

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 40
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2023

Conservation of Pulicat Lake Ecosystem

40. SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA:

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

- (a) Whether Government is taking/intends to take measures for conservation of Pulicat Lake Ecosystem, that has witnessed declining water levels and increase salinities, stressing the entire network of water bird habitats and making it difficult for long-distance migratory birds to find alternative stop-over feeding sites;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) If not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (c) The Pulicat lake Ecosystem is geographically located in both Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh states. There are concerns of increasing salinity and loss of biodiversity including water bird habitat, particularly due to reduced flow of fresh water from upstream areas and clogging of bar mouth of the lake making the lake more saline and less habitable. As reported by State Government of Tamil Nadu, the lake is currently managed under active management plan for the Bird Sanctuary with only concerning the lake. Further, both the State Governments are taking necessary measures to overcome the above threats, which inter-alia include opening of mouth at Rayadoruvu, study of both upstream and downstream water flow, etc.
