

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 832
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2023

Ramsar Site Wetlands

832. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR:

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

- (a) whether the wetlands have been identified as Ramsar sites in 2022;
- (b) if so, the details of such identified wetlands between the years 2022-2023;
- (c) the expected profit as a result of the said move;
- (d) the total number of wetlands designated as Ramsar Sites in India; and
- (e) the total area covered by wetlands in India?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has designated 19 wetlands as Ramsar sites under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands between the years 2022-23 as per the list given in **Annexure-1**.

(c) The main advantages of designation of Ramsar sites are that it inter-alia encourages international cooperation, brings access to expert advice and latest information, presents an opportunity for a country to make its voice heard at the international and the Government level, provides an opportunity for wise use of wetlands and opportunity for getting international guidelines on various wetland conservation themes.

(d) & (e). India has designated 75 Ramsar sites since 1981 covering an area of 13,26,678 hectares. As per the "National Wetland Decadal Change Atlas, 2017 published by Space Applications Centre- ISRO Ahmedabad, the total wetland area estimated is 15.98 million hectare (mha), including rivers and excluding paddy field areas, that is around 4.86% of the geographic area of the country.

Annexure-1

Annexure-1 referred to in reply to part (a) &(b) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 832 to be answered on 27th July, 2023 on 'Ramsar Site Wetlands

The List of wetlands designated as Ramsar Site between the years 2022-23

S. No.	State/UTs	S. No.	Name of Wetland	Date of designation	Area in ha
1.	Madhya Pradesh	1.	Sirpur Wetland	07-01-2022	161.00
		2.	Sakhya Sagar	07-01-2022	248.00
		3.	Yashwant Sagar	07-01-2022	822.90
2.	Karnataka	4.	Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary	15-02-2022	517.70
3.	Tamil Nadu	5.	Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve	08-04-2022	52671.88
		6.	Vembannur Wetland Complex	08-04-2022	19.75
		7.	Vellode Bird Sanctuary	08-04-2022	77.19
		8.	Udhayamarhandapuram Bird Sanctuary	08-04-2022	43.77
		9.	Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary	08-04-2022	40.35
		10.	Karikili Bird Sanctuary	08-04-2022	58.44
		11.	Pallikaranai Marsh Reserve Forest	08-04-2022	1247.54
		12.	Pichavaram Mangrove	08-04-2022	1478.64
		13.	Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary	08-04-2022	112.64
		14.	Suchindram Theroor Wetland Complex	08-04-2022	94.23
		15.	Kanjirankulam Bird Sanctuary	08-04-2022	96.89
4.	Maharashtra	16.	Thane Creek	13-04-2022	6521.08
5.	Goa	17.	Nanda Lake	08-06-2022	42.01
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	18.	Hygam Wetland Conservation Reserve	08-06-2022	801.82
		19.	Shallbugh Wetland Conservation Reserve	08-06-2022	1675.00