

Report of the Public Consultation with fisherfolks and community to strengthen Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991



March 2010

Facilitated by the Centre for Environment Education (CEE) for
The Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India

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Centre for Environment Education



Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests

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The Centre for Environment Education (CEE) is a national institution established in 1984, supported by the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India and associated with Nehru Foundation for Development. The main aim of CEE is to create environmental awareness among children, youth, decision makers and the general community. To achieve this, CEE develops innovative programmes and materials and field tests for their validity and effectiveness. The aim is to develop models that can be adapted to suit local conditions. CEE facilitates and implements its programmes through its Head office at Ahmedabad and 6 Regional Offices located in Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati, Lucknow, Ahmedabad and Pune.

Foreword

Coastal ecosystem is unique because land and water meet here to create a diverse array of habitats than any other ecosystems. Coral reefs, mangroves, tidal mudflats, wetlands, sea grass beds - each of these coastal habitats has a distinct structure, diversity providing specific goods and services to humankind. Coast is also one of the major hubs of economic activities. In India, planning developmental activities that do not disturb the livelihoods of more than 250 million coastal population and also protect the distinct coastal habitats opens up major challenges to planners and decision makers.

Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India has brought out guidelines and notifications on coastal zone planning from time to time with the objective of pursuing sustainable development in the coastline. Today, the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991, issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 continues to regulate all developmental activities in coastal areas. There have been around 25 amendments to this notification so far in the course of almost two decades. Recognizing the need for strengthening the CRZ, 91 notification, Shri Jairam Ramesh, Minister of State for Environment and Forests has sought public opinion and view points in this regard through consultations. Appreciating this initiative, fishers and other coastal communities have given important viewpoints and suggestions for strengthening the notification in 10 consultations covering 9 coastal states and one Union Territory.

This is the report of 10 public consultations facilitated by the Centre for Environment Education (CEE) held between August 2009 and February 2010. This report compiled by CEE has attempted to capture the view points of fishers and other coastal communities. The opinions and view points presented here are solely those of the participants. It does not represent any view points of CEE or endorse / criticize / influence any of the view points / comments/ suggestions made in the course of consultation process.

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1 Executive Summary

Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991, issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, brought out by the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India continues to regulate all developmental activities in coastal areas today. It has been nearly two decades now and there has been 25 amendments over this period. Recognizing the need for strengthening the CRZ, 91 notification, Minister of State for Environment and Forests Shri Jairam Ramesh, has sought public opinion and view points in this regard through consultations.

Commissioned by MoEF, Centre for Environment Education (CEE) facilitated public consultations at 10 locations covering 9 coastal states and one Union Territory. CEE brought out the ‘Final Frontier’, the report of the expert committee on the draft Coastal Management Zone (CMZ) Notification, in 9 coastal languages and also in Hindi, along with a booklet on salient features of the recommendations. This was done to enhance awareness on the recommendations of the expert committee constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, and improve the quality of responses for strengthening CRZ 1991. CEE widely publicized the consultations through various fisher networks, federations, websites and newspapers.

10 consultations were organized between August 2009 and February 2010. The first five consultations held in Mumbai, Chennai, Goa, Puri and Cochin were chaired by Shri Jairam Ramesh, Minister of State for Environment and Forests. The next five were held in Pondicherry, Vijayawada, Kakdwip, Rajkot and Mangalore for the coastal communities of Pondicherry, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Gujarat and Karnataka respectively. Appreciating this initiative of the Minister, over 4500 fishers and other coastal communities attended these consultations. The first 5 consultations chaired by the Minister registered around 3500 participants. Around 85% of the respondents belonged to fishers and other coastal communities – young and old; men and women – and contributed to the proceedings of 10 consultations. The rest represented CBOs, Panchayat members and local leaders, NGOs, tour operators, academicians, professionals, government officials – all working in coastal areas / coastal issues. There were representatives from the commercial establishments too. Around 18% of the participants were women.

CEE has attempted to capture all the view points and suggestions of fishers and other coastal communities voiced during 10 consultations for strengthening the CRZ notification 1991. A summary of the responses presented below conveys the major view points and suggestions of fishers and other coastal communities which are expressed out of their concerns. Written responses, petitions, documents received during consultations and audio-video recordings of the proceedings which reflect these view points are being submitted separately.

Summary of suggestions and view points

On the whole, coastal communities, fishers in particular, appreciated the decision of MoEF to allow the draft CMZ Notification, 2008 to lapse and to reintroduce CRZ1991 with improvements. All agree that sustainable development of coastal areas is important. However, they have reinforced their views that protection of coastal ecology, and basic rights and livelihood of fishers should be central to coastal zone planning. Participants have stressed that the actual drafting process of improved CRZ notification should ensure the involvement of representatives from fisher communities for achieving the desired outcome. Summary of the view points is presented here.

1. All participants have strongly expressed their views to consider CRZ 1991 **without the amendments** as the base document to further strengthen the CRZ.
2. Instead of notification, Act on CRZ will help putting a stop to frequent amendments. However, in the absence of an 'Act', a clause must be introduced in the existing CRZ 91 notification so that any amendment to CRZ can only be done through public consultation process with the local fishers and other coastal communities. Notification and other policy documents related to coastal regulation should be made available in coastal state languages.
3. Majority are of the view that the strengthening CRZ notification alone will not yield the desired results unless it is complimented with strict enforcement and monitoring. Current issues, violations in particular, in coastal areas are largely the outcome of ineffective and weak implementation of CRZ 91, fishers feel.
4. Nearly all have stated that stringent punishment need to initiated for all CRZ violations. Structure and mechanisms for monitoring such violations, nature of punishments including criminal proceedings and compensation packages should be detailed out. Tighter standards for the disposal of effluents into coastal water should be introduced so that the coastal water does not become cheaper alternative to inland pollution management. Similarly there should be provision in the CRZ to monitor oil spills, ballast water from ships on the sea ward side.
5. Fishing communities feel it necessary to recognize the important role of the local administration along with the active participation of coastal communities in the implementation of CRZ; for instance in coastal mapping, in the preparation of coastal zone management plans, monitoring of violations, coastal conservation and risk reduction activities. Their functions should be well defined in CRZ. Capacity building at all levels, particularly at local administration and community level, in all these aspects is needed for the effective implementation of coastal zone regulation. The provisions of the 72nd, 73th, 74th amendments of the constitution (which empowers Panchayats) should be made as a part of the improved / new CRZ.
6. Fishers are of the view that related Acts and Bills which directly have bearing on CRZ like Wetland Conservation Act, SEZ norms, Marine Fisheries and Regulation bill, Forest Protection Act, Wildlife Act - impact coastal communities. Hence, these acts / bills need to be discussed and integrated in the context of CRZ to avoid

controversies. There is a need to integrate all the related policies on marine and coastal areas through consultation processes under one nodal agency like MoEF.

7. A “Fishers Court” on the lines of “Consumer Court” may be established in order to deal with cases related to fishers issues like sea safety, insurance coverage, CRZ violations, compensation claims, disaster risk reduction, conflict resolution, protection against coastal ecological damage, pollution control. Such a system, if put in place, will provide speedy justice to problems they face. According to participants ‘green bench courts’ should be structured in all coastal districts for protection of coastal areas.
8. Participants are of the opinion that traditional rights of fishers should be protected through a legislation as in the case of ‘Traditional Forest Dwellers Act , 2006’ . This bill which is currently being drafted by Ministry of Agriculture, should be drafted in consultation with fishers.
9. Nearly all participants have expressed that existing dwelling units of the fishers and other coastal communities falling within the coastal zone (from high tide line to 500m) should be protected. Reconstruction or repair of the traditional structures should be allowed. However, they opine that the houses belonging to fishermen and other coastal communities falling within 200 meters from high tide line (HTL) should not be allowed to sell or transfer to external stakeholders.
10. Participants have stated that the coastal agro-ecosystems and farming communities should also be considered part of the coastal zone and their livelihood activities protected.
11. Expressing their concern on Special Economic Zones (SEZ) activities, participants feel that no permission should be granted for activities related to SEZs, industries, atomic power plants, ports and other infrastructure projects within 500meters from HTL or it may be granted in consensus with the local fishing community or Panchayat.
12. Participants are of the view that the Aquaculture Authority Act promotes unsustainable and ecologically damaging activities leading to over extraction of ground water, salinity ingress and promotion of external stakeholders in coastal areas. The Act also legitimizes violations to the CRZ Notification 1991 and hence this Act should be rejected.
13. According to the participants , sand mining is rampant in the coastal areas. The new CRZ Notification therefore should totally prohibit removal of sand from the coast. It might be worth considering formulation of beach management plans and legal protection of beaches against sand mining and degradation.
14. Participants at several consultations expressed their concern about over exploitation of ground water in coastal areas. Ground water aquifers in the costal areas should be protected / regulated from over exploitation to reduce salt water intrusion /ingression, they feel.

15. Participants are of the view that river , coast and sea should seen holistically for better coastal management. Inland activities like mining, quarrying which impact the coastal ecology through river systems should be identified and regulated.
16. Participants from Goa , Kerala have given the suggestion that States like Goa, Kerala which have distinct ecological significance should be seen as special cases while strengthening CRZ .

On expert committee recommendation

Summary of the view points expressed in response to the expert committee recommendation are listed here. Nearly all participants agree to most of the committee recommendations though, they have stated that these recommendations are too general and ambiguous at most places. Therefore, more clarity should be brought in while drafting the improvement in CRZ.

17. Strengthen the role of State Coastal Zone Management Authority (SCZMA) and empower them to act on environmental clearances, monitoring and enforcement. Adequate representation from the fisher community in SCZMA is necessary.(Rec.1.3)
18. While publishing all CRZ clearances and its link with EIA report and clearances on web-enabled systems, local language versions should also be considered. It is also important to publish CRZ maps and CZMP(Coastal Zone Management Plan) maps (Rec.1.4)
19. While resolving issues regarding the development and redevelopment of Mumbai based on locale-specific amendments is important, it is equally vital to recognize other coastal cities and towns facing similar problems.(Rec. 3)
20. Cumulative impact studies need to be initiated for physical infrastructures other than ports including coastal protection structures like seawalls, groynes. (Rec. 4.1)
21. New regimes for the management of smaller islands (Eg., Kerala, Sunderbans) also are recommended along the lines of island management. (Rec.6)
22. Fishers have also raised concerns about the manner and criteria by which critically vulnerable coastal areas are proposed / identified. Further, such critically vulnerable areas can be classified under CRZ I instead of making it a separate category. Gulf of Kutchch, Sunder van, Gulf of Mannar, Chilika could be some of the examples of critically vulnerable areas. (Rec. 7)
23. Besides mangroves, other important coastal and marine ecosystems like coral reefs, tidal mudflats, turtle nesting grounds, sand dunes also should be protected (Rec.8)
24. Sea ward side needs to be included in CRZ to regulate activities and pollution load (oil, industrial effluents, sewage) impacting marine and coastal systems. Seaward

zone may then be categorized separately as CRZ V. The regulations introduced in seaward side must be discussed in detail with fishers before finalizing (Rec.9)

25. While policy formulation to reduce the impact of natural hazards and also risk like sea level rise due to climate change is important, fishers fear that the “vulnerability and hazard line mapping” can later be used to introduce regulation that would displace local communities from the coast in the name of safety. External stakeholders may then occupy such ‘vacated’ spaces so created for their use. Vulnerability line alone cannot be the sole indicator of the ‘danger’ posed to coastal areas. The immediate need is to demarcate the HTL and ecologically sensitive areas so that these are adequately protected. (Rec.11)

Minister Shri Jairam Ramesh has stated that while “ the new notification would primarily draw regulations from the CRZ 1991, it could be termed as ‘Sustainable Coastal Zone Protection Regulation’ Notification, whose primary aim would be to protect the coastal ecology and rights of the fisher and coastal community”

Fishers and other coastal communities have attended these consultations in large numbers, especially the ones chaired by the Minister because they have faith in the process, regard for public consultations and hope in the Minister that he will value their viewpoints while formulating the new notification. Respondents feel that their view points and suggestions are important for strengthening the CRZ notification, 1991 leading to effective coastal regulation that ensures the protection of coastal habitats and the basic rights and livelihood of coastal communities.

2 Preamble

Increasing developmental pressures along coastal areas have consistently eroded the ecological services of the marine and coastal ecosystems. Risks from natural disasters and climate change impacts are also areas of concern influencing coastal areas. All these are affecting the traditional coastal communities whose livelihood is solely dependent on the sea and the unique coastal ecosystem habitats. Conserving India's 7500 km of coastline, regulating developmental activities and ensuring protection to nearly 250 million coastal population remain as key challenges for planners and policy makers. Future pattern of coastal development therefore requires policies that promote integrated planning and effective implementation.

In India, the initiative towards regulation of coastal activities began around 1981 when the then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi sent an advisory to coastal state governments to take adequate precautions for conservation of coastal and marine resources while promoting developmental activities. However, due to the lack of statutory backing, the coastal states did not implement it in true spirit. In order to ensure legal protection to coastal resources against overexploitation by multi-stakeholders Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 was formulated by the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India under the Environmental Protection Act (EPA), 1986. However, during the course of the implementation of CRZ 1991, there were several violations of regulations and degradation of the coastal and marine environment continued. 25 amendments in the course of nearly 20 year period further diluted the original objectives and increased multi-stakeholder conflicts. In 2004, the MoEF set up an Expert Committee under the chairmanship of Prof.M.S. Swaminathan to review the existing CRZ Notification, 1991 including the amendments and suggest the future agenda and management of coastal areas.

1981 – Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi writes to Chief Ministers of coastal states directing them to keep clear all activities up to 500 meters from High Tide Line along the coast.

1984 – Dept. of Environment, Govt. of India circulates guidelines and suggests State governments to prepare Coastal Environment Management Plans.

1991 – Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF), Govt. of India - 25 amendments made (as of 2009).

1996 – Supreme Court orders State Governments and UTs to prepare Coastal Zone Management Plans for approval from MoEF.

2005 – The committee chaired by Prof.M.S.Swaminathan submits report of the review of CRZ Notification, 1991..

2008 – Draft Coastal Management Zone (CMZ) Notification, 2008 appears in the Gazette of India

2008 – Majority viewpoints gathered during Public Consultations on the draft CMZ Notification do not support CMZ notification, 2008

2008 – Parliamentary Committee on Science & Technology, Environment & Forests recommends not to implement CMZ, 2008 and suggests to let it to lapse.

2009 – Report of the Expert Committee chaired by Prof.M.S.Swaminathan on draft CMZ Notification, 2008 - recommends CMZ, 2008 to lapse - suggests outline for strengthening existing CRZ 1991

2009 – CMZ Notification, 2008 lapses.

2009/10 – Public Consultations for strengthening CRZ 1991

Based on the recommendations of the expert committee, MoEF proposed a new framework for coastal zone management, issued a draft notification - the Coastal Management Zone (CMZ) Notification, 2008 - dated 1, May 2008 (Vide No. S.O. 1070 (E) in the Gazette of India. However, there were numerous objections and suggestions amongst various stakeholders – fisher folk, state governments, NGOs, corporate. MoEF therefore held 35 public consultations across the coastal states in 2008 with the help of the Centre for Environment Education (CEE) to draw wider views of multiple stakeholders, particularly of the coastal communities on the CMZ notification.



Summary of consultations held by the Centre for Environment Education

- The Coastal Regulation Zone needs to be retained and improvements incorporated in it; furthermore, clarity has to be brought in with regard to setback line, ecologically sensitive areas, Integrated Coastal Zone Management and the methodologies of management, etc.
- The existing CRZ Notification, 1991 has enough scope to manage coastal zones efficiently if implemented effectively, with some improvements and existing violations penalized.
- Representatives from various stakeholder groups, particularly from local communities, should be involved in the entire process of formulation and drafting of the CMZ Notification, 2008 framework.
- The CMZ Notification, 2008 introduces new management methodologies which are open to subjective interpretation and can be used to promote and legalize corporate activities.
- The CMZ notification, 2008 will promote Special Economic Zones (SEZ), thus opening up the coastal space and resources to the industrial sector without considering the basic rights of local communities.
- The roles of the local authorities and state governments are not adequately addressed in the proposed CMZ Notification, 2008 including management methodology and structure. The basic rights of and opportunities for local communities and their representatives (Panchayat members) to participate and plan the activities in their local environment and settlement areas appear to have been curtailed in the proposed Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan process.
- Looking at several amendments and impacts of the CRZ Notification, 1991 that have led to a dilution of its original objectives, there are apprehensions about the amendments in the case of the CMZ Notification, 2008 as well, and their impacts, especially on fisher folk.
- A legislation or an Act on coastal management is needed, which will ensure protection of the coastal ecology and the basic rights of traditional coastal communities. Elected members of the Legislative Assembly should discuss the coastal policies to initiate such an Act. Till the time a comprehensive legislation on the management of coastal zones is enacted, the CRZ Notification, 1991, without amendments, needs to be effectively implemented and violators punished.

Meanwhile, the Parliamentary Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests also examined the draft CMZ Notification. The findings from the public consultation and recommendations from the Parliamentary Committee concluded that the draft CMZ Notification, 2008 must not be implemented. Instead the existing CRZ Notification 1991 should be strengthened and implemented more effectively.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests concluded that MoEF “should not make haste in implementing the CMZ Notification without addressing the conflict of interests between the stakeholders – mainly the fisher folk and coastal communities.” It recommended that the “CMZ Notification be kept pending/in abeyance till mechanisms/instruments – executive and legislative – are put in place for inclusion and integration of coastal communities through participative, decision-making and control instruments.

