

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 208
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2026

Protection and Preservation of Wetlands in Assam

208. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA:

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

- (a) the details of all the existing wetlands across the country, State/UT-wise, particularly in Assam;
- (b) the details of such wetlands that need protection and preservation, State/UT-wise, particularly in Assam;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken towards the protection and preservation of such wetlands;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government has any plan for the wetlands to be converted into ecotourism, while allowing controlled recreational activities like birdwatching and nature photography etc. and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) & (b) As per the National Wetland Atlas, 2021 published by Space Applications Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad, a total of 2,31,195 wetlands (area ≥ 2.25 ha) have been mapped in the Country. The State/UT-wise wetland distribution in the country including Assam is at **Annexure**. MoEF&CC has been advising and facilitating the State/UT Wetland Authorities in protection and preservation of these wetlands under the existing regulations including their ground truthing and boundary demarcation.

(c) to (e) MoEF&CC has taken several steps for protection and preservation of wetlands across the country, which include, implementation of Ramsar Convention on wetlands, centrally sponsored scheme of National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems (NPCA) for conservation and management of wetlands in the country, Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, a dedicated Wetlands Web Portal (<https://indianwetlands.in>), Mission Sahbhagita and Save Wetlands Campaign for peoples and stakeholders' participation in the wetlands conservation and management, Amrit Dharohar initiative to promote unique conservation values of Ramsar sites. The NPCA scheme and Amrit Dharohar promotes eco-tourism in and around the wetlands.

Further, in accordance with "Whole of the Government Approach", various other Ministries/Departments of the Government have been playing important role in restoration and conservation of wetlands. Some such crucial Programmes/Schemes are Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) of water bodies under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Jal Shakti Abhiyan, Mission Amrit Sarovar, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Atal Bhujal Yojana and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT).

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 208 to be answered on 20th July 2026 on 'Protection and Preservation of Wetlands in Assam'

State/UT-wise wetland distribution in India as per SAC Atlas, 2021

S. No.	State/UT	Number	Area (ha)	Area (% of wetland)
1	Andhra Pradesh	24104	1141606	7.14
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1182	151104	0.95
3	Assam	5902	849078	5.31
4	Bihar	4526	374766	2.34
5	Chhattisgarh	11457	342443	2.14
6	Goa	742	24749	0.15
7	Gujarat	17613	3499429	21.9
8	Haryana	1905	33649	0.21
9	Himachal Pradesh	215	94011	0.59
10	Jharkhand	2635	187045	1.17
11	Karnataka	14936	787127	4.93
12	Kerala	1399	158336	0.99
13	Madhya Pradesh	13947	861736	5.39
14	Maharashtra	25935	1152625	7.21
15	Manipur	132	67408	0.42
16	Meghalaya	225	31002	0.19
17	Mizoram	127	19476	0.12
18	Nagaland	148	21118	0.13
19	Odisha	13331	719942	4.5
20	Punjab	1190	47024	0.29
21	Rajasthan	13321	778824	4.87
22	Sikkim	259	7049	0.04
23	Tamil Nadu	26883	925712	5.79
24	Telangana	12338	566680	3.55
25	Tripura	416	18438	0.12
26	Uttar Pradesh	18555	1104562	6.91
27	Uttarakhand	172	112882	0.71
28	West Bengal	12955	1130127	7.07
29	Andaman&Nicobar	2774	143238	0.9
30	Chandigarh	11	336	0
31	Dadra NagarHaveli	12	2063	0.01

32	Daman and Diu	59	2728	0.02
33	Delhi	123	2773	0.02
34	Jammu & Kashmir	404	164110	1.03
35	Lakshadweep	50	79716	0.5
36	Ladakh	1073	373049	2.33
37	Puducherry	139	5555	0.03
	Total	231195	15981516	100
