

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4013
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 22ND DECEMBER, 2021**

CLIFF EROSION

4013. ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Centre for Earth Science Studies (NCESS) has completed the pilot study on cliff erosion in Varkala beach, Kerala and has submitted the report;
- (b) if so, the details and the findings thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take urgent measures to protect this unique sedimentary geo-morphological structure and provide fund for the same;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the present status of the plan to upgrade the destination into a Geo Park approved by UNESCO?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

- (a)& (b) Yes, the pilot study on “cliff erosion in Varkala beach, Kerala” is being jointly carried out by NCESS, Thiruvananthapuram and NCCR, Chennai as per the request of Vision Varkala Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (VVIDC Ltd.), a Government of Kerala undertaking. The project comprises of three major components viz. field data collection, numerical model studies and final recommendation for shore protection. The work on initial two components (data collection and modelling) were assigned to NCESS and the third component (recommendations for shore protection) to NCCR. The duration of data collection ends on 31 December 2021 and numerical modelling studies also are being completed. The Report is scheduled to be submitted on completion of the analysis of data.
- (c)& (d) At present, no proposal has been received in this regard.
- (e) Govt. of Kerala has not yet declared and issued any notification to upgrade the destination into a GeoPark approved by UNESCO
