

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:525  
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012  
PROTECTION OF MARINE RESOURCES  
Tanwar Shri Ashok

**Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of the steps taken by the Government to protect the marine resources;
- (b) whether the laws of the country have been brought in consonance with the international agreements signed with respect to protection of marine resources; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof with the list of international agreement signed?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) Government has enacted the legislations for protection and regulation of marine resources. The Territorial Waters, Exclusive Economic Zone and other Maritime Zones Act, 1976 of Government of India provides for specific designated areas for the protection of marine environment and resources in the Exclusive Economic Zones and the continental shelf. The Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002 of Ministry of Mines provides for development and regulations of mineral resources in the territorial waters, continental shelf, Exclusive Economic Zones and other maritime zones of India. Regarding living resources, Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 provides for the regulation of fishing by foreign vessels in certain maritime zones of India. Further, Potential Fishing Zone advisories for the adjoining sea off the East coast, West coast, Lakshadweep Islands and Andaman and Nicobar Islands are not issued during the breeding season with a view to protect juvenile fishes.

(b) The above-mentioned legislations are broadly following the provisions contained in the UN Convention on Law of the Sea, signed and ratified by India.

(c) India is also party to the other international conventions having the bearing on marine resources which includes Agreement related to Part XI of the UN Convention on Law of the Sea, 1995 Fish Stock Agreement and Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Resources and related agreements.