habitants and transfer of flora and fauna of the islands likely to submerge in near future?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES,
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF
STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

- (a) – (c) In last 20-years three islands, namely, Lohachara, Suparibhanga and New Moore Island/South Talpatti Island of the Sundarbans have eroded and submerged due to dynamic deltaic subsidence and tidal conditions. The Lohachara island was the only inhabited island among these and was having an estimated population of 4000-6000 before it eroded completely.

Studies on shoreline changes around the Sundarbans delta using satellite images and topo sheets have indicated significant erosion of many islands viz. Ghoramara, Jambudwip, Frasergunj, Bulchery, Dalhousie, Bhangadhuni.

- (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.
