

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2023
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014
CONSERVATION OF MANGROVES
Mahajan Smt. Poonam

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

- (a) whether the Government has any scheme for the conservation of mangroves and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether a large part of Mumbai's mangrove forest has been destroyed in land reclamation projects;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the steps taken/being taken nation wide to revive and preserve the mangrove forests?

Answer

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

(a) The Government is operating a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Conservation and Management of Mangroves'. Under the scheme, 100% central assistance is extended to selected Coastal States /Union Territories for conservation programme in the States for identified mangrove sites.

(b)& (c) As per information received from State Government of Maharashtra, there had been reports of destruction of mangroves forests in Mumbai in land reclamation projects but the same has been controlled. Government of Maharashtra has declared 5469 ha. of mangroves on government land in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai, first as Protected Forests (2007) and then as 'Reserve Forests' under Section 4 of Indian Forests Act, 2013. The boundaries of these notified forests are clearly demarcated with pillars and reclamation activity has been brought to a halt through regular patrolling by staff of State Forest Department.

(d) The Government aims to protect, sustain, conserve and augment mangroves in the country by both regulatory and promotional measures. Under the regulatory measures, the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification (2011) has categorized mangroves as CRZ-I according protection of the highest order. Under the promotional measures the Ministry has a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Conservation and Management of Mangroves of India. Under the Scheme, the Ministry provides 100% central assistance to coastal States/Union Territories for implementation of their approved Management Action Plans which comprise components such as Survey and Demarcation, Afforestation and Restoration of Mangroves, Alternate and Supplementary Livelihoods, Protection Measures, education and awareness etc.