

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1830
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2018

Oil Spills Disaster

1830. SHRI OM BIRLA:

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

- (a) the details of incidents of oil spills disaster which had occurred in the Indian Ocean during the last four years;
- (b) whether the Government has prepared any policy for tackling/handling the incidents of oil spillage in the Indian waters for prevention of damage to the flora and aquatic life cycle and if so, the salient features along with the details of the policy thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor along with any ongoing proposal of the Government to have such policy in the future;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any survey as to estimate the environmental damage which has been done because of the oil spillages and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) According to Indian Coast Guard (ICG), following incidents of oil spills were reported in Indian Ocean region during last four years:

Location and date of incident	Quantity	Reason of Spill
Drill Ship- Platinum Explorer (ONGC) off Paradip on 22.08.2014	80 Barrels (App. 3.8 KL)	Inadvertent internal transfer during drilling operations.
Off Kamarajar Port, Ennore, Tamilnadu on 28.01.2017	196.4 Metricton	Collision between MT Dawn Kanchipuram, and MT BW Mapia.
Outer Anchorage Mumbai Harbour on 30.01.2018	2-3 Drums of Bunker Oil	Accidental spillage during bunker transfer on MT Jipro Neftis.

- (b)&(c) As per the Allocation of Business Rules, 1961 (amendment 2002), ICG is nodal agency for dealing with the incidents of oil spill within territorial limits of India. The ICG has established Pollution Response Team (PRT) at Mumbai, Chennai and Port Blair. Another PRT has been approved for Vadinar (Gujarat). To augment pollution response efforts, ICG has commissioned three dedicated pollution control Vessels based at Porbandar, Mumbai and Vizag. Apart from the above, other Coast Guard ships and aircrafts are also utilized during pollution response operation. The ICG is entrusted with the responsibility of surveillance of maritime zones and

coordinating authority for combating of oil pollution against oil spills; combating oil spills (except for waters in ports and within 500 metres of off-shore exploration and production platforms, coastal refineries and associated facilities); implementing National Contingency Plan for Oil Spill Disaster (NOS-DCP) which obliges all ports (Major and Non-major Ports), Oil handling agencies and Oil installations onshore to maintain pollution response equipment for Tier-I response (i.e. Oil Spills up to 700 tons) & coastal State Administration to be suitably equipped for undertaking shoreline clean-up in their area of responsibility and conducting regular training and national level pollution response exercise with active participation of stakeholders viz. Ports, Oil handling agencies with last training conducted on December 20-21, 2016 in Gulf of Kutch.

(e)&(f) Survey of environmental damages resulting from oil spills and follow-up actions commensurate to damages are undertaken by concerned agencies in Central and State Government. The efforts made by Government in this regard *inter-alia* include the following:

- Implementation of NOS-DCP for oil spill response by ICG; and
- Implementation of provisions of MARPOL, an International Convention comprising of regulations aimed at preventing and minimising pollution from ships (both accidental and operational), by Directorate General of Shipping.
