

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3747
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004
SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES UNDER CRZ
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

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

- (a) whether Coastal Regulatory Zone(CRZ) came in force in 1991 in order to protect most fragile eco-systems of India;
- (b) if so, whether the Government now proposes to allow non-polluting and service industries within the CRZ;
- (c) if so, whether environmentalists have urged the Government not to set up Special Economic Zones (SEZs) within CRZs thereby diluting the difference between inland industrial development and coastal development;
- (d) if so, the details of their other demands and the Government's reaction thereto; and
- (e) the steps taken to safeguard the beauty of Indian coasts?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The CRZ Notification, 1991 vide its amendment dated 21st May, 2002 already provides setting up of non polluting industries in the field of information technology and other service industries in the CRZ of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) .
- (c) Responses to the draft amendments dated 11th January, 2002 inviting suggestions/objections received from the public on the amendments contained therein, inter-alia included setting up of Special Economic Zones outside CRZ.
- (d) The draft amendments contained in the Notification dated 11th January, 2003 have been finalized vide Notification dated 21st May, 2002 after considering all the suggestions/objections.
- (e) The provisions of the CRZ Notification, 1991 as amended from time to time are enforced to safeguard the beauty of Indian Coasts.