Following this, the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) constituted a four-member expert committee on June 15, 2009 under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.S.Swaminathan to recommend future steps on the draft coastal management notification , 2008. The terms of Reference (TOR) of the committee were

1. To examine comments received by the Ministry the draft CMZ notification, 2008
2. To advise on the policy and the legal framework for integrated coastal zone management

Through 5 meetings between June 7 and July 16 2009, committee reviewed written submissions and also held discussions with the representatives of central and state government; public sector units; private sector companies; fisher federations; NGOs and environmental groups. Based on its review and deliberations, the committee came up with the following recommendations for TOR 1

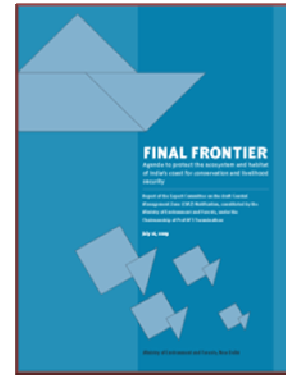
- a. to let the CMZ Notification, 2008 lapse
- b. to incorporate amendments as recommended in the existing CRZ notification 1991 for better management

For TOR 2, 11 recommendations were given for integrated coastal zone management [See box]

Summary of the recommendations by the Expert Committee on integrated coastal zone management

1. Check violations to CRZ through improved space technology-enabled enforcement, strengthened institutions, and regulatory and legal reform.
2. Enhance protection to fishing communities and families for habitat and livelihood security through amendments in the CRZ Notification.
3. Resolve issues regarding the development and redevelopment of Mumbai, based on locale-specific amendments.
4. Introduce regulations to manage the proliferation of ports along the coasts with possible impacts on the coastline by considering cumulative impacts of these developments.
5. Introduce tighter standards for disposal of effluents into coastal waters so that these waters do not become cheaper alternatives to inland pollution management.
6. Introduce new management regimes in the Andaman and Nicobar as well as Lakshadweep Islands after deliberation and discussion.
7. Introduce any new protection regime – such as critically vulnerable coastal areas – after careful and deliberate understanding of the impact of conservation policies on local communities, particularly fisher families.
8. Strengthen protection to mangroves based on clear definitions.
9. Include the seaward side to ensure protection from current and future threats, but with safeguards to ensure there is no restriction to livelihoods of fishing communities.
10. Introduce measures to greatly strengthen research and regulatory capacity at all levels.
11. Introduce policies to cope with and adapt to the future dangers from sea level rise and increased vulnerability of the coasts.

Subsequently, on July 16, 2009 the Committee brought out its report “Final Frontier: *Agenda to protect the ecosystem and habitat of India’s coast for conservation and livelihood security* – Report of the Expert Committee on the draft Coastal Management Zone (CMZ). However, the committee also suggested that the government should initiate consultations and amend the CRZ , 1991 notification.



Taking note of the Committee’s recommendation and the larger concerns of the public, especially the fisher community, MoEF allowed the draft CMZ Notification to lapse in July, 2009. Further, it also pursued to strengthen the existing CRZ Notification, 1991 through a public participation approach. It commissioned CEE in August 2009 to facilitate these public consultations across 9 coastal states and one Union Territory (vide letter No.11 – 83 / 2005 IA - III dated 6 -8 -2005).

In order to facilitate this process, CEE first brought out the local language versions of the “Final Frontier – Report of the Expert Committee” and summary of the report for the coastal communities and widely publicized the event. Public consultations were held in 10 different locations covering all the coastal states and Pondicherry , a Union Territory. Five of the consultations (Mumbai, Chennai, Goa, Puri and Cochin) were chaired by Shri Jairam Ramesh, Minister of State for Environment and Forests.



This report is a compilation of the responses and viewpoints recorded during these consultations. It has attempted to capture all the view points and suggestions expressed across 10 consultations facilitated by CEE. The opinions and view points presented here are solely those of the participants. This report does not represent any view points of CEE or endorse / criticize / influence any of the view points /

comments / suggestions made in the course of consultation process. This report also has documented the processes of the consultation and respondents profile for the better understanding of responses. Written responses, petitions, documents received by CEE during consultations, audio and video recordings of the proceedings which reflect the viewpoints presented here will be submitted separately.

The term CMZ in this report refers to the draft Coastal Management Zone Notification, 2008. The term CRZ in this report refers to Coastal Regulation Zone notification, 1991.

3 Consultation Process

10 public consultations were held in 9 coastal states and one Union Territory between August 2009 and February 2010. The process followed in the consultation is explained below.

3.1 Final Frontier in coastal State languages

In order to enhance awareness on the expert committee recommendation and improve the quality of responses for strengthening CRZ 1991, CEE brought out the “Final Frontier: *Agenda to protect the ecosystem and habitat of India’s coast for conservation and livelihood security* – Report of the Expert Committee on the draft Coastal Management Zone (CMZ) Notification, constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, under the



Chairmanship of Prof. M.S.Swaminathan” in 9 coastal languages (Gujarati, Marathi, Konkani, Kannada, Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu, Oriya, Bengali) and also in Hindi. Around 1000 copies were printed in each of the languages and were distributed to the fishers and other coastal communities participants through NGO networks and fisher associations before and during the consultation. A booklet giving the summary of the expert committee report was also made available. The local language versions were also made available on the CEE website (www.ceeindia.org) for wider outreach.

3.2 Locations of consultations

10 public consultations, one in each of 9 coastal states and Pondicherry, the Union Territory were organised from August 2009 to February 2010. All the consultations were held in coastal cities / towns to provide better connectivity to people thereby encourage wider participation. The first five consultations were held in Mumbai for Maharashtra coast, Chennai for Tamil Nadu coast, Goa for Goa state coast, Puri for Orissa coast and Cochin for Kerala coast. These were chaired by Shri Jairam Ramesh, Minister of State for Environment and Forests. The next five were held in Pondicherry, Vijayawada, Kakdwip, Rajkot and Mangalore by CEE for the coasts of Pondicherry, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Gujarat and Karnataka respectively, in consultation with the local fisher associations. In some of the States, local organizations and community representatives helped CEE in organizing the consultations.

In the case of Gujarat, CEE held 3 additional consultations at Valsad (South Gujarat coast); Mangrol (Saurashtra coast) and Bhadreswar (Kutch coast) in view of public interest and support.

The consultation schedule is given in Annexure 6.1. Consultation locations are shown in the Map in Annexure 6.2

3.3. Reaching out to fishers and other coastal communities

CEE used a combination of communication methods to publicize the consultation dates, venue and time to reach out to people for increasing the participation of fishers and other coastal communities. Methods used were :

- Circulation of the copies of Final Frontier in the respected state languages of and its summary booklet
- Publicity of consultation dates and venue through local newspapers
- Correspondence through letters, e-mails, internet forum and telephones (individuals and networks)
- Dissemination of the information on the dates and venue of the consultation through CEE website.



In addition, language versions of Final Frontier along with the other relevant reports were also made available on the website for wider circulation.

CEE also sought the support of fisher federations, NGOs, Panchayats and community representatives to publicize the consultations widely in their respective federations and among their community members.

3.4. Proceedings of Consultations



Each workshop started with registration of participants. Respective language versions of the Final Frontier along with the summary booklet were also distributed. Display of news clippings and related articles carrying news on the consultation were also put up. Requests at the registration counter were also made to submit written suggestions / petitions during the consultation.

Consultation began with the statement of objectives. This was followed by a presentation of the summary of the expert committee recommendation in local language. The presentation helped participants to relate their viewpoints with the recommendation of the expert committee. Presentation also assisted in setting up the tone for discussions.

Objectives of Consultation

- to inform people about the decision of MoEF to let lapse the draft CMZ notification and to strengthen CRZ 91
- to gather public viewpoints on the Expert Committee Recommendations to strengthen CRZ 1991
- to garner suggestions from the fisher and other coastal communities for improving CRZ 91 in the context of protecting the livelihoods of these communities

The duration of each consultation was around 3 hours. CEE staff facilitated the consultation proceedings. The consultation proceeding was not structured. The idea was to get as many opinions and suggestions from fishers without any restrictions. MoEF officials were also

present in 6 consultations. In some consultations there were few short presentations made to stress upon an issue.

3.5. Documentation

CEE used a combination of methods to document participant profile and proceedings of the workshop. More than 90% participants who attended the workshop were registered. CEE also noted down the viewpoints expressed by the participants as well as the responses. There were individual responses and organizational responses as well. Most individual responses came from the members of coastal communities, especially the fishers. Most of the organizational responses came from local fisher associations, fisher federations and CBOs working in the coastal stretches. Entire proceedings of the consultations were also recorded using audio-visual media. Written petitions submissions were collected from the participants. The local news channels and newspapers also covered the proceedings of the event. Some of the NGO representatives present during the consultation also posted their recordings of the proceedings to CEE. Minister's responses during the course of the consultations were also recorded. All these were used to consolidate the view points after each consultation. Consultation reports from all locations were then used to prepare this report.





3.6. Limitations

Consultations, especially the ones chaired by the Minister received a huge response. However, it was felt that there were constraints, duration of consultation, location, postponement of the consultation date being the major. Nearly all the participants felt that the duration of consultation of 3 hours was not sufficient to express their view points. Many fishers and other coastal communities who came from distant places, even from neighboring states spending money were very disappointed for not getting an opportunity to put forth their suggestions especially in consultations chaired by the Minister. Even the locations of consultations did not give opportunity for the representatives important coastal districts to participate. For instance, communities from several southern coastal districts of Tamil Nadu could not participate since Chennai, chosen for the consultation is located at the northern tip of Tamil Nadu. The vigour witnessed in the first 3 consultations declined drastically when the consultations at Cochin and Puri chaired by the Minister got postponed.

Another important limitation was that the representation from Anadaman, Nicobar, Lakshwadeep and other small islands which fall under CRZ IV was totally absent due the distance, time and cost factor.

4 Respondent Profile

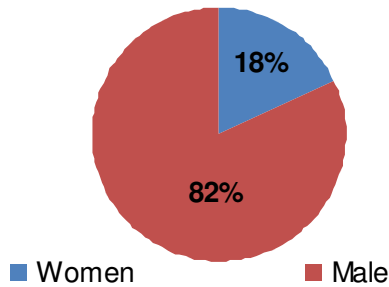
The number of participants in 10 consultations was around 4500. Around 85% of the respondents belonged to fishers and other coastal communities – young and old; men and women – and contributed to the proceedings of 10 consultations. The rest represented CBOs, Panchayat members and local leaders, NGOs, tour operators, academicians, government officials, professionals working in coastal areas / coastal issues, representatives from the commercial establishments. Around 18% of the participants were women.



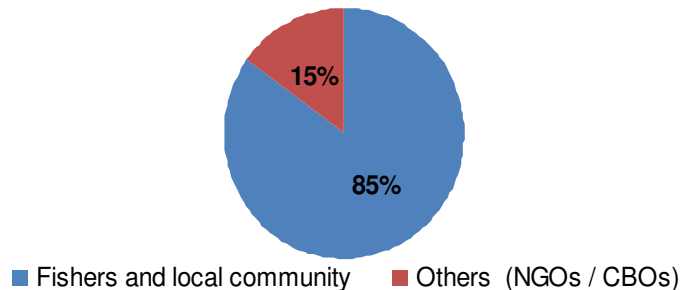
The total number of registered participants in the first 5 consultations chaired by the

Minister was around 3500 (75% of the total participants) making an average figure of 700 participants per consultation. About 1000 participants were registered in the other 5 consultations facilitated by CEE with an average number of 200 participants per consultation.

Gender representation across 10 coastal states, 10 public consultations (total 4475 participants)



Participation across 10 coastal states, 10 public consultations (total 4475 participants)





5 Major concerns, view points and key suggestions

On the whole, coastal communities, fishers in particular, expressed their satisfaction over the decision of MoEF to allow the draft CMZ Notification, 2008 to lapse and to reintroduce CRZ 1991 with improvements. Further, these communities appreciated the interest and effort of the Minister of State for Environment and Forests Shri Jairam Ramesh, to strengthen the existing CRZ Notification, 1991 through a public participation approach. Reinforcing their views that protection of coastal ecology and the basic rights and livelihood of coastal communities should be central to coastal zone planning, participants felt that the actual drafting process of improved CRZ notification should ensure the involvement of representatives from fisher communities for achieving the desired outcome. Major concerns, view points and key suggestions for strengthening CRZ 1991 generated during 10 consultations are presented below. Since we have received view points on the expert committee recommendations and also suggestions which are outside these recommendations nevertheless contributing to the improvement of CRZ 91, they are presented under the following headings.

5.1. View points specific to the Expert Committee recommendations

5.2. View points for the protection of coastal ecology, basic rights and livelihood of the coastal communities, particularly fishers.

We have also presented the views put forth by the Minister in the first 5 consultations that have bearing on the improvement of CRZ 91 in the view point section 5.3.


5.1. Points specific to the Expert Committee recommendations


Nearly all participants agree to most of the committee recommendations though, they have stated that these recommendations are too general and ambiguous at most places. Therefore, more clarity should be brought in while drafting the improvement in CRZ. No specific recommendation has emerged on the role and function of the local administration and communities. It is therefore necessary to recognize the important role of the State and local administration along with the active participation of coastal communities in CRZ. Further participants are of the view that their functions should be well defined in CRZ. The suggestions emerging out of concerns of fishers are given in the following table. We have tried to group the related view points / suggestions under the respective recommendation of the expert committee for better understanding.


Rec. No.	Expert Committee Recommendation	Majority viewpoint and suggestions emerging from public consultation
1.	Check violations to CRZ through improved space technology-enabled enforcement, strengthened institutions, and regulatory & legal reform.	Nearly all participants agree to using space technology as one of the tools to identify the violations.

1.1	Use of satellite and information technology to map the coast and to monitor real – time violations that are taking place	<p>Nearly all participants agree to this recommendation though, they feel the problem lies more with the enforcement than with identification of violations. Identified violations / violators have to be penalized for which strict mechanisms have to be brought in. Structure and methods for monitoring violations, nature of punishments and compensation packages, role of the local authorities and community representatives have to be detailed out. However, all the existing dwelling units and settlement areas of the fishers within the CRZ area should not be considered as violations and need to be protected.</p> <p>Satellite technology should also be used to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop CRZ maps • monitor the High Tide Line (HTL) at regular intervals and make them available to public to reduce mismanagement of coastal zone • regulate commercial activities.
1.2	Streamline the clearance process under different regulations. It would be desirable to separate the roles at the State level for better decision making and enforcement. SCZMAs may be involved in monitoring and enforcement; clearances of projects may be done through the Dept. of Environment or State Environment Appraisal Committees	Majority disagree. Participants feel that the role of State Coastal Zone Management Authority (SCZMA) should be strengthened. Empower them to act on environmental clearances, monitoring and enforcement. Adequate representation from the fisher community is necessary.
1.3	Build capacity of SCZMAs through information sources; strengthen scientific capacity	<p>While all agree to this point, participants felt that SCZMAs should be adequately trained in social, ecological and economic aspects also and encouraged to closely work with the coastal communities to evolve better coastal zone plans.</p> <p>Besides SCZMAs, capacity of the local administration (Panchayats) must also be built, in order to monitor CRZ activities. 72rd, 73th, 74th amendments of the constitution (which empowers Panchayats) should be a part of the improved / new CRZ. Awareness on coastal policies, plans may be initiated at community level.</p>
1.4	Use web-enabled systems to publish all CRZ clearances and its link with EIA clearances; Urgent need for the states to comply with	All agree. However, participants suggest that such information may be made available in local languages.

	this	
1.5	Bring changes in EPA 1986, especially sections 21 and 22 to ensure better compliance	All agree. Participants feel that there must be provision to consider criminal proceedings against CRZ violators. List of CRZ violations must be put up on website.
2.	Enhance protection to fisher families for habitat and livelihood security through amendments in CRZ	All participants agree.
2.1	Amend CRZ III provisions to give higher Floor Space index (FSI) for fisher folk dwelling units, subject to ownership and usage restrictions.	Mixed response from participants. While many agree that houses belonging to fishers should not be transferred to non fishing communities, their contention is that traditional fishers have the customary rights to the coastal space and hence should not have any restriction to the usage of the coastal space for their housing and settlement purpose. However, State governments should also prepare resettlement and rehabilitation plans for fishing communities in view of coastal erosion and other coastal hazards like sea level rise.
2.2	Inclusion of livelihood related activities in permissible list of CRZ II and III	Specific mention may not be needed for fishers since basic rights of traditional fishers including fishing and fisheries related activities are considered as permitted in CRZ zones. However, the commercialization of these activities like fish processing, auctioning, drying and / or ownership of such activities by non fishers should be restricted.
2.3	Legislation for the rights of fisher folk	All agree. Besides right to livelihood, traditional rights of the fishers should also be understood as right to water and other natural resources, health, education, sanitation and so on. Already 'Fishers Rights Bill' along the lines of 'Traditional Forest Dwellers Act , 2006' is being drafted by the Ministry of Agriculture. However, such a bill should evolve through proper consultation process.
3.	Resolve issues regarding the development and redevelopment of Mumbai based on locale-specific amendments	Participants are of the view that this issue is not limited to Mumbai alone. It is relevant to other coastal cities and towns with high population density. Hence there is no need to bring special amendments only to address Mumbai. For instance, in Kerala most coastal Panchayats are facing similar problems due to non availability of land .
4.	Introduce regulations to manage proliferation of ports along the coasts , with possible impact on the coastline, by considering cumulative impacts of these developments	All agree. For instance, in Orissa and Gujarat, rapid port development has destroyed the critically vulnerable ecosystem (turtle nesting grounds, tidal mudflats, coral reefs , mangroves, sand dunes) and disturbed the livelihood of fishers.

