

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3120
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2026

Impact on marine ecology

3120. SHRI RAVI CHANDRA VADDIRAJU:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has assessed the ecological impact on Indian coastline due to potential oil spills or 'Maritime Sabotage' in the Arabian Sea;
- (b) how the current Middle East conflict is affecting the timeline for India's Green Hydrogen Mission, given the disruption in global technology transfer;
- (c) whether Government plans to treat 'Energy Security' as a 'National Environmental Priority' to speed up domestic nuclear and solar projects to reduce dependency on the war-torn Gulf; and
- (d) the steps taken to safeguard Indian 'Blue Economy' investments from collateral damage?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (d) The Indian Coast Guard has been designated as the Central Coordinating Agency for matters related to Marine Oil Pollution including oil spills. The Ministry of Port, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) is mandated to take steps for prevention & control of pollution arising from ships, shipwrecks, abandoned ships and combating oil spills in port limits, within 500 metres of off-shore exploration & production platforms, coastal refineries and associated facilities. A National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOS-DCP) is prepared for responding to Oil Spill accidents. The NOS-DCP is a comprehensive tool, which provides a framework of co-ordination of integrated response by various governmental departments and agencies to protect the environment from the deleterious effects of pollution by oil spillage. Oil spill due to Maritime Sabotage in Arabian Sea due to current Middle East conflict is not reported by ICG.

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) is implementing the National Green Hydrogen Mission. The MNRE informed that as indicated by green hydrogen developers, there is no impact on India's National Green Hydrogen Mission timelines. MNRE is working towards achieving 500 GW of installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuel-based sources by 2030. As on 28-02-2026, a total of 275.45 GW non-fossil fuel based electricity capacity has

been installed in the country. This includes 143.60 GW solar power, 55.13 GS wind power, 56.33 GW hydro power, 11.61 GW bio power and 8.78 GW nuclear power. Further, MNRE is supporting the development of emerging renewable energy technologies aligned with the Blue Economy framework.

The Government has announced Nuclear Energy Mission for Viksit Bharat with a target of reaching a nuclear power capacity of 100 GW by 2047 which would contribute towards achieving the target of Net Zero by 2070. Under the Nuclear Energy Mission announced in the Union Budget 2025-26, a total budgetary provision of ₹ 20,000 crore has been made for the design, development and deployment of Small Modular Reactor (SMRs). This allocation is aimed at supporting India's objective of developing and operationalizing at least five indigenously designed SMRs by 2033.
