GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2909 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18th March, 2025

Funds for Wetland Conservation

2909. Shri Gaurav Gogoi:

Will the Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Deepor Beel's fish diversity is under severe threat due to pollution from the Belortol dumping site, which releases toxic leachates into the wetland:
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any scientific assessment on the impact of solid waste dumping on fish populations, given that Deepor Beel supports over 50 indigenous fish species and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government allocated any funds under fisheries or wetland conservation programs to mitigate pollution and restore fish biodiversity in Deepor Beel, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI GEORGE KURIAN)

(a) to (c): There is no specific report received in the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying regarding the toxic pollution in the Deepor Beel's of Assam.

Further, ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), recorded availability of 55 species of indigenous fish species belonging to 21 families from Deepor Beel. No proposal on restoration of fish biodiversity in Deepor Beel has been received by this Department. As reported by Government of Assam, Guwahati Municipal Corporation (GMC) has undertaken a project on 'Landfill mining at Boragaon' funded by Government of Assam under State Owned Priority Development Scheme with a total cost of Rs. 172.50 crore for wetland rejuvenation, bioremediation and habitat restoration.
