

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6178  
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2012  
CHECK ON GROWTH OF 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, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study to know the reasons for the growth of Cabomba weeds in wetlands of Kerala;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to control the growth of these weeds under the National Wetland Conversion Programme ?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & (b). 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 in wetlands of Kerala.
- (c) & (d). In particular, no separate studies have been conducted by the Government on growth of Cabomba weeds in wetlands of Kerala affecting the river system.
- (e). 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.