

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3048
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.01.2018

Water Pollution due to Idol Immersion

3048. SHRI C.S. PUTTA RAJU:

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

- (a) whether the cases of idol immersion in water bodies have seen a rise in the recent years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has undertaken any study assessing the short and long-term impact of idol immersion in water bodies;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to reduce water pollution because of idol immersion?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) There is no time series data available to indicate rise in cases of idol immersion in water bodies in the recent years.
- (b) & (C) Idol immersion may lead to adverse impact on water quality in terms of Conductivity, Total Hardness, Total Dissolved Solids, Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand, Chemical Oxygen Demand, Sulphate and concentration of heavy metals such as Lead, Zinc and Chromium along with depletion of Dissolved Oxygen.
- (d) The measures taken by the Government to address the environmental pollution due to idol immersion, *inter alia*, include formulation of guidelines, monitoring of pre and post immersion water quality, issuance of direction by Central Pollution Control Board, etc.
