

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3880
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.04.2023

Compliance of Ramsar Declaration

3880. SHRI ANEEL PRASAD HEGDE:

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

- (a) Whether the announcement of the Chief Minister of Manipur in the 2023-24 budget, that the State would avail a loan from Asian Development Bank for the proposed 'Sustainable Loktak Lake Ecosystem Restoration, Eco Tourism and Livelihood Improvement' project, is in compliance with the Ramsar Declaration; and
- (b) Whether approval has been secured for the same from the Department of Economic Affairs and the Finance Ministry, whichever is applicable?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) The Ramsar Convention, signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971, is an intergovernmental treaty which provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. Under the "three pillars" of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to work towards the wise use of all their wetlands; designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the "Ramsar List") and ensure their effective management and cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species. Therefore, any effort towards the effective management of Loktak Lake, which is a designated Ramsar site, shall be in line with the norms of Ramsar Convention as well as Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017.

(b) As per the information provided by Government of Manipur, approval from Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance for the proposed 'Sustainable Loktak Lake Ecosystem Restoration, Eco Tourism and Livelihood Improvement' project has not been received so far.
