

Regarding Need for construction of protective structure to control sea erosion along coastal areas of Mayiladuthurai in Tamil Nadu-Laid

KUMARI SUDHA R. (MAYILADUTHURAI): I like to draw attention of the Government to escalating threat of sea-level rise and erosion in the coastal areas of Pazhayar, Poompuhar, and Tharangambadi within Mayiladuthurai in Tamil Nadu. The recent study conducted by Centre for Climate Change and Disaster Management, Anna University projects a sea-level rise of up to 78 cm along Tamil Nadu's coast by 2100, with Mayiladuthurai being particularly vulnerable due to low-lying topography and river confluences. Poompuhar, an ancient Chola port city, has already seen significant shoreline changes, with parts submerged and ongoing undersea excavations highlighting the urgency. Tharangambadi, a former Danish colony and heritage site, has experienced persistent erosion, threatening its historical structures and local communities. Pazhayar and surrounding hamlets have been isolated by severe sea erosion, impacting fishermen and agriculture. Tamil Nadu's coastline faces three core dangers: sea erosion leading to land loss, saltwater intrusion degrading freshwater sources, and coastal flooding worsened by monsoons and high tides. Districts like Mayiladuthurai are among the most at risk, with potential erosion of thousands of hectares by 2050. To safeguard these areas, I urge the Government to sanction and implement protective structures such as sea walls, groynes etc. in line with established coastal management guidelines.