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Title: Regarding building of groynes along the sea coast to protect villages facing the threat of submersion in the sea in Kanyakumari parliamentary constituency, Tamil Nadu.

SHRIMATI J. HELEN DAVIDSON (KANYAKUMARI): I would like to bring this to the knowledge of the Union Government that Kanyakumari District has a 71 km of coast line with more than 45 fishing hamlets and around 2.5 lakh fishermen population. As fishing is the main occupation of the fishermen community, they live along the sea shore since long. The coastal area of my constituency is touched by Bay of Bengal Sea, Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea. Most of the times, the villages along the Arabian Sea get affected because of sea erosion. Some villages are partially protected with groynes and some villages are protected partially by Rabble Mount Sea Wall (RMS wall). The villages properly provided with Groynes are saved from Sea Erosion, whereas the villages provided with RMS wall get affected because of sea erosion. The west coast area in my Kanyakumari constituency would be the worst hit area by sea erosion in the country. Among them Poothurai and Thoothoor villages are the worst affected ones. More than 100 houses were damaged and drowned in the Arabian Sea during 2011 and 2012 itself. The Government of Tamil Nadu has not provided any alternative housing to the homeless in Kanyakumari District. These coastal villages in Arabian Sea are coming under Thoothoor Village Panchayat, Munchirai Panchayat Union of Kanyakumari District. This calamity strikes these villages now and then, and gradually these villages will disappear from Indian Map. The people of Thoothoor and Poothurai villages are in fear of losing their belongings and their shelters on account of sea erosion.

I, therefore, request the Union Government to look into this matter seriously and make necessary arrangements for the protection of these villages by sanctioning Short Groynes in Poothurai and Thoothoor villages and other villages of sea affected area in my constituency. And also I request the Government to grant appropriate compensation and houses to the homeless and landless fishermen families.

As an initial step I request the Union Government to send a special team to study the damages in the coastal villages affected by sea erosion.