

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2303
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2026

Surha Tal Bird Sanctuary

2303. SHRI BABU SINGH KUSHWAHA:

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

- (a) whether Surha Tal Bird Sanctuary, located in Ballia, Uttar Pradesh has been notified/designated as a wetland and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of funds allocated by the Government for the conservation, development and management of the said sanctuary and the amount actually utilized therefrom during the last three years, item-wise;
- (c) the expenditure incurred on conservation, habitat improvement, biodiversity enhancement, wetland management, water management, protection of migratory birds and other related activities during the said period;
- (d) whether the Government has launched any special scheme, project or Central assistance programme for the conservation of Surna Tal Bird Sanctuary biodiversity enhancement, wetland conservation and management and promotion of eco-tourism; and
- (e) if so, the details and present status thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) The Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary (Surha Tal Bird Sanctuary) has been designated as a Wetland of International Importance under Ramsar convention (Ramsar Site) in view of its ecological importance. It is the 100th Ramsar site in the Country. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), is currently implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) namely, the National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems (NPCA) for conservation and management of wetlands in the country on cost sharing basis between Central Government and respective State Governments. The scheme provides funds for the Integrated Management Plans (IMPs)/Framework Management Plans (FMPs) received from the States/UTs, including Uttar Pradesh, for conservation and management of wetlands. It aims at holistic conservation and restoration of wetlands for achieving the desired water quality enhancement, besides improvement in biodiversity and

ecosystems through an integrated and multi-disciplinary approach. The State Wetland Authority of Uttar Pradesh functions as an apex body for integrated management of wetlands and submits proposals under the NPCA scheme for consideration of the Ministry. Further Ministry provides financial assistance to the States/UTs under CSS "Development of Wildlife Habitats" for conservation and management of protected areas, conservation of wildlife outside protected areas and recovery of critically endangered species and its habitats as per the Annual Plan of Operation received from the States/UTs, including state of Uttar Pradesh. The financial assistance to the State/UTs includes activities for the protection and management of wildlife like patrolling, habitat management, awareness programme, maintenance of fire lines, engagement of protection watchers, Eco development and support for activities related to eco-tourism. The details of funds released/utilized during last three financial years to Jai Prakash Narayan (Surah Tal) Bird Sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh under the CSS-Development of Wildlife Habitats are as given in Annexure.

MoEF&CC has taken several steps for protection and preservation of wetlands across the country, which include, implementation of Ramsar Convention on wetlands, 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 four key components of Amrit Dharohar are Species and Habitat Conservation, Nature Tourism, Wetlands Livelihoods and Wetlands Carbon Assessment. The expected outcomes of the initiative include the safeguarding and enhancing biological diversity, carbon sequestration and ground water recharge being co benefit.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 2303 to be answered on 3rd August 2026 on 'Surha Tal Bird Sanctuary'.

Details of funds released during last three financial years to Jai Prakash Narayan (Surha Tal) Bird Sanctuary, in Uttar Pradesh under the CSS-Development of Wildlife Habitats are as follows:

(₹ in lakhs)

2023-24		2024-25		2025-26	
Released	Utilized	Released	Utilized	Released	Utilized
8.2125	8.2125	7.716	7.716	6.7785	5.61857