GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 997 TO BE ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020

COASTAL EROSION IN KERALA

997. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that according to an official study, India has witnessed 34 per cent coastal erosion which has led to the contamination of ground water, loss of livelihood and other related damages;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the damages in Kerala; and
- (c) whether Government has taken any measures to prevent coastal erosion and protecting the coastal ecosystem in Kerala, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

- (a) Yes Sir. According to study conducted by National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), about 33% of mainland coast of India is experiencing erosion with varying magnitude.
- (b) Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) through National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) has monitored the shoreline changes along the entire Indian Coast covering nine Coastal states and two Union Territories for the period of 1990-2016 using Remote Sensing techniques to check the status of coastal erosion, its extent and nature of erosion. NCCR has analysed the data which provided information about shoreline changes in terms of erosion and accretion. The 593 km long coastline of Kerala covering 9 coastal districts from Kasaragod in the north to Thiruvananthapuram in the south has been analyzed. The 9 data sets (1990, 2000, 2006, 2008, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016) were used in the analysis to estimate the cumulative erosion during 1990-2016. The study revealed that about 45% of the Kerala coast is under varying degrees of erosion. Erosion was very prominent in Kozhikkode (63%), Alappuzha (57%), Malappuram (49%), and Ernakulam (47%) districts.
- (c) Yes Sir. MoES through National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) and National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) has extended technical support in design of anti-sea erosion measures to Kerala State Coastal Area Development Corporation Limited (KSCADC) at locations like Poonthura, Valiyathura, Shangumughamand as well as to the Irrigation Department, Government of Kerala at other locations.