4.1	Study of cumulative impacts of projects on the coastline , particularly ports; till then there should be moratorium on expansion of existing ports and initiation of new projects	Nearly all agree. However, the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) study should be based on a minimum of 3 year data and include the carrying capacity information of the ecosystem. It should also consider impacts of industries and activities associated with ports such as ship traffic, transportation, loading and unloading activities, power plants. The study may also consider the utilization pattern and operational efficiency of existing ports. Fisher communities demand specific actions to be taken against illegal and non-scientific method of allocating establishment of port locations and expansion of existing ports without considering its negative impact. Similar studies have to be initiated to understand the impact of coastal protection structures like sea walls, groynes. For instance, in Pondicherry the sea wall construction without proper studies has triggered large scale coastal erosion and displacement of fishing hamlets.
4.2	Include seaward side under CRZ to regulate ports in terms of impacts on the sea and its land interface	Nearly all agree. Fishers are of the view that by including seaward side boundary in the CRZ will help protect the marine ecology and livelihood activities of the fishers. It will also give greater control over all commercial activities including establishment of ports.
4.3	Examine the amendment proposed in the EIA notification, 2009 that permits expansion or modernization proposals/units which do not increase in pollution load or require any additional resources such as water , land without environmental clearance	All agree. However fishers are of the opinion that EIA should be done more carefully without any bias so that coastal ecosystem is protected. For instance, weak EIAs in Gujarat has lead to many industrial / commercial establishments resulting in degradation of coastal system. EIA should be tightened further to make it difficult to amend. Fishers strongly feel that Special Economic Zone (SEZ) should not be allowed in CRZ since such proposals are prevalent in SEZ.
5	<p>Introduce tighter standards for disposal of effluents into coastal waters so that these waters do not become cheaper alternatives to inland pollution management</p> 	All agree. Coastal communities are of the view that introducing tighter standards alone will not help. Increasing decline in fish catch and health concerns due to pollution of marine waters call for mechanisms leading to strict monitoring of effluent disposal and treatment as well including air pollution. Involving local authorities and capacity building them in monitoring coastal and marine pollution is important. Polluters need to be heavily punished . Oil pollution from ships and oil refineries also need to be monitored at regular intervals. Oil spill contingency plans need to be put in place urgently. Chemical industries should not be permitted in coastal zones. For instance, in South Gujarat along the gulf of Khambat, heavy chemical effluent disposal into the sea waters, and oil spills from oil refineries and ships have disturbed the marine food chain, contaminated the coastal land and water resources and raised health concerns among fishers. In Mumbai disposal of sewage is a major issue.

6.	Introduce new management regimes in Andamans and Nicobar as well as Lakshadweep Islands after deliberation and discussion	<p>All agree. A separate notification should be framed for island management through public consultations for Andaman, Nicobar and Lakshadweep islands which would include the regulation of activities in these islands. Fishers also have recommended new regimes for the management of smaller islands (Eg., Kerala, Sunderbans)</p>
7.	Introduce any new protection regime - such as critically vulnerable coastal areas - after careful and deliberate understanding of the impacts conservation policies on local communities, particularly fisher families	<p>Nearly all agree though, such critically vulnerable areas can be classified under CRZ I instead of making it a separate category. Fishers have also raised concerns about the manner and criteria by which critically vulnerable coastal areas are identified. Areas identified as critically vulnerable with the objective of offering protection and conservation must have consensus of the local fishers. Further, CRZ must have clarity on the mechanism by which such areas would be protected. However, these new protection regulations must not disturb the dwelling units or livelihood activities of fishers. People who had been earlier affected due to such protection or conservation measures must be resettled.</p>
8.	Strengthen protection to mangroves based on clear definitions 	<p>All agree though, fishers are of the opinion that the Revenue department who consider mangroves as wasteland and allocate such areas to the industries should be sensitized to the importance of mangroves. Satellite mapping and ground survey must be undertaken to identify potential areas for mangrove plantation. Strict punishment must be given to people / authorities and companies trying to degrade mangrove areas. Further, local communities should be encouraged to take up mangrove plantation and restoration programmes. Besides mangroves, other important coastal and marine ecosystems like coral reefs, tidal mudflats, turtle nesting grounds, sand dunes also should be protected. For instance, in Mundra port area in Gujarat, mangroves are cut to establish the SEZ.</p>
9.	Include the seaward side to ensure protection from current and future threats, but with safeguards to ensure there is no restriction to livelihoods of fishing communities.	<p>Nearly all agree. However, Fishers are of the view that inclusion of seaward side boundary in the CRZ should offer protection to the coastal and marine ecology and livelihood activities of the fishers from commercial and industrial activities, including reclamation efforts. Seaward zone may then be categorized separately, for instance, CRZ V. The regulations introduced in seaward side must be discussed in detail with fishers before finalizing.</p>
10.	Introduce measures to greatly strengthen research and regulatory capacity at all levels	<p>All agree. However, CRZ suffers not from the lack of capacities, but from the weakness in its implementation. Lack of political and administrative will to enforce CRZ regulations in its true spirit results in inadequate, absence of timely action against CRZ violators. Considering increasing developmental pressures in coastal areas, there is a need for participatory coastal zone planning, transparency of its implementation and constant monitoring. Fishers have questioned the role and the effectiveness of new institutions like "sustainable coastal zone management institute". They feel that unless such institutions work closely with coastal communities, CBOs</p>

		and NGOs and provide crucial inputs to state and central authorities for effective policy formulations, their existence becomes meaningless. Improving coordination between various departments such as Irrigation, Revenue, Forests, Tourism will help to resolve multi-stakeholder conflicts in coastal areas. There should be representation from the State Biodiversity Board while considering Environmental appraisal of developmental projects. Fishers feel that improving regulatory capacity and effective implementation at all levels would help in meeting CRZ objectives.
11.	<p>Introduce policies to cope and adapt to future dangers from sea level rise and increased vulnerability of the coasts</p> 	All agree to the policy formulation to reduce the impact of natural hazards and also risk like sea level rise due to climate change. However, they are not convinced about the “vulnerability and hazard line mapping” since they fear that these maps can be later be used as a pretext for introducing regulation that would displace local communities from the coast in the name of safety. The ‘vacated’ coastal spaces so created may then be utilized by external stakeholders for their use. Vulnerability line alone cannot be the sole indicator of the ‘danger’ posed to coastal areas. Fishers also pointed out that the immediate need is to demarcate the HTL and ecologically sensitive areas so that these are adequately protected. Traditional knowledge should be taken into account to deal with disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, and local capacities need to be enhanced.

5.2. Points for the protection of coastal ecology, basic rights and livelihood of the coastal communities , particularly fishers.

The view points and suggestions voiced during the consultations which do not directly address the expert committee recommendations, but are important in improving the CRZ 91, are presented under 5 broad heads viz., **strengthening of CRZ implementation process, protection of land rights, right to Livelihood, regulating developmental activities, protection of coastal and marine ecology**. However, viewpoints registered under these heads do overlap at places.

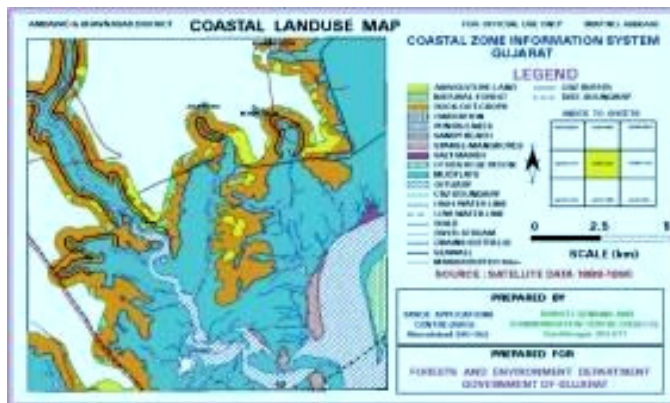
Majority are of the view that there is a lack of political and administrative will to implement CRZ 91 in true spirit. Major weakness lies in its poor implementation. Stringent punishment need to initiated for all violations whether it involves coastal pollution (industrial and municipal) , mangrove cutting (all along the coast) , sand mining and so on.

5.2.A. Strengthening of CRZ implementation process

1. Consider CRZ 1991 **without the amendments** as the base document to further strengthen the CRZ.
2. Instead of notification, Act on CRZ will help putting a stop to frequent amendments
3. If Act is not possible, a clause should be introduced in the existing CRZ 91 notification so that any amendments to CRZ can only happen after public consultation process with the local fishers and other coastal communities.



- Scientific methods need to be applied in the identification of CRZ zones and preparation of CRZ maps. These methods have to be made public. For instance, few bays with distinct marine characteristics are wrongly classified as estuaries and rivers by coastal zone management authorities as in the case of Goa. This wrong classification benefits the real estate developers and hoteliers and covers up CRZ violations. An exercise should be undertaken to have



geographically, ecologically consistent classification and interpretation of marine protected areas, critically vulnerable areas and other geomorphologic features.

- Base map and updated versions of the CRZ map and Coastal Zone Management Plans (CZMP) should be reviewed and made available to the coastal communities to get an idea of the land use pattern and proposed projects in coasts. Information on the ownership of assets including land in coastal areas should also be made available. All the data and maps need to be uploaded on government websites. Land use pattern in coastal areas should be closely monitored. Update the HTL continuously and modify maps to reflect the current situation.
- The improved/new CRZ notification should be available in all the coastal state languages and must be widely disseminated in order to seek the opinion of the fishers, coastal communities and grass root organizations and CBOs.
- Public consultations to seek the viewpoints at the Gram Sabha level or at least from each coastal district should be organized and initiated by the local administration / State authorities or concerned departments for the improvement of CRZ notification.
- Integrate activities of various Ministries related to the coastal zone for the better protection and conservation of coastal and marine resources. Currently, while the MoEF may not allow any new port or exploitation of coastal resources, other Ministries such as Ministry of Shipping, Surface Transport and Highways; Ministry of Oil and natural Gas; Ministry of Power continue to encourage proposals for new ports or exploitation of the coastal and marine resources by corporate and industrial sector. This conflict of interests within the Ministries build up heavy pressure on coastal habitats and endangers the traditional rights of the fishers. There should therefore be an integrated planning amongst the Ministries. MoEF should become the nodal agency for deciding upon all the projects from any Ministry or sector that are based on the coastal and marine resources. Such a setup would help in adequate protection and conservation of the coastal and marine habitats and avoid CRZ violations. Coastal management plans must be formulated carefully to minimize



multi-user conflicts and control unsustainable exploitation of coastal and marine resources.

9. Wherever State governments have responsible and effective Panchayati raj institutions, they should be allowed to take active role in the management and regulation of developmental activities in the CRZ areas. For example, village Panchayat democracies are vibrant in Goa, Kerala. Majority of the villagers attend Gram Sabhas regularly. Therefore, it might be useful to set up decentralized committees in such States to handle development, tourism in particular related pressures. The provisions in the 72nd and 73rd Constitutional Amendment (to empower Panchayats) must be considered in the CRZ.
10. Watershed plans need to be considered as a part of the CRZ activities.
11. Policies like Wetland Conservation Act, SEZ norms, Marine Fisheries and Regulation Bill, Forest Protection Act, Wildlife Act - all influence the CRZ, impacting the coastal communities thereby. Therefore, these acts / bills need to be discussed / integrated in the context of CRZ to avoid controversies. There is a need to integrate all the related policies on marine and coastal areas through consultation processes under one nodal agency like MoEF.
12. A “Fishers Court” on the lines of “Consumer Court” may be established in order to deal with cases related to fishing community issues – like sea safety, insurance coverage, CRZ violations, compensation claims, disaster risk reduction, conflict resolution, protection against coastal ecological damage, pollution control etc. A separate system to provide speedy justice to problems faced by the fishing and other coastal communities should be put in place. Green bench courts need to be structured in all coastal districts for protection of coastal areas.
13. World Bank funded projects like the “Integrated Coastal Zone Management” (ICZM) project which are being currently implemented in Gujarat, West Bengal and Orissa should be undertaken with the involvement of the local communities. Most of the fishers and coastal communities are not even aware of such projects, their objectives, activities and benefits/merits to the fishers. Such projects are initiated without assessing community needs and without involving community groups. Awareness and transparency in the projects should be brought in . Fishers have expressed their apprehension about the management regimes introduced in such projects. They fear that such regimes may favour corporate and external stakeholders when pilot projects are scaled up across the coastal states.
14. Atomic power plants should not be allowed in coastal areas as in the case of Haripur in West Bengal . Non renewable energy sources such as wind and solar which are available in abundance should be harnessed in coastal areas for the benefit of the communities and the ecosystem instead of thermal or nuclear power.



15. Funds for coastal protection should be increased. However, the programs must focus on community based disaster risk reduction, bioshields and socio-ecological resilience.

5.2.B Protection of land rights

16. Existing dwelling units of the fishers
17. and coastal communities such as toddy tapers in Goa falling within the coastal zone (from high tide line to 500m) should be protected. Reconstruction or repair of the traditional structures should be allowed. Fishers dwelling units must not be classified as 'illegal' for want of documentary evidence, because many fishers do not have legal documents (*patta*) to prove their ownership. It must be remembered that fishers have traditionally received and enjoyed the marine and coastal space from their forefathers. This traditional right (as in the case of tribal) needs to be respected and fishers settlement areas should be protected and not disturbed.
18. Houses belonging to fishermen and other coastal communities such as Toddy Tapers, falling within 200 m from HTL should not be allowed to sell or transfer to external stakeholders.
19. The existing Floor Space Index (FSI) norms related to construction within 200 – 500 m from HTL should continue.



5.2.C Right to Livelihood

20. There is a general concern about the impact of development on the coastal habitat and livelihood activities diverting fishers to other occupations resulting in increased migration. To halt migration more attention should be given to fisheries sector. Fisheries, being a special sector, should have a separate ministry so that the needs of the fishers including their habitat can be given adequate attention.
21. Government should consider reservation for the qualified fishers in related government departments like fisheries, coast guard, forest in order to bring in local knowledge and effective coastal management measures.
22. Coastal agro-ecosystems and farming communities should also be considered part of the coastal zone and their livelihood activities protected.
23. Vulnerability mapping and risk reduction planning should involve coastal communities as they are extremely vulnerable communities facing high risk.
24. Early warning and sea safety systems should be established to protect the lives of fishers.
25. Insurance coverage to fisher communities should be provided both on life and livelihood tools like boats.



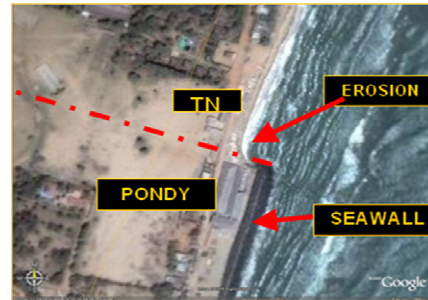
5.2.D Regulating developmental activities

26. No permissions should be granted for activities related to SEZs, industries, power plants, ports and other infrastructure projects including construction within 500m from HTL or it may be considered only in consensus with the local fishing community or Panchayat.
27. Since most of the near shore marine waters are polluted resulting in declining fish catch, fishers have to venture further into the sea (more than 12 nautical miles) to fish which is risky and economically not viable. Runoff from agriculture and industrial activities into the sea should be monitored. While there is seasonal regulation on fish catch, there is no such regulation to effluents disposal. This needs to be brought in.
28. Desalination plants cause high salinity levels in the near shore waters and coastal zone by discharging the waste waters (brine) into the sea. Since this affects the fish growth and availability, desalination plants should be restricted in the coasts.
29. Exploitation of oil and gas is permissible in CRZ 1 to CRZ 4 zones. However, oil and gas exploration should not be permitted near inhabited areas – rural or urban, following the oil and gas rule 1956 (modified in 2003) which says no well shall be drilled near inhabited areas. Geo hazards like land subsidence should be considered in oil exploration. Produce water, one of the products during oil and gas extraction is 7-8 times saltier than the sea water and fish cannot survive at this level of salinity. According to the rule of oil and gas extraction, produce water should be treated or injected back through tube wells. However, this is not followed and produce water is directly released into sea without treatment. This should be monitored and kept under check.
30. Reject the Aquaculture Authority Act 2005 as it legitimizes violations to the CRZ Notification 1991. The Aquaculture Authority Act promotes unsustainable and ecologically damaging activities leading to over extraction of ground water, salinity ingress and promotion of external stakeholders in coastal areas.
31. There is a huge pressure of tourism activities on the coastal zone as in the case of Goa. MoEF must initiate discussions with the Ministry of Tourism on their tourism plans and find a suitable solution for protection of coasts through eco-friendly tourism activities along the coastal belt.
32. Defense projects such as Sea bird in Karwar, should not hinder the livelihood activities and /or encroach upon the settlement areas of fishers or other coastal communities.



