

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3586

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2015

Number of Wetlands

Mahajan Smt. Poonam

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

- (a) the number of wetlands that have been identified for conservation and management under the aegis of the National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco Systems, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad has developed an atlas of wetlands in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to amend the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010 to ensure better conservation and management and to prevent degradation of existing wetlands in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a) So far 115 wetlands in 24 States and 2 Union Territories have been identified for conservation and management under the scheme of National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems (NPCA). The State-wise list of these wetlands is given in Annexure.
- (b) At the behest of the Ministry, the Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad has prepared the National Wetland Inventory Atlas on 1:50,000 scale using Indian Remote Sensing Satellite LISS III data of pre and post-monsoon seasons during the year 2006-2011. As per the Atlas, there are a total of 7,57,060 wetlands covering an estimated area of 15.26 million hectare, that is around 4.63% of the geographic area of the country.
- (c) & (d) To ensure better conservation and management of wetlands in the country, the Ministry has issued an advisory to all the States/ Union Territories, which inter-alia provides for specific consideration of identification & notification of priority wetlands, constitution of wetland authorities, development of integrated management plans, securing resources for implementation of management plans, strengthening legal and regulatory regimes, monitoring and evaluation and strengthening research-management interface. Simultaneously, the revision of the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010 has also been taken up in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territories and other stakeholders.

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