

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.169
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2018

Degradation of Wetlands

169. SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to prevent degradation of wetlands denoted as Ramsar sites;
- (b) if so, the details therefor;
- (c) whether the Government plans to increase the number of Ramsar sites and notify more areas as wetlands of international importance; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) So far, 26 wetlands in 15 States have been designated as Ramsar sites for conservation and management under the scheme of National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems (NPCA) of the Ministry. For regulation of activities within the wetlands, including designated Ramsar sites in the country, the Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules, 2017 have been notified on 26.09.2017 superseding the Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules, 2010. So far, an amount of Rs 167.96 crores has been released for conservation and management of 82 wetlands including Ramsar sites.

Also, in order to conserve wetlands in an integrated manner, all the States have been advised for giving high priority for constitution of State Wetland Authorities, identification and notification of priority wetlands, development of integrated management plans, securing resources for implementation of management plans, monitoring and evaluation, strengthening research-management interface, etc.
