

<p>Islands Providing special dispensation to these Islands from Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991</p>	<p>for the purpose of protecting and conserving the coastal environment of the country including that of islands of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep, the Ministry had issued the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991. The notification classifies the CRZ area into four categories namely, CRZ-I (eco-sensitive areas such as mangroves, coral, forest areas etc.), CRZ-II (urban areas), CRZ-III (rural areas) and CRZ-IV (Islands of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep). The notification regulates the developmental activities within the Coastal Regulation Zone area i.e., 500mts from the High Tide Line along the coast and 100-150mts from the High Tide Line along tidal influenced water bodies.</p> <p>2. The regulations of the CRZ Notification, 1991 also apply to the islands of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep. These islands are geographically small and mostly consists of ecologically sensitive areas such as coral, mangroves, forest areas. But some of these islands are inhabited and the local population have been depending upon the natural resources for their livelihood. Further, these islands are prone for natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunami, cyclone, flooding including issues relating to sea level rise.</p> <p>3. The issues relating to management of these islands has been examined in detail in the Reports of Prof. M. S. Swaminathan Committee dated February, 2005 and July, 2009. The Report titled "Final Frontier" dated 16.7.2009 recommended introduction of new management regime for Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep.</p> <p>4. Based on the above facts and with a view of providing livelihood security to the local communities, promote conservation and protection of Islands unique environment and its marine area and to promote development through sustainable integrated management plan based on scientific principles taking into account the vulnerability of the coast to natural hazards, the Ministry of Environment and Forest has issued a draft Island Protection Zone Notification vide S.O.No.482(E) dated 25.2.2010 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 inviting suggestions and objections within a period of sixty days from the date of issue of the draft notification. The above draft notification is available on the Ministry's website www.envfor.nic.in</p> <p>5. As per the above draft Notification, the Administrations of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep shall prepare an Integrated Island Management Plan (IIMP), <i>inter alia</i>, specifying therein the areas indicating all the existing and the</p>	<p>management zone MoEF.</p> <p>It was decided that MoEF, MH, ANI Administration would resolve the differences on the notification related to Coastal Management Zone preferably before the IDA meeting in September, 2010.</p>
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