

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTIONNO. 5600**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2019

**Waste Accumulated on Coastlines**

5600. MS. ANNPURNA DEVI:  
SHRI SADASHIVLOKHANDE:

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

- (a) the quantity of trash and waste accumulated on the Indian coastlines during each of the last three years;
- (b) whether the Government has used this trash for any specific purpose and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the manner in which this trash is being disposed off?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)**

- (a) to (c) The jurisdiction of the rules/notifications issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 administered by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is upto 12 nautical miles on the seaward side. The Indian Ocean is surrounded in the west by countries of Africa and the Middle East, from Madagascar upto Iran and to the north of the Indian Ocean are the countries of southern Asia and southeast Asia including India and Australia to the east. Waste or trash in the coast are accumulated in the Indian coast, originates both from domestic sources, and from other countries located in the Indian Ocean, due to oceanic winds and currents. Cleanup of trash or wastes in the Indian Ocean region involves concerted effort by all countries in the region. The Environment, Forest and Climate Change ministry has no data on waste accumulated in the Indian coastlines.

With the objective of addressing problem of marine litter, particularly due to the plastic waste, a Steering Committee comprising of stakeholders from all concerned Ministries and Departments in the Government of India has been constituted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2019. The Committee has been entrusted amongst others, to advise the Central Government on policy, planning, research and development aimed at promoting measures focusing on

sound waste management, recovery of marine plastic litter, deployment of innovative technologies and materials, Public education and outreach, and International cooperation to enhance National capacities. The Committee is also entrusted to coordinate Bilateral/Multilateral efforts with International agencies and with all concerned Ministries and offer guidance on the position to be taken by the Government of India in various International/Multilateral forum including UNEA, AHOEWG, IMO, G20 etc., on marine litter.

India is a member country of the MARPOL Convention, which covers prevention of pollution of the marine environment by ships from operational or accidental causes. India is also a member of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP), which is developing a data base for marine litter including marine plastics. The Ministry of Earth Sciences in association with SACEP, UNEP, SAS, and Indian Coast Guards also conducted the 'International Coastal Cleanup Day' in various parts of India with the objective of educating the public and create awareness on the need for a clean and healthy coast and its safe disposal. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change also conducted extensive coastal cleanup campaign in June 2018, in association with coastal states and Union territory administrations, and the Indian Coast Guard.

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