

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

**LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1580  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2023

**Aquatic Pollution**

**1580. SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:**

Will the Minister of **FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING**  
**मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a major threat to the sustainability of inland fisheries due to aquatic pollution;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to reduce aquatic pollution at the coastal areas of the country; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING**

**(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)**

(a) to (c): As reported by Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), there is no major threat at present by aquatic pollution to the sustainability of inland Fisheries. However, certain stretches of the rivers are threatened by pollutants like Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD), heavy metals, pesticides, etc. due to direct release of industry wastewater, municipal sewage, etc. and some contaminants like micro-plastics, bisphenol, etc. are emerging as threats to aquatic environment. Further, The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has been promoting to conduct awareness programmes to the local fishers and residents to enhance the awareness regarding impact of water pollution to livelihood and human health, ensuring environmental flow of river in the established and upcoming barrages, establishing the sewage treatment and ensuring disposal of treated water in the river identified polluted stretches, sustainable and eco-friendly coastal fishing, diverse fishing practice for responsible and sustainable fishing, sea ranching, imposing fishing ban-period in East and West Coast, installation of artificial reefs and promotion of mari-culture. Besides, Government of India and local administrations are also implementing various flagship clean-up programmes including *Swachhta Abhiyaan; Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar*/'Clean Coast Safe Sea', coastal clean-up campaign etc., which cover entire nation or state level clean-up programmes. In addition, several local/beach level clean-up programmes are being regularly conducted at local levels. Besides, Government and NGOs are also actively participating and implementing the above campaigns in public-private partnership to ensure mass clean-up drives.

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