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Title: Need to withdraw the draft Coastal Regulation Zone Notification 2010 keeping in view the welfare of the fishing communities of the country.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE): The right to livelihood of the fishing community and other coastal poor communities along with the coastal ecology and marine reserves had come under great threat following the Draft Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2010.

In the name of strengthening the CRZ Notification 1991 the draft actually aims to dilute it with heavy blow to the rights of livelihood of the traditional and artisan fishing people and poor coastal communities.

The CRZ Notification 1991 protected the various sensitive coastal eco-system and those which were declared as 'No Development Zone'. It also protected the fishing and allied fish workers settlements upto the distance of 500 metres. It conferred rights to livelihood to fishermen and fishermen community residing in the 'No Development Zone' along with the fishing related activities.

But the Draft CRZ 2010 aims to do away with earlier provisions leaving those people at the mercy of uncertainties. The new draft also aims to legalise already rejected CMZ Notifications of 2007 and 2008.

Due to CRZ Notification of 2010 lakhs of fishermen are facing acute problem particularly in Jadha, New Jaldha, Digha, Shankarpur, Junput and other areas of Pashim Medinipur district of West Bengal among others of the country.

I, therefore, urge upon the Hon'ble Minister of Environment and Forest to withdraw the Draft CRZ Notification 2010 entirely to save the poor fishing communities of the country.