

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1685

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2005

IMPACT OF TSUNAMI DISASTER

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

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the quantum of loss suffered by different sectors relating to Ministry of Environment & Forests in the country due to Tsunami Disaster;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the locations affected, State/Union Territory-wise;
- (c) if so, whether any expert committee has been constituted for the same;
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (e) the impact of Tsunami on each sector including minerals in sea bed, sea living organisms, flora and fauna etc. stating the extent of loss suffered by each one of them;
- (f) the details of rehabilitation package announced for the affected sectors of the Ministry;
- (g) the present position of Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Regulations alongwith steps taken to protect the CRZ by preventing constructions/encroachments there; and
- (h) the steps being taken to prevent recurrence of such incident?

**Answer**

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

- (a), (b), (c) and (d) Ministry of Environment & Forests has engaged 9 premier agencies to carry out a rapid assessment of the environmental damages caused by Tsunami based on time series satellite imageries. The rapid assessment study will be followed by detailed studies to accurately estimate the damages and for the preparation of rehabilitation and restoration programmes.
- (e) The interim report received from the institutions indicates that there have been damages to coral reefs, mangroves, coastal forests, beaches, and sand dunes. Studies also indicate salt water contamination in the drinking water wells in the coastal areas. The interim report however, does not provide the information regarding the extent of loss suffered by the minerals in the sea bed, living organism in the sea including the flora and fauna.
- (f) In view of replies to the above parts, Ministry of Environment and Forests has not announced any rehabilitation package.
- (g) & (h) In the wake of Tsunami all coastal States and Union Territories have been asked to ensure stricter enforcement of the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991.