GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3074 TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2025

Encroachment and environmental concerns at Indian Botanical Garden

3074. SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of encroachment within the Indian Botanical Garden by unauthorized religious structures, including a mosque/mazar, and if so, the action taken to remove such encroachments;
- (b) whether any demolition or eviction orders have been issued to restore the integrity of the garden, and the steps being taken to prevent further encroachments in the future; and
- (c) whether Government has observed violations of environmental norms in the vicinity of the Botanical Garden, including the use of plastics and waste disposal issues, and if so, enforcement measures taken against such violations?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (c): Removal of encroachment lies within the domain of the State Government and the same has been taken cognizance of by the Joint Committee of Management headed by the Chief Secretary, West Bengal. The garden authorities have also started construction of RCC boundary wall to replace old boundary structure to secure the garden. The garden is a plastic free zone and visitors are not allowed to carry any plastic or dump plastic within the garden. Removal of garbage dumped along the boundary wall inside the AJCB Indian Botanic Garden is the responsibility of the Howrah Municipal Corporation which has been duly informed in this regard.