5.2.E. Protection of coastal and marine ecology

33. The new CRZ Notification should totally prohibit removal of sand from the coast. It might be worth to consider formulation of beach management plans and legal protection of beaches against sand mining and degradation.
34. Ground water aquifers in the costal areas should be protected / regulated from over exploitation to reduce salt water intrusion /ingression.
35. Inland activities like mining, quarrying which impact the coastal ecology through river systems should be identified and regulated. River , coast and sea should seen holistically for better coastal management.
36. Prohibit unregulated and unplanned construction of coastal protection structures like sea walls especially in the inter-tidal zones. Instead promote afforestation along the coast.
37. States like Goa have a very distinct ecological significance considering the presence of Western Ghats, tributaries, creeks, bays, estuaries. Developmental activities are exerting heavy pressure on the coastal systems including estuaries creating larger ecological problems. Therefore, Goa needs to be seen as a special case while strengthening CRZ .
38. High population density , large number of wetlands, backwater, islands, less land ward space for development – all these call for a special status to Kerala coast for regulating CRZ activities.
39. Gulf of Kutchch has rich marine biodiversity, unique tidal mud flats, creeks , coral reefs, mangrove areas. The coastal geomorphology makes it nearly a closed ecosystem. This means, there is little scope for the pollutants to flush out into the open sea. These pollutants particularly from chemical industries, SEZs, oil tankers and ships thus get trapped in the gulf region and can completely destroy the marine ecosystem in a short time span. Hence the gulf of Kutchch should be given the status of ‘critically vulnerable costal area’.



5.3. Viewpoints by the Minister for strengthening CRZ

During the course of the first 5 consultations, Minister expressed his viewpoints in response to individual and collective concerns and suggestions. For instance, removal of “in principle approval” of projects for EIA clearance; moratorium on establishment or expansion of ports along the coastline; initiating the National Green Tribunal bill; setting up of National Environmental Protection Authority (NEPA); setting up of a Centre for Sustainable Coastal Zone Management Institute at Anna University in Chennai; improved CRZ notification to be named as ‘Sustainable Coastal Protection Zone Regulation’ notification. He also answered several queries raised by individuals and groups, particularly on violations of CRZ 91. He assured fishers to send a team from MoEF to study the situations wherever there are major

issues on violations and conservation such as Mundra in Gujarat. These viewpoints which are important in improving CRZ 91 are given below.

In Mumbai

1. There is a two-step approval process for any project - Approval in principle and the final approval. "Approval in principle" does not allow any project related physical activities to be initiated in the proposed site. If initiated, it is a clear violation of CRZ. The step of "Approval in principle" will be removed and from now on it will be just a YES or a NO. (in response to the case of disruption of livelihoods of fishers at Mundra in Gujarat, and large scale destruction of mangroves for the development of SEZ by Gujarat Adani Port Limited (GAPL))
2. Provisions will be made in the National Green Tribunal Bill for fishers to settle their disputes concerning livelihood and to claim compensation for any damage caused by the violation of CRZ through National Green Tribunal. (in response to concerns raised by fishers on the large scale pollution in coastal areas and CRZ violations)
3. MoEF would like to support a legislation on the Fishers Rights along the lines of Traditional Forest Dwellers Act, 2006. Currently the Ministry of Agriculture is developing the draft bill. (responding to the concerns regarding the protection of traditional fishers rights).



A study has been commissioned to analyse the cumulative impact of ports along the coastline. Till then there will be moratorium on the establishment or expansion of ports – Shri Jairam Ramesh

In Chennai

1. A National Environmental Protection Authority (NEPA) is being proposed under the Environment Protection Act (EPA) that will have the power to impose harsh measures and punishments to polluters. CRZ violations would be uploaded on the MoEF website, even if it involved violations by the Government. Public can report CRZ violations directly to the Ministry (responding to CRZ violations in Tamil Nadu).
2. Sea cucumber is a protected species under the Wildlife Protection Act and therefore lifting the ban is difficult. An option would be to declare the Gulf of Mannar as a Critically Vulnerable Coastal Area (CVCA) as suggested in the Final Frontier which ensures the protection of the community livelihoods. (with reference to an appeal on lifting the ban on sea-cucumber harvesting in the Gulf of Mannar region)



3. One of the major objectives of the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Zone Management (NCSCZM) set up at Anna University in Chennai is to help fishers to improve their livelihoods and protect them from effects of sea level rise due to global warming.

In Goa

1. No destruction will be done to the housing units of the traditional fishermen and toddy tapers who are living on the coast. Central and State Governments can appeal to the Court to halt demolition since MoEF is bringing amendments to the CRZ notification 1991, for the protection of fishers dwelling units that were present before 1991. (Responding to the concern regarding the demolition of illegal structures built after 1991 within 200 meters of the High Tide Line, by the Coastal Panchayats in compliance with the High Court orders)
2. It might be possible to consider Goa as a special case in CRZ. Communities and the State Government should give strong reasons to establish the unique status of Goa so that specific regulatory mechanisms suitable to Goa may be considered in the CRZ notification. (in response to various viewpoints that highlighted Goa's unique coastal ecosystem, coastal land use pattern, developmental pressures from mining and tourism sectors and the strong presence of Gram Panchayats in local development planning).
3. Panchayat representatives and local administrators should be made aware of the provisions in CRZ, its interpretation and applications. There is a need to decentralize the coastal management. The real need is to have peoples' participation. Panchayats should be actively involved in planning and management of the coast since Panchayats in Goa are already playing active roles in the development of coasts. (in response to the concerns raised on CRZ violations)
4. There is an urgent need for the State Government to reconstitute Goa State Coastal Zone Management Authority (GSCZMA) to regulate activities in the coast. (responding to a concern on illegal mining along the coast and lack of mechanisms to check such violations . GSCZMA was constituted in 3 days following the consultation).

Not interested in five star hotels, vacation homes for MPs/ MLAs, tourist lodges on beaches, and so on. If these need to be demolished, appropriate action will be taken. Protection of fishers and fisher families and their lives, livelihoods and habitation will remain the primary concern of the Ministry with respect to CRZ. – Shri Jairam Ramesh

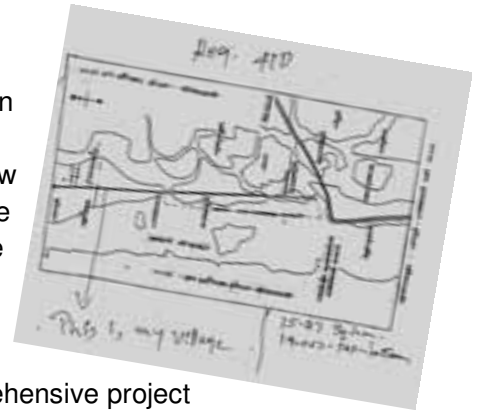
In Puri

1. Ecologically sensitive areas along the coast line like Chilika, Bhitarkanika and Gahirmatha will be protected. There would be a greater degree of transparency with regard to developmental activities and conservation efforts. Clearance would not be



given by MoEF to those developmental projects which disturb the equilibrium in the coastal environment. (responding to the concerns on the disturbances to coastal ecosystem due to port development)

2. Mangrove ecosystem along the Orissa coast must be conserved since they help in the protection of coasts against cyclones and tsunamis (responding to a concern on destruction of mangroves)
3. Marine Fisheries Regulation Bill is not within the purview of the MoEF. Since it is related to the fishers and marine area, their concerns could be taken forward to the Ministry of Agriculture which is dealing with this draft bill. (responding to concerns on the draft Marine Fisheries Regulation Bill)
4. World Bank had funded about 1200 crores for a comprehensive project on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in India. The project majorly focuses on the livelihood security of fishermen community, strengthening of social institutions, protection of sea from coastal erosion, protection of mangroves, disaster preparedness. Pilot Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) project would be launched in Orissa. Government of Orissa has been allocated 227 crores in the pilot phase.(highlighting the importance of coastal zone planning)
5. "vulnerability line mapping" is being done for the Indian coast and will be used to demarcate areas which are vulnerable to future sea level rise, inundations and natural disaster effects. This information will be shared with the local communities to assist them to reduce risks. (responding to the concerns on sea level rise and natural disasters)



Public should not believe in rumours and should try and find out the truth.

In Cochin

1. Kerala faces a multitude of issues unique to their coastal zone. This include lack of coastal landward space due to the natural geomorphology, pressures due to very high coastal population density, presence of number of ecologically sensitive areas such as rivers, tributaries, creeks, backwaters, mangroves and to top it all the pressure from developmental activities. Kerala has a strong and efficient Panchayat system to regulate activities in the CRZ. Given all the above characteristics, Kerala could be considered for a special status. CRZ norms might have to be formulated to address these specific concerns. (responding to plea for the exemption of CRZ rules for the construction of housing and other public infrastructure for certain Panchayats near the sea and backwater areas)
2. Ideally an Act or Legislation on CRZ is required to make amendments difficult. However, it is a long drawn and painful process. The new notification can therefore include a clause stating that any amendments to CRZ can only happen after undergoing a public consultation process with the local fishers and other coastal communities. (responding to concerns on the list of amendments that can be added to a Notification)



3. The new notification would primarily draw regulations from the CRZ 1991, it could be termed as “Sustainable Coastal Zone Protection Regulation” (SCZPR) Notification, whose primary aim would be to protect the coastal ecology and rights of the fishers and other coastal communities.
4. Improved CRZ Notification can be made available in local languages to communicate new provisions to the local communities (responding to the request to have policies in local languages)
5. World Bank supported integrated coastal zone management project (ICZMP) is being implemented in 3 states – Gujarat, Orissa and West Bengal. The project can be supported in Kerala if they wish , especially the component on awareness and training.
6. Vulnerability line will be used only for planning and not for regulation.

Fishers and other coastal communities have attended these consultations in large numbers, the ones chaired by the Minister in particular, because they have faith in the process, regard for public consultations and hope in the Minister that he will value their viewpoints. Participants have also appreciated some of the decisions taken by the Minister during the course of the consultation in response to their viewpoints. They feel that the initiative of MoEF to consult public for evolving policy frameworks may lead to similar efforts by the State Governments and other concerned Ministries leading to overall better governance mechanisms. Respondents feel that their view points and suggestions voiced during consultations are important for strengthening the CRZ notification, 1991. Coastal communities are of the view that , if taken in the true spirit, these suggestions will lead to effective coastal regulation ensuring the protection of coastal habitats and the rights and livelihood of coastal communities.





6 Annexure

6.1. Schedule of the Public Consultations

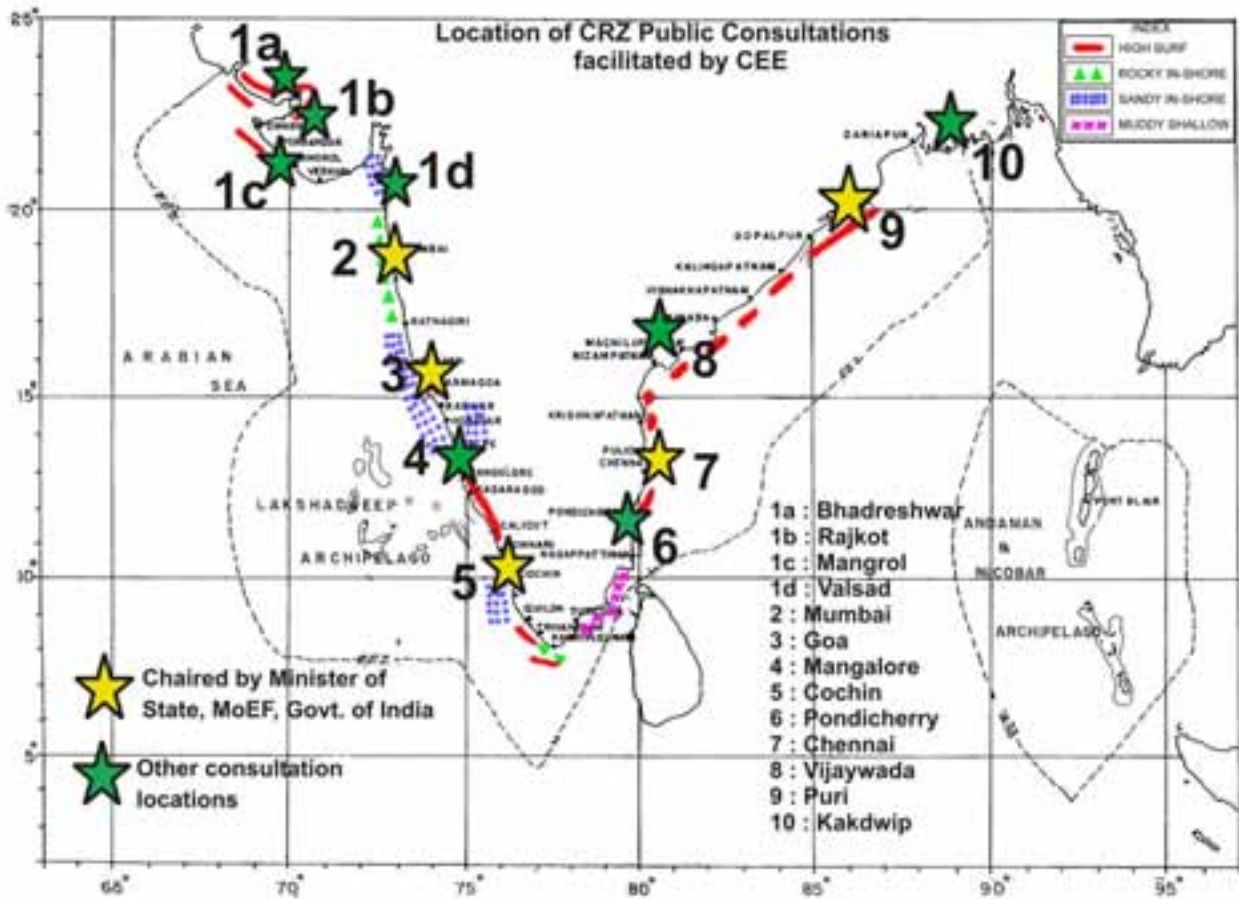
A. Schedule of Public consultations chaired by Shri Jairam Ramesh, Minister of State for Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India.

State	Date	Venue
Maharashtra	12 August, 2009	Next to Shidhi Vinayak temple ,Prabhadevi Mumbai – 25
Tamil Nadu	19 August, 2009	Kamraj Memorial Hall, No. 492, Congress Grounds, Teynampet, Chennai - 6000 018
Goa	30 August, 2009	Father Agnel Ashram, Verna, Goa
Orissa	16 January, 2010	Town Hall, Kacheri Road, Puri – 752001
Kerala	8 February, 2010	Renewal Centre, Azad Road. Kaloor, Cochin - 682 017

B. Schedule of the other 5 Public consultations

State	Date	Venue
Pondicherry	29 January, 2010	Pondicherry Multipurpose Social Service Society (PMSSS), Laporte Street, Pondicherry – 605001
Andhra Pradesh	06 February, 2010	Press Club, Gandhinagar, Vijayvada - 521 001
West Bengal	11 February, 2010	Fishing Harbour Community Hall, Kakdwip
Gujarat	15 February, 2010	GujaratBal Bhavan, Race Course, Rajkot – 360001
	21 February, 2010	Sri Parmesh Vidyalay, Mangrol Bandar, Mangrol, Junagadh
	24 February, 2010	Taluka Panchayat Hall, Valsad
	25 February, 2010	SETU Information Centre, Bhadreswar
Karnataka	27 February, 2010	College of Fisheries, Mangalore - 575 002

6.2 Map showing Public consultation locations



Location of CRZ Public Consultations

1. Gujarat

1a : Bhadreshwar

1b : Rajkot

1c : Mangrol

1d : Valsad

2 : Mumbai

3 : Goa

4 : Mangalore

5 : Cochin

6 : Pondicherry

7 : Chennai

8 : Vijaywada

9 : Puri

10. Kakdwip

6.3 Summary of State view points

Many of the viewpoints and concerns raised by the participants across the 10 public consultations were common and voiced repeatedly. These common concerns and viewpoints of the 10 consultations representing all the coastal States and Union Territory have been listed here. There are also State summary reports with state specific concerns and suggestions voiced during the consultation in the respective state. Ministers responses to some of the specific concerns in respective consultations are given in section 5.3. Each state summary report may be read along with the common concerns and viewpoints presented as below to get a holistic picture of the consultation proceedings.

6.3.1. Common concerns and viewpoints from 10 consultations covering all the Coastal States and Union Territory

A. Strengthening of CRZ implementation process

1. Overall, the initiative of the Minister, Shri Jairam Ramesh to hold public consultations with the local communities, fishers in particular to understand their concerns, is widely acknowledged. Such participative approaches must also be initiated by State Governments and other concerned departments.
2. Participants have appreciated the decision of MoEF to allow the draft CMZ Notification, 2008 to lapse and to reintroduce CRZ 1991 with improvements.
3. All agree that sustainable development of coastal areas is important. However, they have reinforced their views that protection of coastal ecology, and basic rights and livelihood of fishers should be central to coastal zone planning.
4. Nearly all the participants have strongly voiced their opinion to bring improvements in the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 in its original form and not with its amendments.
5. All CRZ violations must be identified and violators punished. New CRZ notification must have stringent punishments for CRZ and clarity on the penal procedures.
6. Most participants were of the opinion that CRZ violations occur because of lack of political and administrative will to implement CRZ in true spirit. The inefficient monitoring and lack of penal actions against the violators by the concerned Central and State Coastal Zone Management Authorities (CZMAs) have led to the current situation. To strengthen the governance structure, fisher representatives must be part of the CZMAs. Also, local coastal community committees may be constituted to assist the local administration and government departments in planning, implementing and monitoring the CRZ norms and activities.
7. Transparency of CRZ project clearance need to be ensured. Information about CRZ clearance, EIA reports and CRZ maps should be put up for public access and posted on the websites.
8. Latest CRZ maps with ground verification through involvement of local community must be prepared. These should have clear indications of land use pattern and ownership details about the properties falling in the CRZ zone. The base maps must be reviewed at least once in 2 years. HTL mapping must be done periodically and physically verified.
9. Public consultations at the district level must be held on the Draft Fishers Rights bill and draft Marine Fisheries Regulation bill which is currently under the Ministry of Agriculture. MoEF should coordinate with other Ministries and try to bring all the policies related to

coastal and marine sector under a single umbrella. This would avoid conflict of interests amongst the Ministries and help to regulate unplanned development in coastal areas.

