

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 617**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08/02/2019

**ADVERSE EFFECT OF PLASTIC WASTE IN FISHERIES AREAS**

617. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute has recently found that fishing areas of Mumbai have highest plastic waste concentration in the country, which is adversely affecting fish and other sea food production in these areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial measures Government has initiated or proposes to initiate to deal with this serious situation?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
**(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)**

- (a) Yes, Sir. ICAR – Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has recently found that fishing areas of Mumbai have highest plastic waste concentration in the country.
- (b) It has been observed that mean value of non-biodegradable plastic waste in fishing areas along the Mumbai coast is 49 kg/km<sup>2</sup> while trawling during 2017, which is higher as compared to Ratnagiri, Cochin, Tuticorin and Vishakhapatnam.
- (c) ICAR-CMFRI and Marine Biological Association of India organized a National Conference on Marine Debris (COMAD) during 11-12 April, 2018 at Kochi to create awareness on the adverse impacts and consequences of plastic waste.

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