

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2916
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011
GROWTH OF AQUATIC WEEDS IN WETLANDS
Gandhi Smt. Maneka Sanjay

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has noticed that the river system in Kerala is under serious threat due to the fast spreading growth of Cabomba weeds in the wetlands of Kerala;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any study in this regard ;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

- (a) Yes, Sir. As per reports in Hindu dated 27th May, 2011 Cabomba weeds (Cabomba Caroliniana) also known as Fanwort plant is fast spreading along the canals and paddy fields in stagnant water and is posing a serious threat to Pamba river system. However, there is no corroborative evidence pertaining to spread of this weed.
- (b) & (c) In particular, no separate studies have been conducted by the Government on growth of Cabomba weeds in wetlands of Kerala affecting the river system.
- (d) Under National Wetland Conservation Programme Ministry has identified five wetlands from Kerala for conservation under which 100% financial assistance is provided for undertaking various conservation activities which includes control of aquatic weeds as well in general.