10. Policies like Wetland Conservation Act; Fishers Rights Bill; Marine Fisheries Regulation Bill – all influence the coastal zone and therefore impact coastal communities. Hence, these need to be discussed in the context of CRZ to avoid controversies and public consultations initiated on each of these policies. There is a need to integrate all the related policies on marine and coastal areas under a nodal agency like MoEF.
11. An ecosystem approach to coastal management must be undertaken to conserve and protect the coasts. The new CRZ notification should therefore be oriented towards conservation and protection of coastal and marine ecology as well as the traditional rights of fishers and coastal community.
12. There should be an exclusive “Fisheries Court” on the lines of “Consumer Court” to deal with the various violations of the CRZ and punishment of polluters. Fishers can get easy access to justice because of this provision.
13. The seaward side must be brought under CRZ and categorized as CRZ V. Regulation on the seaward space must control pollution, effluent disposal, reclamation activities and proliferation of ports and oil terminals. It should not restrict livelihood activities of fishers.
14. Most fishers and other coastal communities have expressed strong desire to evolve a comprehensive Act on CRZ.
15. However, considering that the new / improved CRZ would continue to be in the form of a notification, there is a strong opinion to introduce a clause in the CRZ stating that any future amendments cannot be brought without undergoing the process of public consultation with fisher and local communities.
16. Any policy document / notification related to coastal and marine issues must be also available in the local language and widely disseminated at the grass root level. New CRZ notification must be available in the local language.
17. A general opinion across the consultations was also to set up a *task force* comprising of experts, environmentalists and community representatives in the process of drafting the new CRZ 1991 Notification. There was a need to ensure fishers representatives in drafting of new policies related to coastal and marine sector.



B. Protection of land and livelihood rights

18. Traditional and customary rights of the fishers in the coastal and marine area must be protected through legislation on Fisher Rights Act. This may be on the lines of the Forest Rights (Tribal and Forest Dwellers) Act. This should enable them to have access to basic education, health, water and protection of habitat and livelihood activities.
19. There must be an exclusive Ministry for Fisheries. The department of fisheries must be working independently and more representation of MLA and MPs from fishing community must be ensured to protect Fishers rights. Most fishers feel that fisheries is a neglected sector in India and has to be given more attention in order to develop coastal areas and fisher community.

20. There must be reservation for employment of qualified fishers in government departments – like fisheries, forestry, coast guard and navy. Measures to include fishers in local administration would help in conservation of coastal ecosystem services.



21. Existing dwelling units of the fishers must be protected. Land use in coastal areas must be prioritized for fishers and other coastal communities - especially for their housing and traditional livelihood activities. There must not be any restriction on fishers and coastal community to construct their houses within 200-500m of the CRZ areas.

22. It is difficult for fishers to produce legal proof of their land / “patta land” records, since most of the land space and sea space has been inherited traditionally from their forefathers. There must be other mechanisms to demarcate houses and properties of traditional fishers.

C. Regulating developmental activities in coastal zone

23. There is a wide spread apprehension on the list of permissible activities currently featuring under CRZ 1991, especially those related to atomic power plants and SEZs. New regulations must not allow atomic power plants, chemical industries, SEZs and heavy infrastructure based activities on the coast. Establishment of coastal industries and SEZs have destroyed coastal and marine ecology. Creeks and river courses have been altered to facilitate industrial expansion. Coastal communities like farmers have lost agriculture and grazing land. Settlement areas of fishers have also been disturbed.

24. Mining of sand, limestone, clay from the coastal beaches, river banks, estuaries must be stopped. Sand mining has affected the water table in coastal areas and has triggered salinity intrusion subsequently degrading water resources, grazing and farm land.



25. New ports must not be allowed . Even permission should not be given for further expansion of existing ports. Cumulative carrying capacity of the infrastructure and industrial projects on the coast must be studied.

26. Reclamation of land in the inter-tidal zone by the ports and power plants for infrastructure creation is leading to increased physical pressure on the coastal areas, resulting in inundation of fishers settlement areas, change in hydrological profile and increased salinity ingress in fresh water sources in coastal areas. .

27. Non-Conventional Energy should be promoted instead of thermal and atomic power plants. Ministry of Renewable and Non Conventional Energy Resources must concentrate on coastal areas to promote solar and wind energy in order to meet the power requirements since there is huge potential for tapping these energy sources.

D. Protection of coastal and marine ecology

28. Pollution due to industrial effluent discharge into the sea, river deltas, backwaters , creeks and estuaries has affected fish breeding, growth and resulted in low fish catch. Health issues due to bio-magnification is the concern due to contaminated fish resources. Toxicity tests, bio assay tests etc. must be carried out and results published. Industries should recycle and reuse the effluent waters instead of discharging into the sea. Industries must compensate and fund for restoration of the ecosystem and damage caused to coastal communities.
29. There is heavy oil pollution from oil and gas surveys, offshore oil production, oil terminals, pipelines, ships, ports and single point mooring (SPM) in seaward side. This affects water quality, biological productivity and fish catch. Navy and Coast Guard must play an active role in monitoring the pollution occurring in sea. Oil spill contingency plans must be prepared.
30. Desalination plants discharge high salinity waters (brine) into the sea. This also affects the fish growth and availability.
31. Coastal erosion triggered due to sand mining, construction of protection structures and disturbance to the hydrogeological profile of coastal areas is a major concern, especially along the west coast like Kerala, Maharashtra and Gujarat and along the east coast in Orissa, Pondicherry and Tamil Nadu. Erosion changes must be surveyed periodically and local community resettled and rehabilitated. Many farmers have lost their agricultural land and water resources due to damage to coastal aquifers and salinity intrusion. Migration of coastal communities due to environmental degradation is a potential problem and hence CRZ regulations must protect the habitat and livelihood of the coastal community. Fishers and other coastal communities migrating from coastal areas due to anthropogenic disturbance to their settlement areas must be resettled and rehabilitated.
32. Coastal groundwater aquifers need to be protected from overexploitation due to developmental activities. Studies to understand and take remedial actions to preserve the coastal hydrological profile and conservation of coastal water bodies.
33. All mangrove patches must be declared as reserve forest or no development zones. The mangroves must be protected from illegal cutting and mangrove areas must not be altered for any other use. Local community must be involved to protect mangroves and promote mangrove plantations. Companies that damaged mangroves must be punished.
34. Most fishers and coastal community are not aware of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project (ICZMP) funded by the World Bank (about 1200 crore) and implemented through the MoEF. Local communities are of the opinion that government departments must ensure effective extension education or awareness component in order to appraise and involve local community in such projects. They should be able to experience the advantages and disadvantages of such projects before such initiatives scale up from pilot phase across the country.



E. Protection against future sea level rise and natural disasters

35. Vulnerability Mapping and risk reduction planning must involve coastal communities. However, they should not be used to introduce regulations that would displace coastal communities in the name of safety.

36. Insurance coverage, sea safety program and early warning and dissemination mechanisms must be established for protecting the lives and livelihoods of fishers since they are high risk communities.



6.3.2. State specific concerns and suggestions voiced during the respective consultation

Each state summary may be read along with the common concerns and viewpoints given in section 6.3.1

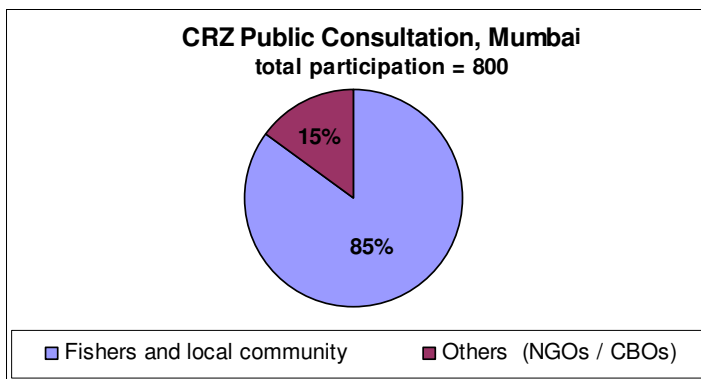
1. Public consultation in Mumbai

State: Maharashtra

Venue: Ravindra Natya Mandir, Mumbai

Date: 12 August, 2009

Respondent Profile



Majority concerns and viewpoints

1. Mumbai was primarily a *Koliwada* (a cluster of fishing hamlets) and small islands. However, seaward side reclamation had been systematically promoted leading to the displacement of fishing communities from their original settlements. Fishers do not have legal documents to establish their traditional usage of coastal land space and their rights. Fishers are primarily concerned about their lives, livelihoods and protection of the ecosystem like mangroves. They also want strict control over coastal pollution and developmental activities that disturb their settlement areas and livelihood activities.
2. All "Gaothan" places of the settlements falling in the CRZ should be listed.
3. The expert committee had suggested a special consideration to be given to Mumbai to address development and redevelopment issues in coastal areas. However, fishers generally raised doubts on the provision to increase FSI limits since it could lead to increased construction activities on the coast. The issue of urban housing for non fishing communities in the CRZ area of Mumbai has opened up a larger issue-- that of the difficulty of implementing a "uniform law" like CRZ.
4. The representatives from builder lobby demanded that the redevelopment of dilapidated structures/habitats should be permissible while restricting the new development projects in the CRZ.
5. CRZ has been amended many times in view of accommodating the specific interests or special cases of different stakeholders. This poses serious danger to CRZ.

6. Efforts need to be taken to see whether Sindudurg could be considered a critical habitat. The process of establishing the Marine National Park at Malwan needs to be transparent. The fishermen community must be consulted and included in such processes.
7. Restrict unauthorized sand mining on the coastline.
8. Marine pollution as a result of city sewage and industrial effluent discharge into the sea must be controlled.



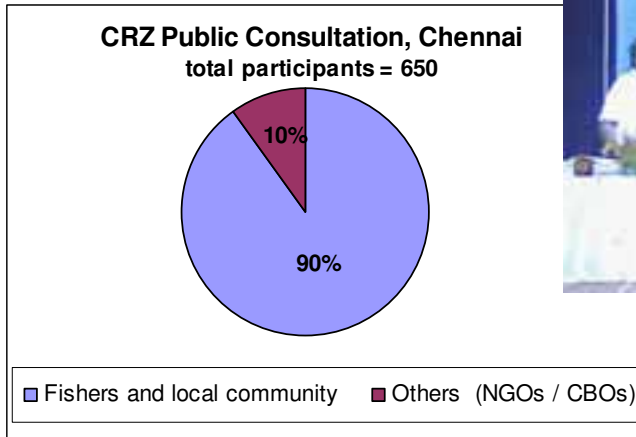
2. Public Consultation in Chennai

State: Tamil Nadu

Venue: Kamarajar Memorial Hall, Chennai

Date: 19 August, 2009

Respondent Profile



Majority concerns and viewpoints

1. The National Fishworkers' Forum had undertaken a nationwide study in 1996-97 to map CRZ violations. This report was submitted to the Coastal Zone Management Authority, but till today no action has been taken against the violators. Instead, all violations have been regularized by the 25 amendments. The biggest violator of the CRZ Notification is often the government itself.
2. The introduction of the Aquaculture Authority Act 2005, which declared aquaculture to be a permissible activity under the CRZ, has led to numerous CRZ violations and damage to the coastal ecology.
3. Almost all of Chennai had been classified as CRZ-II zone, except the Adayar estuary that has been classified as CRZ-I because of its species diversity and the fact that it was one among the Olive Ridley turtle nesting grounds. However, there are other eco-sensitive areas in Chennai which need to be classified as CRZ-I. There is widespread opposition to the State Government decision to construct a High Speed Elevated Circular Corridor right through the Adayar estuary, though the area is listed under CRZ-I. This would also displace 14 fishing hamlets.
4. Representatives of the fishing communities in Chennai said that they were troubled constantly by the police, their fishing routines disrupted by the smallest official function on the coast, because of 'security' concerns.
5. Due to security concerns, several areas near power plants like Kalpakkam, have been banned for fishing. Families whose lands have been taken over for the project, are yet to be provided compensation. This has led to loss of livelihoods and high levels of unemployment.
6. Marine pollution from Koodankulam thermal power plant in Tirunelveli district was raising health concerns.

7. Power plants like in Thootukudi produce waste fly ash which is disposed into the sea. Also high temperature waste water is released into the sea disturbing marine life.
8. Sand mining in Udankudi, Nagapattinam, Kanyakumari and Pondicherry is also a concern.
9. In Nagapattinam district, there is a plan to establish power plants and extend the ports. Around 60 fishing villages would be affected, including the nearby agriculture activities and farming community.
10. After the declaration of the Gulf of Mannar as National Park (GoMNP) and Biosphere Reserve, there is a restriction to collect seaweeds. This has affected the livelihood of around 300 fisher households from Pamban in Ramnathapuram.
11. There was an appeal by fishers to lift the ban on harvesting sea cucumber, and to allow controlled collection.
12. In Cuddalore, certain companies had established underground pipeline in the CRZ area to supply chemicals like phenyl chloride. 13 districts in Cuddalore are affected due to hazardous chemicals impact. There is a major concern about occurrence of chemical disasters in coastal areas. Shipment of hazardous substances are also occurring without adequate safety norms
13. EIA is not properly done for factories established along the coast and there is a danger of chemical disasters and affect on the fishing community.
14. Illegal fishing off the coast of Tamil Nadu by foreign fishing vessels must be stopped.
15. Major concerns were raised on the impact of desalination plants in coastal areas and concerns of it leading to salinity ingress.
16. In Pamban, a sea wall of 300-400 m length has been constructed along the coast which blocks the access of fishing communities to the sea. A National Highway runs along the coast, and at certain points has been reinforced with boulders. This has cut off the access of fishing communities to the sea.
17. The issue of poorly built tsunami shelters in Kanyakumari district was raised. New tsunami housing areas were built far away from the seashore, leading to difficulties for fishers to carry out their daily livelihood activities.



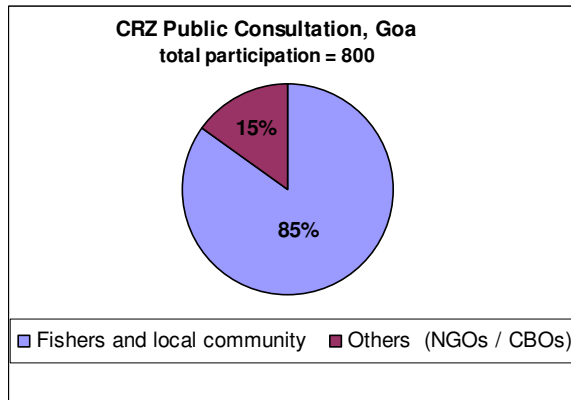
3. Public Consultation in Goa

State: Goa

Venue: Fr. Agnel Ashram Educational Complex, Verna, Goa

Date: 30 August, 2009

Respondent Profile



Majority concerns and viewpoints

1. There is a huge pressure of tourism activities on the state of Goa which is leading to degradation of coastal ecology. MoEF must initiate discussions with the Ministry of Tourism on their tourism plans and find suitable solutions.
2. Tourism and Beach Management Committees with involvement of local Panchayats must be formed at the village level to tackle issues related to tourism and mining impacts. A beach management act or regulation may be framed separately.
3. All the Panchayats in Goa should be made aware of the improved CRZ notification as well as other policies related to coastal and marine areas. There must be awareness, education and training programs to strengthen Panchayats in coastal management and increased involvement of local community on the same.
4. Goa Coastal Zone Management Authority (GCZMA) should be the enforcing, licensing and penalizing authority and MoEF should oversee the GCZMA activities.
5. FSI should not be increased in Goa. Only ground plus one building should be allowed.
6. The land belonging to the fishing communities along the coast of Goa should not be sold to others except for their community members.
7. CRZ should have specific regulations for protecting the ecology of estuaries, river deltas and small islands. Many minor rivers are not shown on map of Goa. Few bays with distinct marine characteristics are wrongly classified as freshwater bodies by the State. Such classification benefits the real estate developers and hoteliers for illegal occupation and leads to CRZ violations. A study must be undertaken to have geographically, ecologically consistent classification and interpretation of marine and coastal geophysical features in Goa.
8. Issues due to rapid urbanization of coastal areas must be considered while regulating CRZ activities.
9. Panjim which has 60% of its geographical area below sea level and very vulnerable to sea level rise needs a special status and consideration under CRZ rules.

10. The current basis of demarcating CRZ within 500 meters of HTL does not have any ecological or scientific consideration. Hence, it is important to have clear rationale and scientific, ecological and ecosystem specific criteria to demarcate boundaries of CRZ.
11. CRZ must include mitigation and rehabilitation measures for the vulnerable coastal communities. Coastal vulnerability maps need to be prepared and disseminated to local authorities.
12. Public consultations must also be organized in South and North Goa to discuss the CRZ notification and effective participation.
13. Many of the iron ore stock piling occurs on the riverbanks and estuary which are influenced by tidal action. The leaching of such minerals and chemicals has a negative impact on such rivers, estuaries and other coastal ecosystem.
14. Some of the riverbank area of the River Chapora has been leased to Seasa Goa which is a mining company. This will have adverse impact on the ecology of the Chapora river.
15. Considering the unique issues and features of coastal areas in Goa, a special status may be given to Goa to regulate the CRZ activities.



