

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2917
ANSWERED ON 13/08/2026

ESTABLISHMENT OF AMSOB

2917. # SHRI TEJVEER SINGH:

Will the Minister of **EARTH SCIENCES** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is working under the proposed hub-and-spoke model for establishment of Advanced Marine Station for Ocean Biology (AMSOB);
- (b) if so, the current progress and the likely timeline for completion of its construction;
- (c) whether state-of-the-art facilities are being developed at AMSOB for marine biotechnology, industrial applications and startup incubation; and,
- (d) whether Government is formulating an action plan to collaborate with universities and research institutions to promote research, innovation and human resource development in the field of marine science?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a & b) Yes. National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai, under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), is entrusted with establishing the Advanced Marine Station for Ocean Biology (AMSOB) as a hub-and-spoke model to promote collaborative research under the Deep Ocean Mission. With NIOT as the main hub, DOM spokes have been set up through various MoES institutions (including NCPOR, Goa; CMLRE, Kochi; INCOIS, Hyderabad; IITM, Pune) and several national scientific institutions, including central/state universities and research institutions. One of the Mission's spokes is the Deep-Sea Microbial Repository, established in Chittedu, Andhra Pradesh, to preserve and manage microbial genetic resources for various research and industrial applications. The structure of the Deep-Sea Microbial repository has been completed, and the necessary equipment is being acquired.
- (c & d) Yes. To foster research, including for industrial applications, and supporting startup incubation facilities, 145 collaborative research projects have been sanctioned and are ongoing with several national institutions, complementing the Mission's activities. These projects have engaged nearly 600 human resources in various capacities. MoUs have been signed with academic institutions (Pondicherry University, MK Bhavnagar University, Vikrama Simhapuri University, and Kerala University of Fisheries & Ocean Studies: KUFOS) for specialised courses and capacity building in marine sciences.
