

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3451  
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 07, 2016**

**CORALS IN INDIAN OCEAN**

**3451. SHRI R. PARTHIPAN:**

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

- (a) whether the corals especially in the Indian Ocean are prone to mass bleaching;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government has initiated or proposes to initiate any study/research in this regard; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the other steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND  
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES  
(SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY)**

- (a) Yes Madam.**
- (b) There were instances of sporadic to mass bleaching of Indian corals in the past. Local oceanic processes, anthropogenic pressures, events like Indian Ocean Dipole/El Nino Southern Oscillation, etc. are few major driving mechanisms enforcing bleaching events.**
- (c) & (d) The Ministry of Earth Sciences has been issuing satellite based Indian Coral Watch advisories on bi-weekly basis. The Ministry of Environment & Forests and Climate Change is also conducting studies to manage and conserve these fragile ecosystems.**

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