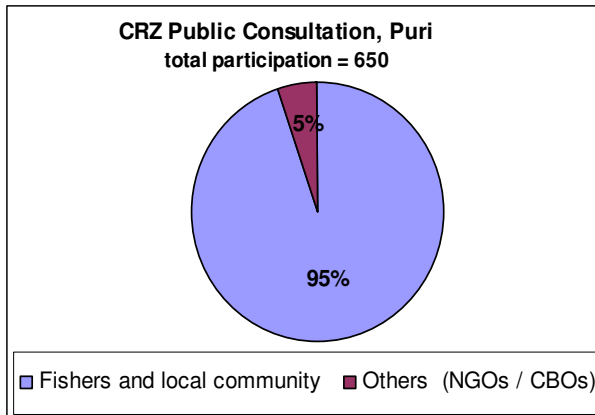
4. Public Consultation in Puri

State: Orissa

Venue: Town Hall, Puri

Date: 16 January, 2010

Respondent Profile



Majority concerns and viewpoints

1. Proper titles, land patta and land registration must be made available to the traditional fishermen. Traditional rights of the fishers to be protected.
2. 12 to 13 ports along a coastline of 480 km in Orissa (almost 1 port every 40 km.) would negatively impact the coastal ecology, especially the turtle nesting grounds. Currently, the future ports proposed are identifies in the 5 turtle mass nesting sites- Palur, Dhamra, Astarang, Barunei Muhan.
3. Port project proposals must be considered only after proper EIA studies and consent of the local communities, particularly fishers. New port projects and expansion must require EIA studies based on a minimum of 3 years data. Ports must be prohibited around all Protected Areas and other areas identified as Ecologically Sensitive Areas under the Environment Protection Act.
4. Extraction / mining of sand from the coast must be banned. Significant erosion occur at Satabhaya in the Kendrapara district, and north of Gopalpur port, Podampeta, Ramayapatna.
5. Proposals to construct seawalls in Pentha, Kendrapara District, should be considered only following an environment impact assessment of such proposals.
11. No consultations were made with the fishers around Gahirmata before declaring it as a protected area. This resulted in 10,000 fisherfolk around Gahirmata to seek alternate livelihood and migrated to other areas. Therefore there should be provision for public consultation before declaring certain areas as Protected Area (PA). Special amendments should be done for protecting the livelihood of fishers in such PAs.
12. There are more than 45000 migratory fishermen from Andhra Pradesh in Puri. It is necessary to rehabilitate them in a separate area near the coastline in Puri and to ascertain their livelihood by certain regulatory acts and construction of fish landing centre for the community.

13. Mangrove habitats have been destroyed to establish aquaculture ponds in Astaranga, Mahakalpada. The Aquaculture Authority Act of 2005, which currently supersedes the CRZ notification 1991, should be abolished.
14. Ecologically sensitive areas along the coast line like Chilika, Bhitarkanika and Gahirmatha must be protected.
15. The Andaman & Nicobar and the Lakshadweep islands should remain under CRZ IV, as per the existing CRZ Notification, 1991, without the numerous dilutions that it has undergone.
16. Vulnerability line mapping (which the Central Government is currently initiating) should not become an excuse to bring in regulations and management methodology to remove fishers from the coast while promoting the external stakeholders.
17. Effluents released from Jayshree Chemicals, Ganjam, and the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) and Paradip Phosphates Limited (PPL), Jagatsinghpur and other such industries located on Orissa's coast is leading to heavy marine pollution.
18. DRDO projects in Gahirmatha, Devi areas and the proposed construction of a lighthouse in the close proximity of the Rushikulya region would disturb mass-breeding and nesting habitats for sea turtles.
19. In 2003-2004 a Central Empowered Committee constituted by the Supreme Court visited and made detailed recommendations with respect to the protection of Orissa's coast. Some of its specific recommendations must be implemented, like: No intensive aquaculture should be permitted within 5 km of the coast and inland boundaries of the Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary and the Bitharkanika National Park. Restrictions on illumination by industrial, municipal and residential units along coastal areas should be brought.



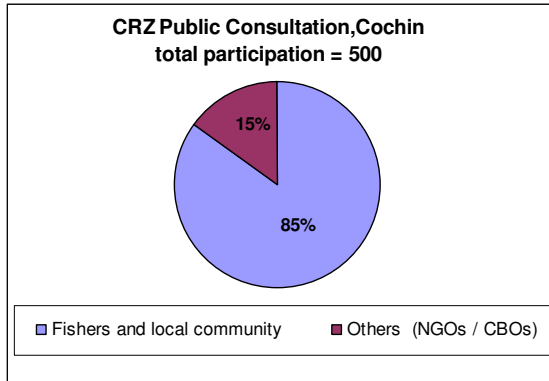
5. Public Consultation in Cochin

State: Kerala

Venue: Renewal Centre, Cochin

Date: 08 February, 2010

Respondent Profile



Majority concerns and viewpoints

1. Legislation on CRZ is required so that amendments cannot be made without discussion in the Parliament. However, even the new / improved CRZ notification must have a clause stating that future amendments cannot be made without prior consultations with the fishers and local coastal communities.
2. All existing houses of fisher folk within 0-500 meters must be protected whereas the non fisher settlers who have encroached upon the coastal space must be removed. There must also be adequate rehabilitation packages for fishers due to issues related to coastal erosion and risk of inundation.
3. Kerala has a very narrow stretch of coastal land for the purpose of inhabitation, infrastructure, industrial development and agricultural activities like farming. Kerala also has a very high coastal population density (about 2150 persons / sq.km.);

To,
The Hon'ble Minister For Forest and Environment of
Govt.India
Sri.Jairam Ramesh

Sir,

It is resolved that the memorandum on behalf of the people of Chellanam village may be considered for your kind intervention and appropriate action so that the troubles of homeless fishermen folk of this Panchayat may be assuaged.

Chellanam is a narrow landform about 16 km in length, starting from St.George church at the southern end and Manassery Kaithaveli in the northern end. It has only a width of 250 mtrs at this end, accommodating in between the places of Maruvkad, Challakadavu, Kandakadavu, Puthanthode, Kannamaly, Cheryyakadavu and Kattiparambil. These places are thickly populated. 52000 people reside in Chellanam. Maximum number of people are, the poor homeless fishermen who live along the coast. Being restricted in space for construction of houses the people are living in shanties and temporary shelters in and around the village.

As mentioned above the place is surrounded by waterbodies.The eastern coast is backwaters and the western coast is Arabiansea.The panchayat is facing peculiar problem of housing as the area for construction of dwelling units in this village is restricted due to the CRZ III norms prevails as of today.This restriction dosent allow any

construction activities in majority of area of this Panchayath.

The present commission on CRZ, ignored the interests of poor fishermen. Even there is no special mention about the community in commissions report.

The prevailing CRZ notification says, a width of 100 meters towards the landside from the high-tide line or the width of the backwaters, whichever is less, should be left as a no-development zone. And the width of 200 meters towards the landside from high-tide line should be left as no-development zone from the Arabian Sea.

Presently no construction is possible, even the Panchayat cannot undertake any housing projects for the homeless. The Housing Schemes by the center as well as other Agencies cannot be implemented in this Panchayat due to the prevailing CRZ norms and regulations. There are litigations filed against the Panchayat for not allowing any permits for constructions under center sponsored housing schemes such as BSUP, JNNURM. Even the Panchayat office had to be constructed on the no development zone due to non-availability of CRZ free zone.

Considering these problems and restriction on development of Housing sector in this village we request your Good Self to intervene in this matter immediately and kindly initiate action, which may relax CRZ norms generally, and specifically for Government Sponsored housing schemes in this village so that the poor fisher men folks can have a permanent shelter above their head.



K.P. RAJASAD
PRESIDENT
CHELLANAM GRAMA PANCHAYAT

per capita holdings are very small. There are also various rivers, tributaries, creeks and backwaters flowing in the coastal zone, making it ecologically sensitive. There are around 600 villages in Kerala which falls under CRZ, 300 connected to the sea coast and another 300 connected to rivers and backwaters. 227 grama panchayats, 3 municipal corporations and 19 municipal towns are located on coast. Given all the above characteristics, it becomes very difficult to initiate any type of construction projects such as housing, roads, public buildings. Therefore, special consideration is needed with respect to Kerala coast while framing regulation on CRZ. Kerala must have special CRZ rules and regulations specific to the unique socio-ecological characteristic of coastal towns / cities. There must be provisions in CRZ so that dwelling units of fishers and local community (especially those living along the backwater areas) as well as public utility buildings may come up in the 0-200 meters zone. Only then can Central schemes like JNNURM, Indira Awas Yogna be implemented. Examples of coastal Panchayats facing the above include Ezhikkara, Chellana,, mulavukad, kadamakudi, Varapuzha.

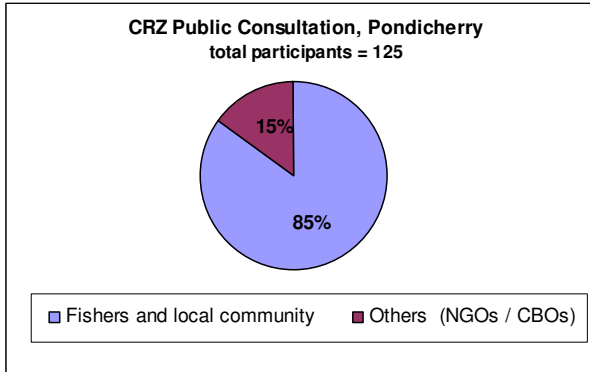
4. Kadammakudy gramma panchayath consists of 7 small islands having area of 12.29 sq.kms. In this Panchayath, ward 11 is a small island where 234 families are living. 25% of these families belong to SC/ST and rest belongs to OBC. 98% are casual labourers. Though the Panchayat has received funds for construction of 818 houses for poor families, they are unable to do so because of the CRZ rules. Considering their unique case, their should be special rules in CRZ to allow their Panchayat to construct houses.
5. Small islands with delta located in the river mouth of 41 rivers and backwaters of Kerala must be categorized under CRZ IV and have separate CRZ regulations such that the basic rights to housing and livelihood of the inhabitants of such islands are protected. Reclamation of backwaters and coastal areas must be regulated.
6. Rare earth and sand mining from coastal areas of Karunagapally taluka must be banned.
7. Expansion and deepening of Cochin port has led to coastal erosion and loss of habitat to the nearby fishing villages. They are also facing increasing cases of seawater inundation and high wave action. This problem needs to be studied and perhaps constructing a breakwater structure might help.
8. Government must consider reservations and opportunities for the enrolment of qualified fishers in related government offices and sectors like fisheries, coast guard, town and country planning, forests etc. This would help in bringing local knowledge and effective coastal management measures.
9. Photo identity cards must be given to all fishers. They should be permitted to fish beyond 12 nautical miles and provided with sea safety equipments, medical aid and modern fishing equipments.
10. Policies like Wetland Conservation Act; Fishers Rights Bill; Marine Fisheries Regulation Bill – all impact the coastal zone and coastal communities. Therefore, these need to be discussed in the context of CRZ to avoid controversies and public consultations initiated on each of these policies. There is a need to integrate all the related policies on marine and coastal areas under a nodal agency like MoEF.
11. The river-coast-and sea should be seen holistically and even inland activities must be regulated for better management of coastal areas.
12. Mangrove deforestation must be prevented. Initiate activities to promote bio-shields.

6. Public Consultation in Pondicherry

State: Pondicherry

Venue: Pondicherry Multipurpose Social Service Society (PMSSS), Laporte Street,
Pondicherry Date: 29 January, 2010

Respondent Profile



Majority concerns and viewpoints

1. Traditional panchayats must be consulted for development of any new projects along coastal areas; regulations under CRZ Notifications should be implemented and monitored locally through representation by fishers.
2. Ministry should initiate drafting of policies / regulations by facilitating a draft approach paper developed through a consultative process with the local communities. This may then be taken up for drafting the legal framework / draft policy and then opened up for public debate / suggestions. A National Policy for conservation and eco-restoration of India's coastline must be evolved.
3. Set up Cells at the local level with State officials, Coastal communities and NGOs for monitoring the coastline. Publicize all coastal developmental and conservation projects in mass media like TV, newspapers.
4. Government must allocate dedicated funds to create awareness and training programs for coastal management at different levels.
5. Majority fishers and NGOs were concerned about coastal erosion due to unplanned construction of dykes and seawalls. This has resulted in loss of beach front and displacement of fishing villages like Thandirayan kuppam, Nadu Kuppam and Soudani Kumman in Tamil Nadu and Solai Nagar, Vaithi Kuppam, Kuruchi kuppam and Vembakirapalayam in Pondicherry. Seawall construction in Pondicherry had resulted in coastal erosion in adjoining villages of Tamil Nadu and also increased the impact of tsunami / cyclones on these villages.
6. Coastal erosion triggered due to construction activities along the coastline and intertidal region has resulted in loss of beach front, salinity ingress, loss of agriculture land, lower agriculture productivity, and increased the vulnerability to storm surges and cyclones.
7. Proliferation of tourist homes, hotels, resorts in Pondicherry has resulted in loss of coastal space and displacement of over 15 fishing villages.
8. The government was biased towards clearing commercial projects like Single Point Mooring (SPM) activity but did not show the same enthusiasm in completing the construction of shelters for fishing communities post-tsunami.

9. Leaders from the fishing Panchayats protested against the draft Marine Fisheries Regulation and Management Bill which restricts their rights to marine waters and resources. They demanded that the drafting must be framed in consultation with the fishing community. Further, they questioned as to why the Ministry of Agriculture which issued this draft bill and is drafting Fisher Rights bill has not conducted public consultations as done by the MoEF for the CRZ notification.
10. There must be an integrated approach amongst different ministries and departments in order to safeguard their interests and bring transparency in the policy decisions pertaining to coastal areas.
11. Fishers and local community protested against the current Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) project promoted by the World Bank which was framed without the involvement of fisher representatives.
12. The current 'vulnerability line' mapping undertaken by Central Government should not become a reason to bring in regulations that restrict the fishers rights.



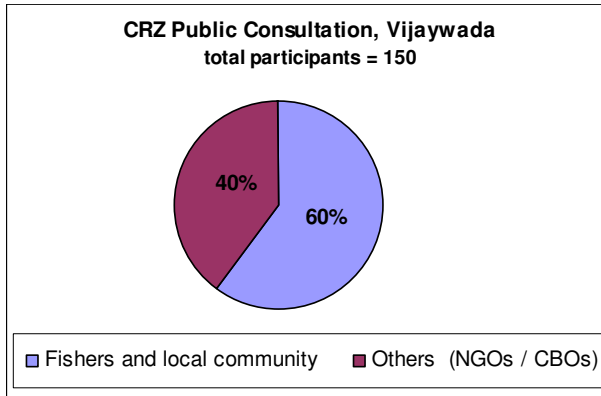
7. Public Consultation in Vijayawada

State: Andhra Pradesh

Venue: Press Club, Gandhinagar, Vijaywada

Date: 06 February, 2010

Respondent Profile



Majority concerns and viewpoints

1. Revenue Department consider coastal wet lands, creeks, tidal mudflats, mangrove areas as waste lands and these are allotted to industries for commercial projects. Therefore, such ecologically sensitive areas must be protected. The representation of Biodiversity board is must in the committees that scrutinize coastal developmental projects.
2. There is a lack of coordination between the departments of Irrigation, Revenue, Forests and Tourism departments which leads to unplanned development in coastal areas. As per the High Court Directive WPN 8177/07 trainings (for sensitization) should be organized for the government officials of coastal areas on CRZ 1991. Public awareness on CRZ needs to be promoted.
3. The water in creeks should be regularly monitored for the pollution levels and this information should be given to the public. This will enable local administration to take action against polluting industries. Effluents must be properly treated.
4. According to oil and gas exploration rule 1956 (modified in 2003), no well shall be drilled near inhabited areas, rural or urban. These stipulations must be followed for CRZ areas too. Oil and gas exploitation should be prohibited in coastal areas.
5. At the time of oil and gas extraction, waste water which is 7-8 time saltier than the sea water is directly released into sea and this subsequently damages the marine food web.
6. Pollution in marine waters has resulted in unavailability of fish in near shore waters. Fishers have to venture deeper into the sea, which is highly risky.
7. Private hatcheries encourage fishers to collect mother prawns from the sea by paying lucrative amounts up to one lakh rupees per mother prawn. Because of this, fishers have begun to catch mother prawns from the sea in a large scale manner. This has subsequently led to low availability of prawns in the marine food web. Hence, external stakeholders like hatcheries must be regulated to prevent exploitation of marine resources.

8. Fisherwomen were particularly concerned about the impact of development (like industries, aquaculture, ship breaking, and external stakeholders) on the coastal habitat and the new generation being diverted away from traditional fishing activities and migrating away from coastal areas. So more attention to be given to marine fishery sector.
9. There should be a special package to address the issues faced by the fishermen community, dalit community who are settled around the Kolleru lake.
10. Fishers should be allowed to construct houses in the CRZ area. Government must provide resettlement and rehabilitation packages to coastal community who are displaced due to sea level rise and degradation of the coastal habitats and also by other developmental activities.



