

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3371  
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2013  
CHECK ON GROWTH OF AQUATIC WEED  
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

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

- (a) whether the river system in Kerala is under serious threat due to the fast spreading growth of Cabomba Weeds in the wetlands;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any studies to find out the reasons behind this fast-growing submerged aquatic weed;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any steps to control the same; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

- (a) 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 and is posing a serious threat to Pamba river system. However, there is no corroborative evidence pertaining to spread of this aquatic weed in the wetlands of Kerala.
- (b) & (c) No such study has been conducted by this Ministry.
- (d) & (e) The Ministry has been implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Wetland Conservation Programme for conservation and management of wetlands in the country. Under the programme, Ministry has identified five wetlands from Kerala for conservation and management under which financial assistance has been provided for undertaking various conservation activities including control of aquatic weeds.