

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.856
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2023

Status of Ramsar Site (Wet land)

856. SHRI DEEPAK PRAKASH:

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

- (a) the present status of Ramsar site (wet land) in India;
- (b) the efforts being made to protect it; and
- (c) the position of India in this regard in the entire world?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) As on date India has 75 Ramsar sites. The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) is currently implementing a centrally sponsored scheme namely, National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems (NPCA) for conservation and management of wetlands (including Ramsar sites) in the country on cost sharing basis between Central Government and respective State Governments. MoEF&CC has also notified the Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules, 2017, which are applicable to all Ramsar sites in the country. Vide these Rules, inter-alia, the State/UT Wetland Authorities have been constituted. The State/UT Wetland Authorities are responsible for protection and conservation of wetlands, including Ramsar sites.

Acknowledging the importance of conservation of Ramsar Sites, the Government of India has announced 'Amrit Dharohar' initiative as part of this year's Budget announcement to promote the unique conservation values of Ramsar Sites. MoEF&CC has launched Amrit Dharohar implementation strategy on 05.06.2023 to promote the unique conservation values of Ramsar Sites. Implementation of Amrit Dharohar exclusively focuses on the Ramsar Sites so as to create demonstration, replication and upscaling effect on other wetlands of national and international importance.

(c) India stands at 5th position in the entire world in terms of numbers of Ramsar sites.