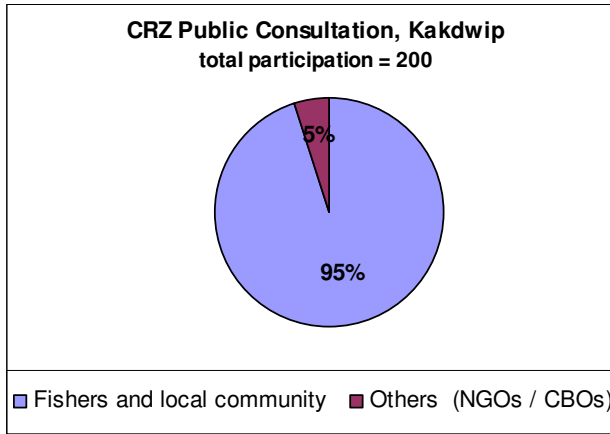
8. Public Consultation in Kakdwip

State: West Bengal

Venue: Fishing Harbour Community Hall, Kakdwip

Date: 11 February, 2010

Respondent Profile



Majority concerns and viewpoints

1. A legislation to protect the traditional rights of the fishers must be enacted. A separate Ministry on Fisheries should be set up at Central Government so that the development of fishers is prioritized. In West Bengal, traditional fisheries contributes a good amount of foreign exchange by the way of exports. However, adequate investment in the sector or for the welfare of the fishers is lacking.
2. Ecologically sensitive areas like Sunderbans must be protected from upstream pollution. Only community based ecotourism should be encouraged and fishers should be allowed to fish in estuarine areas. Fishers rights for fish drying in Jambudweep island need to be protected and they should not be unjustly evicted.
3. Atomic Power Plants should not be exempted from construction in CRZ. For instance, Nuclear power plant proposed at Haripur will displace the fisher habitation. Developmental activities like laying approach road for tourism, hotel construction etc. has destroyed sea beach area. Such developmental projects must be initiated and cleared only after consulting the local public / residents.
4. Ship breaking (in Kultali area), oil exploration must not be allowed in CRZ. Land reclamation and concrete bunding in delta areas and riverbanks must not be allowed.
5. SEZ projects promoting large scale industrialization in Haripur, Purba Medinipur, Mandarmoni, Nayachar, Sundarban must be prevented because they would destroy the coastal and marine ecology of these areas.
6. Sahara Flotel concept /activities (floating hotel on the sea), if materialize can not be regulated by the existing CRZ 91, since seaward boundary is not a part of CRZ regulation. Hence, seaward side boundary must be included in CRZ. However, the regulations must protect the rights of the fishers.
7. Different conservation acts like – Forest protection act, wildlife act, EPA etc. should be framed without affecting their livelihood. Fishers are not allowed in core reserved forest area of Sunderban during times of rough weather, cyclones etc. Disaster risk

reduction measures should be implemented for fishers. Fishers should be allowed to stay or halt in the forest area during times of rough weather.

8. 15000 fishermen were evicted from Jambudwip without proper rehabilitation package in the name of conservation. It is essential to provide permanent shelter and proper employment opportunity for such affected fishers. While fishers are driven out in the name of conservation; industries are allowed and given coastal land for development. Conservation efforts must be prioritized over industrial expansions.
9. Due to the heavy tourist influx during Ganga Sagar mela, the fishing activity is stopped 15 days prior to the mela. Fishers have suggested to make a fence in Ganga Sagar island to control the crowd so that their activity is not disturbed. They have also suggested waste management practices for the heavy load of waste left after the mela.
10. ID cards issued by local organizations / NGOs to the fishers are creating confusion amongst the fishers. They are also given ID cards by coast guard, fisheries department which has created further confusion.
11. Mangrove areas in Sunderban must be strictly protected. Illegal cutting of mangroves must be stopped and violators strictly punished.
12. Public consultation with fishers should be organized before finalizing the draft Marine Fisheries and Regulation bill. MoEF should become the nodal agency and coordinate the policies and activities undertaken by different Ministries in the coastal and marine areas.



9. Public Consultation in Gujarat

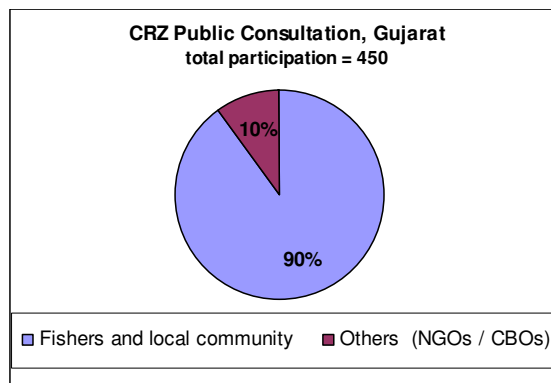
State: Gujarat

Venue: Rajkot, Veraval, Valsad, Bhadreshwar

Date: 15 February, 21 February, 24 February, 25 February, 2010

In Gujarat, there was a specific demand from the coastal communities to organize multi-location consultations to ensure effective participation due to the multi faceted issues regarding the coastline during the first consultation held at Rajkot . Accordingly, CEE with support of the local fisher organizations, facilitated public consultations in Valsad (South Gujarat coast); Mangrol (Saurashtra Coast) and Bhadreshwar (Gulf of Kutch coast)

Respondent Profile



Majority concerns and viewpoints

1. Pollution due to industrial effluent discharge is a major issue in South Gujarat coast, especially in the Mindhola and Tapi estuary and in the coastal areas of Daman and Diu. This has led to health concerns and damage to fish breeding, fish growth resulting in low fish catch. No permission therefore should be given to dispose untreated effluent into the estuarine zone which is a natural fish breeding habitat .
2. Pollution Control Board (GPCB) must carry out their activities efficiently and take strict action against polluters.
3. Oil pollution from oil and gas surveys, offshore oil production, oil terminals, pipelines, ships, ports and single point mooring (SPM) activities are very high in South Gujarat sea and can affect the coasts of Gujarat, Daman (U.T.) and Maharashtra. There are no oil spill contingency plans and resources available. Only the coast guard is responsible for monitoring such activities on the sea, which is inadequate.
4. Mining of sand, limestone, clay from the coastal beaches and rivers must be stopped. Sand mining has affected the water table in coastal areas as well as triggered salinity intrusion. There are numerous cases of illegal sand mining in estuarine areas of Ambika, Purna, Kaveri, Aurang river, Mindhola and Tapi estuary. Stone blasting in coastal areas must be stopped.
5. Coastal erosion is also a major problem in South Gujarat, especially in the Mindhola and Varoli estuary. Such changes must be surveyed periodically and local community resettled and rehabilitated. Many farmers have lost their agricultural land due to erosion aspects. Erosion also reduces the water availability in coastal aquifers and increases the salinity intrusion. Migration of coastal communities due to

environmental degradation is a potential problem. 70% of people from Bilimora and Gadevi village have migrated because of the coastal erosion.

6. Coastal protection structures like seawalls have triggered coastal erosion in villages of Machiwad of Navsari district. Instead of physical structures, bioshields must be promoted.
7. Gulf of Kutchch must be considered as a Critically Vulnerable Coastal Area and have regulations that protects its rich marine biodiversity. Stressing for a special status for Gulf of Kutchch, fishers pointed out that Gulf of Kutchch had numerous tidal mudflats, creeks, mangroves, coral reefs, beaches and the Gulf was essentially a closed ecosystem. Any pollutant entering into Gulf could not be easily flushed out into the open sea. Pollution from the chemical industries, ports, power plants, SEZs, oil refineries, oil tankers, ships etc. could heavily damage the Gulf marine ecosystem within a short time span. It is therefore important to control the establishment and expansion of such developmental activities in the Gulf of Kutchch.
8. Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management (ICMAM) report on “Geographical Information System (GIS) for Gulf of Kutchch” must be made public and in local language. This report gives scientific evidence of the risk of damaging the sensitive marine ecology and livelihood of the fishers due to unplanned port and other industrial activities. They have properly demarcated and suggested industrial and other development zones which may be followed to arrive at locations for the developmental activities.
9. An example of Gujarat Adani Port Limited (GAPL) company destroying the mangroves was highlighted. Fishers recommended to demarcate mangrove patch areas and consider them as “reserved areas for conservation”. New mangrove plantations must also be promoted.
10. During the Mumbai CRZ Public Consultation, Minister had agreed to send an empowered committee to study the violations of CRZ and destruction of mangroves in the Mundra coast due to the port activities. However, no committee has visited the site till date. The local communities are looking forward to a visit by such a committee which will get first hand information about the local issues and rampant CRZ and Forest law violations.
11. There should be an exclusive “Fisheries Court” on the lines of “Consumer Court” to deal with the various violations of the CRZ and punishment of polluters. Fishers can get easy access to justice because of this provision.
12. Health Ministry should study the impacts of the industries / pollution on the public health in Kutchch. Study to analyze the contamination of marine waters and fish (biomagnifications studies) should also be initiated. Health hazards in the Gulf of Kutchch should be identified, especially due to the emergence of ports, power plants and chemical industries. This should also cover the health impacts on livestock.
13. When SEZs are given tax holidays, fishers life and livelihood should be covered under insurance schemes.



14. Coastal land use pattern needs to be continuously monitored. Any land area allotted for commercial purpose must have the consent of the local community. The case of Adani Group Company having procured grazing land for commercial purpose was highlighted. This has resulted in decline of livestock development and agriculture activities. The reclamation of inter-tidal zones and destruction of mangroves to expand the port area was also highlighted. Fishers voiced that SEZs must not be located in areas that have existing and thriving fisheries activities and settlements. Women also stated about loss of grazing land and salinity ingress due to industrial development pressures, unplanned commercial establishments and expansion of ports and power plants.
15. Fly ash and coal dust coming from the industries damage the cropland and standing crop in the nearby fields of the farmers living in the coastal zone.
16. From the point of security , existing power plants, proposed nuclear power plants and oil refineries are highly dangerous in Gulf of Kutch since it is a border area with Pakistan as neighbouring state. Because of this strategic location, it can be easily targeted in case of war-like situations. Hence, such projects must not be established in coastal areas having international border.
17. Local fishers should be involved or recruited in the coast guard and navy team so that they can give the local and traditional knowledge. Jakhau to Okha coastal stretch should be monitored thoroughly under security issues.
18. The ships entering the Gulf of Kutch often damage the nets and boat of the fishers, since ships are unable to detect the presence of fishing boats. Dedicated 'channels' should be available for ships to navigate in the Gulf. Traffic from ships plying in the Gulf should be moderated in order not to disturb the fishing activities of the local fishers.
19. Tectonic activities in South Gujarat region must be studied, especially in the coastal areas. There are already visible hydrological and ecological changes due to developmental pressures, industrial activities in South Gujarat coast.
20. Coastal communities are now aware of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project (ICZMP) funded by the World Bank . Government departments must extend effective awareness and extension education in this regard to appraise and involve local communities in such projects.



10. Public Consultation in Mangalore

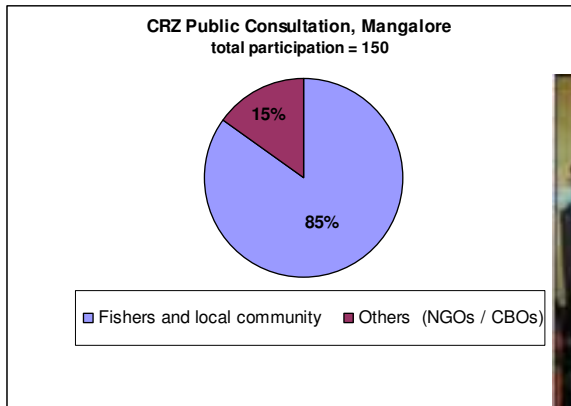
State: Karnataka

Venue: Fisheries College, Mangalore

Date: 27 February, 2010

The consultation at Mangalore was to be held initially on 13, February. However due to local strike the fisher communities could not reach the venue. So it was decided to hold the consultation again on 27, February, 2010.

Respondent Profile



Majority concerns and viewpoints

1. Dwelling units of fishers must be protected. The fishers must be given *hakkupathra* (legal documents) so that they can claim legal ownership of their housing units and settlement areas.
2. Increasing population pressures on coastal areas of Karnataka need to be considered and fishers allowed to reconstruct or expand their housing space.
3. Akrama - Sakrama scheme (State Government scheme) activities which legalize and regularize illegal construction must not be implemented in CRZ areas.
4. Fisher representatives and NGOs working with fishing and other coastal communities must be part of CRZ planning and monitoring committees.
5. Definition of fisher folk must be clear and criteria to identify traditional coastal communities should be listed properly.
6. Uppala (close to Mangalore) and Shirali (North Canara coast) areas must be categorized under CRZ 2 from CRZ 3 zone.
7. Effluent disposal, industrial air pollution and oil spills must be monitored regularly in coastal areas, especially in industrial areas like Ullal and Mangalore including Nagarjuna Power Plant.



6.4 Summary of Expert Committee Recommendation

Summary of the Report of the Expert Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. M. S. Swaminathan to review the Draft Coastal Management Zone Notification, 2008 dated 16.7.2009

1. For the purpose of conserving the coastal environment the Ministry had issued the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991. The Notification regulated various activities in the CRZ area.

2. The Notification has undergone 25 amendments during its implementation since 1991 to 2009.

3. In order to examine the issues in a holistic manner the Ministry constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. M. S. Swaminathan in June, 2004. The Committee submitted its Report in 2005. Based on the recommendations of the Committee the Ministry issued a draft Coastal Management Zone (CMZ) Notification on 1.5.2008 and an amendment issued on 9.5.2008 inviting public suggestions and objections in accordance with Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 within a period of 60 days from the date of issue of the notification. Further, based on the requests made by the State Government the draft Notification was re-notified on 22.7.2008 extending the time period for receiving suggestions and objections. As per the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 a draft notification lapses if not finalized within a period of 365 days from date of issue of the notification.

4. The Ministry assigned Centre for Environment Education, Ahmedabad to collect the comments of the local communities and NGOs on the Draft Coastal Management Zone Notification, 2008.

5. The Ministry received large number of suggestions and objections to the draft CMZ Notification. Further, CEE also submitted its report based on their consultations with the local communities in various coastal States in which 35 meetings and around 4,000 people attended all over the coastal States.

6. Further, the Parliamentary Committee on Science and Technology, Environment & Forests also examined the implications of the Draft Coastal Management Zone Notification, 2008 in November - December, 2008. The Report of the Parliamentary Committee received in the Ministry in March, 2009.

7. In order to examine these suggestions and objections including the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee and to formulate the Coastal Zone Management approach for the country, the Ministry constituted a four-Member Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. M. S. Swaminathan on 15.6.2009. The Terms of Reference of the Committee were, (i) to examine the comments received by the Ministry on the draft Coastal Management Zone Notification, 2008 and (ii) to advise on the policy and legal framework for Integrated Coastal Zone Management. The Committee reviewed the comments received by Ministry of Environment and Forests on the draft CMZ Notification, 2008 and had held five meetings with the representatives of different groups who had sent their comments on Draft

CMZ Notification, 2008 to Ministry of Environment and Forests. The meetings were as follows:-

- June 27, 2009 – to discuss issues relating to Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) and Coastal Management Zone (CMZ)
- July 7, 2009 – to meet representatives of Central and state governments
- July 8, 2009 – to meet representatives of Chambers of Commerce and Industry
- July 11, 2009 – to meet representatives of NGOs and fisherfolks' associations
- July 16, 2009 – to finalise the Report

8. The Expert Committee submitted its Report on 16.7.2009 and the Ministry accepted the Report. The above Expert Committee observed the following:-

- There is widespread opposition to the draft CMZ Notification. All eight state governments, which have submitted written comments, have recommended that CMZ 2008 should be withdrawn. The draft Notification has also been rejected by fisherfolks' organizations as well as environmental NGOs.
- There is a widespread concern that the scientific management regime proposed in the draft Notification is open to misinterpretation and abuse. There is some ambiguity about the scientific terminology used and most importantly, a basic uncertainty about the demarcation of the setback line.
- There is near unanimity among all groups that the demarcation of the setback line is fraught with scientific and data problems and would lead to delays in implementation.
- It is apprehended that the interim period – between the time that the setback line is demarcated and the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan is formulated and cleared by the Central government – will be a period of tremendous activity by some interested parties.
- It has also been suggested that the livelihood rights of fisherfolk have been ignored in the draft Notification.
- A number of agencies have asked that their representatives should be included in the National Board for Sustainable Coastal Zone Management, which is currently proposed to have 32 members.
- While groups have raised issues regarding the draft Notification, most have also pointed to problems in the current CRZ regime and have called for amendments to the CRZ Notification. It has been pointed out that the current system of enforcement is weak and violations are common.

The Committee has recommended the following:-

(a) Check violations to CRZ through improved space technology-enabled enforcement, strengthened institutions, and regulatory and legal reform.

- Use satellite and information technology to map the coast and to monitor real-time violations that are taking place. The Committee recommends that the MoEF should institute a national-level programme to map the coast and to develop technology that can inform authorities of changes/violations as and when they occur.

