

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5918
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2013
OF MARINE RESOURCES
Tanwar Shri Ashok

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes a scheme to keep a check on issue of acidification of oceans;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated to protect the marine resources during the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the details of developmental work undertaken during the aforesaid period in respect of marine resources?

Answer

MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

- (a) No, Madam. There is no proposal specifically to keep a check on the issue of acidification of the oceans. However, the ministry has been implementing a research program entitled "Sustained Indian Ocean Biogeochemical and Ecological Research (SIBER)" to monitor changes in the marine environment including pH, a potential indicator for ocean acidification. Currently, the pH observations are being made regularly at two open ocean time series stations in the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal and two coastal sites off Goa and Visakhapatnam.
- (b) Doesn't arise.
- (c) Doesn't arise