

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3082  
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2004  
EXCLUSME RIGHTS BEYOND EEZ  
Bhakta Shri Manoranjan

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether India is likely to get exclusive rights to 1.5 million sq. km of seabed beyond its Exclusive Economic Zone;
- (b) if so, the time by when India would stake claim to the area under the provision of the UN convention on the Law of the Sea;
- (c) the details of the likely impact on the Andaman and Nicobar Islands by the said move; and
- (d) the details of the prolongation of land mass extending beyond the territorial sea in Andaman and Nicobar Islands?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHMED)

- a) The actual area of India's Continental Shelf would be known only after its claim for an extended Continental Shelf based on procedures laid down in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982 is examined by the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS), an expert body established by the Convention.
- b) India will present its claim for an extended Continental Shelf to the CLCS before the deadline stipulated for this purpose, i.e., 12 May 2009.
- c) & d) Does not arise.