- It is essential to streamline the clearance process under the different regulations; however, greater diligence and rigour is a must to ensure environmental integrity. Currently, it is observed that state authorities, headed in most cases by the Secretary, Environment are involved primarily with deliberations concerning the clearance of projects. As a result, these authorities have little time to enforce regulations for which they were primarily constituted under the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
- Build the capacity of State Coastal Zone Management Authorities; in particular, build information sources for better decision-making. Use web-enabled systems to publish all clearances related to CRZ and its links with EIA clearances.
- Bring changes in the EP Act, 1986 to ensure better compliance. Currently, violations under the provisions of the EP Act (Sections 21 and 22) are non-cognizable and bailable, which delays and impedes successful enforcement.

(b) Enhance protection to fisher families for habitat and livelihood security through amendments in CRZ.

Recommendations concerning fisherfolk dwelling units in CRZ-III:

- As per the CRZ Notification, 1991, the area defined as CRZ-III is where rural communities (including fisherfolk) reside. In this zone, the area between the HTL till 200 metres is a 'No-development Zone'. No constructions are permitted within this zone except for repairs of existing authorized structures not exceeding the existing Floor Space Index (FSI), existing plinth area and existing density (frozen as per 1991). Activities like agriculture, horticulture, gardens, pastures, parks, playfields and forestry are permissible within this no-development zone. Furthermore, construction/reconstruction of dwelling units between 200-500 metres from the HTL is permitted so long as it is within the ambit of traditional rights and customary uses such as existing fishing villages and *gaothans*. The construction and reconstruction is subject to restrictions. In this zone, infrastructure for local communities such as public rain shelters, community toilets, water supply, schools, dispensaries, etc are permitted. The issue of restricted development of the dwelling units, based on FSI of 1991 (restricted to one floor plus two floors, subject to 9 metres height) has been raised by some fisherfolk organizations. They prefer a higher Floor Space Index to cater to growing family needs. This seems justifiable; however, any change must also bear in mind the need to ensure continued ownership and use by fisherfolk of these prized properties. The Committee would recommend that government should discuss this matter and take a considered decision on the raising of FSI in Zone-III, subject to ownership and usage restrictions.

Recommendation concerning inclusion of livelihood-related activities

- The livelihood needs of fisherfolk – activities concerning their occupation, namely fishing – are seen as left ambiguous in the 1991 CRZ Notification. As a result, on

several occasions, fisherfolk communities have raised demands that their genuine needs have been ignored. Currently, in CRZ 1991, there is no explicit mention of activities which relate to the 'profession' of traditional fisherfolk – fish drying, auction halls, net-mending areas, etc. This is a serious anomaly which impinges on the lives of fisherfolk. The Committee recommends that the CRZ Notification, 1991 should review the list of such activities and suggest their inclusion in the permissible list in Zones II and III. The list will have to be carefully evaluated to ensure that it does not lead to misuse. For instance, there is a case to be made for inclusion of 'fish processing units' in the permissible activities. However, it is also clear that such units could potentially be large, polluting and owned by non-fishers.

- In the no-development zone of CRZ-III (0-200 metres), while dwelling units are allowed for fisherfolk, economic activities like tourism are not permitted. There is a growing demand for inclusion of such activities in this zone, under the ownership of fisherfolk. This demand, however legitimate, can lead to a proliferation of tourism units in this zone and will be difficult to regulate in terms of size, impact or ownership. The Committee is of the view that this modification, if considered, must be handled with extreme caution.

Recommendations concerning legislation for the rights of fisherfolk

- The Committee heard testimonies of fisherfolk regarding how development projects had displaced their livelihoods and homes. For instance, in Versova in Mumbai, Machlipattnam on the Andhra Pradesh coast and Mundra in Gujarat, large developmental activities – from housing to ports – have encroached upon the habitats of fisherfolk and affected their livelihoods. The fishers recounted how their struggles against large corporations and building contractors have been long and difficult. The Committee endorses the recommendation made by Prof M S Swaminathan to the Parliamentary Committee reviewing CMZ on the need for consideration of a separate legislation, along the lines of the Traditional Forest Dwellers Act, 2006 for securing traditional fisher families' rights by the relevant Union ministry.

(c) Resolve issues regarding the development and redevelopment of Mumbai based on locale-specific amendments.

- The Committee recognizes the special case of Mumbai and its need for redevelopment of existing properties. However, it is not clear how this redevelopment, specific to certain areas of the city, can be allowed without jeopardizing the regulatory control, so essential for coastal areas, in other CRZ-II areas. The Committee recommends that the government should take a careful view of this issue, perhaps restricting permitted construction to redevelopment of specified buildings in some specific areas.
- It is also imperative that state governments must review their policies for private-developer based building projects in CRZ areas. The government must consider

public finance for housing so that this development can be used for meeting the needs of existing households, without compromising on ecological safety.

(d) Introduce regulations to manage the proliferation of ports along the coasts, with possible impacts on the coastline, by considering cumulative impacts of these developments.

- The Committee was of the view that these developments have all led to serious threats to the coast, as especially beaches face severe erosion and shorelines are visibly changing. Given that the Central and state governments propose to construct several ports and harbours all along the shore in the coming years, these projects could have irreversible adverse impacts on the coast. The Committee recommends the following:
 - (i) The government must immediately study the cumulative impacts of the individual projects on the coastline, pending which there should be a moratorium on expansion of existing ports and initiation of new projects.
 - (ii) The CRZ 1991 should be modified to include the seaward side so that port projects are regulated in terms of their impacts on the sea and its land interface.
 - (iii) The amendments proposed in the EIA Notification of January 9, 2009 would require that modernisation or expansion proposals without any increase in pollution load and/or without any additional water and/or land requirement will be exempted from environmental clearance.

(e) Introduce tighter standards for disposal of effluents into coastal waters so that these waters do not become cheaper alternatives to inland pollution management.

- The Committee strongly recommends that action must be taken to mitigate pollution in the sea. It recommends that standards for effluent disposal should be revised; that there should be a strong monitoring programme with public data access on the quality of sea water; and that underwater effluent pipelines should be disallowed with amendments to CRZ 1991.

(f) Introduce new management regimes in Andaman and Nicobar as well as Lakshadweep Islands after deliberation and discussion.

- The Committee observed that the CRZ Notification, 1991 stipulates an uniform 500-metres regulation along the islands of Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep. This provision creates different problems for differently sized and located islands.
- The Committee recommends that a separate island protection zone notification could be issued for the integrated management of the islands. This notification should keep in view the ecology, socio-economic issues, especially of fisherfolk, sea level rise and sustainable development as well as the impacts of the tsunami

of December 26, 2004. The island protection zone notification should be finalized after deliberations with the island administration and its people.

(g) Introduce any new protection regime – such as critically vulnerable coastal areas – after careful and deliberate understanding of the impacts of conservation policies on local communities, particularly fisher families.

- Furthermore, the Committee is also aware that there are large marine parks, sanctuaries and national parks along the coastline of the country – Chilka, Pulikat, Pichawaram, Gulf of Mannar, Vembanad, Coringa, Gulf of Kachchh etc – which are also inhabited by fishers. These large biospheres require special attention, since they provide livelihoods to local communities and are also affected by developmental activities.
- The Committee recommends that the Ministry may take a view on the creation of Critically Vulnerable Coastal Areas based on the above factors.

(h) Strengthen protection to mangroves based on clear definitions.

- The Committee recommends that the Ministry should conduct a nationwide mapping of existing and potential mangrove areas. It must provide a definition of mangrove areas that need to be protected and include these and other suitable areas into its afforestation projects, like the Green India project. It should also include the concept of restoration – of degraded areas, mangroves or coastal, sandy beaches – into the plan. All mangrove areas should be strictly protected as bioshields and sea-productivity zones.

(i) Include the seaward side to ensure protection from current and future threats, but with safeguards to ensure there is no restriction to livelihoods of fishing communities.

- The coastal environment depends upon the hydrodynamics of the waters of the sea. We cannot plan or manage the land, without planning for the seawater. Furthermore, what is done on land could have major impacts on the sea – from pollution to construction.
- The Committee recommends that the seaward side should be included in the CRZ 1991. But the amendment must take into account the concerns raised by fishing communities and ensure strong and effective safeguards.

(j) Introduce measures to greatly strengthen research and regulatory capacity at all levels.

- It is clear that coastal areas face enormous challenges. But if these are to be managed, then we will need institutions for coastal research. Currently, there is a huge gap in data collection and information and more importantly, on using the knowledge for changing policy and practice. It is also clear that we need to strengthen the current regulatory institutions at the Centre and at the state for

better decision-making, including the setting up of a new institute for coastal zone management.

- Further, the National Board for Sustainable Coastal Management may be set up to assist the Ministry and the state governments and to address the policy and legal issues, including undertaking conflict resolution studies.

(k) Introduce policies to cope and adapt to future dangers from sea level rise and increased vulnerability of the coasts.

- The Committee is of the opinion that the coastal areas of the country face a danger due to sea level rise in future and the projected increase in frequency of storms and tidal surges. These developments would not only endanger inhabitants of coastal areas, but also have an adverse impact on the coastal ecosystem which provides livelihood support to millions. It is imperative that the Ministry undertakes a project to demarcate the vulnerability and hazard line along the coast. This will take into account present and future risks because of projected sea level rise and other threats.

6.5 Summary of the report on public consultation on draft CMZ Notification, 2008

Report on the Public Consultation on draft Coastal Management Zone (CMZ) Notification, 2008; submitted by Centre for Environment Education (CEE), September 2008.

Major concerns and majority view points

On the whole, there is a consensus that sustainable development of coastal areas is important. However, with respect to the draft CMZ notification, 2008, the major concern of the local communities, especially the fishing communities who are the primary stakeholders, is that it does not offer protection to their rights to the coastal and marine resources and livelihood. They fear that the Coastal Management Zone (CMZ) Notification, 2008 will open up the coastal zones to external stakeholders, industries and corporate sector in particular, thus limiting their access to the coastal and marine resources, curtailing their livelihood opportunities and degrade the coastal ecology further. Vast majority of the respondents hence are not in favour of the Coastal Management Zone (CMZ) Notification, 2008 and want it to be withdrawn. Nearly all have strongly supported Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 without amendments but have recommended improvements for its effective implementation resulting in sustainable coastal zone management. The local communities strongly feel that protection of coastal ecology and the basic rights and livelihood of the local communities should be central to any coastal zone planning. The above concerns and opinions have emerged from the majority viewpoints expressed across the 35 consultations which are presented below.

1. Nearly all the participants have expressed the view that the existing Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 has enough scope to manage coastal zones efficiently if implemented effectively with some improvements and existing violations penalized. Hence the need for a new framework on coastal zone management requires reexamination and convincing rationale.
2. Majority have felt the need to involve representatives from various stakeholder groups, particularly from local communities in the entire process of formulation and drafting of CMZ Notification, 2008 framework.
3. Majority are of the view that the expert committee which reviewed CRZ Notification, 1991, and recommended CMZ Notification, 2008 should have consulted or sought inputs from the local communities while drafting management methodologies recommended in the new CMZ framework.
4. Nearly all participants have stated that the terms and concepts defined in the notification such as 'setback line', 'ecologically sensitive area', 'Integrated Coastal Zone Management' (ICZM), 'sustainable development', 'sustainable coastal zone management practices', 'sound scientific principles', 'foreshore requiring facility', 'basic infrastructure', 'traditional fishing', 'fishing activities would not be disturbed', mentioned in the CMZ notification, 2008 are not clear and are open to subjective interpretations and hence need more clarity. They feel that these terms need proper explanation followed by examples. They are apprehensive about these terminologies being used only to bring in new concepts and methodologies to

promote external stakeholders who would control the coastal resources at the cost of the rights and needs of the local communities.

5. Vast majority of participants have said that the criteria for identifying and demarcating various zones – CMZ I, II, III, IV and their management methodologies require more detailing and generalizations to be avoided. They have expressed serious objections concerning those of CMZ II and CMZ III in particular. They fear that most of the existing CRZ III areas would be categorized as CMZ II because of the new criteria of zone demarcation. This would lead to the utilization of earlier CRZ II and III areas for large scale construction and infrastructural growth controlled by the external stakeholders, especially industrial and corporate sectors. This would displace and marginalize the local communities triggering major stakeholder conflicts apart from ecological instability.

6. Participants are of the opinion that the CMZ notification, 2008 introduces new management methodologies which are open to subjective interpretation and can be used to promote and legalize corporate activities along the coastal zone. This may lead to conflicts among multi-stakeholder groups. Hence more clarity and detailing are required.

7. Majority of the participants fear that CMZ notification, 2008 will promote Special Economic Zones (SEZ) thus opening up the coastal space and resources to industrial sector without considering the traditional, cultural, economic and social aspects and basic rights of the local communities, especially the fisher communities who are the primary stake holders.

8. The concept of 'Setback Line' to govern the type and location of activities of the local communities is a great concern expressed across all the consultations. Participants feel that setback line, particularly its demarcation, which is done purely on scientific basis should also consider traditional knowledge and involve local communities and authorities for practical application. Their view point is that even with the latest technology, the High Tide Line (HTL) under the CRZ Notification, 1991 has not been demarcated yet and therefore, the feasibility of demarcating setback line (which has not been demonstrated yet) may pose difficulties. The knowledge and capacities of the local communities in addressing vulnerability reduction together with the technological and scientific methodologies will help to ensure safety of the local communities. Setback line in itself cannot be a solution to address the issues of vulnerability and criteria for coastal management.

9. Nearly all participants have expressed their concern on the roles of the local authorities and state government which are not adequately addressed in the proposed CMZ Notification, 2008 management methodology and structure. The basic right and opportunity for the local communities or their representatives (Panchayat members) to participate and plan the activities in their local environment and settlement areas appear curtailed in the proposed Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (ICZMP) process. The roles of public authorities (including Government department officials from Fisheries, Environment; Municipal corporation, Block Development Office etc.) in coastal zone management have to be specified and methodology of enforcement should be spelt out clearly. This will also help in resolving multi-stakeholder conflicts.

10. Looking at several amendments and impacts of CRZ Notification, 1991 leading to the dilution of its original objectives, there are apprehensions about the amendments in the case of CMZ Notification, 2008 too and their impacts, especially on the fishers. For instance, there is already an amendment, dated 9th May, 2008, for including Greenfield airports in the draft CMZ Notification, 2008, which does not seem to benefit the local communities.

Amendments made in the CRZ Notification, 1991 have not benefited local communities since these amendments often acted as law for them. Participants are of the view that in most instances the corporate and industrial sectors use their clout to amend notifications for their benefit. This disparity needs to be addressed.

11. According to majority of participants, CRZ Notification, 1991 which is important for coastal zone management has continued to remain as a notification since 1991 and this has made it open to amendments which have diluted its original objectives resulting in regularizing its violations. The local communities are the most affected in the process. Hence a legislation or an Act on coastal management is needed wherein the coastal ecology and basic rights of the traditional coastal communities are protected. Elected members of the legislative assembly should discuss on the coastal policies to initiate such an act. Till the time a comprehensive legislation on the management of coastal zones is enacted, the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 without amendments needs to be effectively implemented and violators punished, is the view of the majority participants.

12. Participants are of the opinion that public participation (especially of the local communities) in the formulation of coastal policies, management plans, implementation and monitoring needs to be ensured and the onus of such a mechanism may lie with the concerned local authorities and state governments. Local language versions of important documents and discussions should be encouraged to understand the real needs of the local community.

The local communities and NGOs have expressed that they have participated in these consultations because they are commissioned by MoEF, facilitated by CEE, with the hope that their viewpoints would be valued by the Ministry. Respondents have requested that their view points on CMZ Notification, 2008 should lead to more practical, effective and dynamic approach for managing and regulating activities in the coastal zone leading to conservation and protection of coastal resources and coastal environment; and protection of basic rights and livelihood needs of coastal communities.

6.6 Abbreviation

CMZ	Coastal Management Zone Notification, 2008
CEE	Centre for Environment Education
CRZ I, II, III, IV	Coastal Regulation Zone I, II, III, IV areas
CRZ	Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991
CVCA	Critically Vulnerable Coastal Area
CZMP	Coastal Zone Management Plan
EIA	Environment Impact Assessment
EPA	Environment Protection Act
ESA	Ecologically Sensitive Areas
FSI	Floor Space Index
GoK	Gulf of Kutchch
HTL	High Tide Line
ICMAM	Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management
ICZMP	Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan
LTL	Low Tide Line
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forests
NEPA	National Environmental Protection Authority
NGO	Non Governmental Organizations
SCZMA	State Coastal Zone Management Authority
SEZ	Special Economic Zone
SPM	Single Point Mooring
U.T.	Union Territories

6.7 Acknowledgements

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Karnataka

College of Fisheries, Mangalore

Kerala

Renewal Centre, Cochin

Tamil Nadu

Gandhian Unit for Integrated Development Education (GUIDE)

Pondicherry

Gandhian Unit for Integrated Development Education (GUIDE)
Pondicherry Multi Purpose Social Service Society (PMSSS)
Mr. Elango

Andhra Pradesh

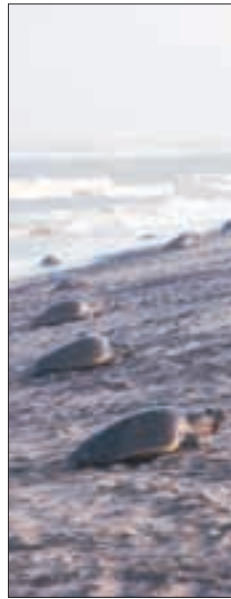
Traditional Fishermen Service Organization (TFSO)

Orissa

United Artists Association
Nirmal Shree Khetra

West Bengal

Direct Initiative for Social and Health Action (DISHA)



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