

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1633
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2023

Protection of Wetlands

1633. SHRI VIVEK THAKUR:

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

- (a) the details of the existing number of Ramsar sites for the conservation of wetlands in the State of Bihar;
- (b) the efforts which are being made for their conservation after being declared as Ramsar site; and
- (c) the details of the sites for which Government is making efforts to include them into Ramsar site in the State of Bihar?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) & (b) Kabartal Wetland is the only Ramsar site in the State of Bihar. The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) is currently implementing a centrally sponsored scheme namely, National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems for conservation and management of wetlands (including Kabartal Wetland) in the country on cost sharing basis between Central Government and respective State Governments. An amount of Rs. 64.108 lakhs has been released, so far, as central share to the State Government for conservation and management of Kabartal wetland. Further, through a Global Environmental Facility (GEF) funded externally aided project Kabartal Wetland has been selected as a demonstration site in the country for implementation of various conservation activities. Under this project, an amount of Rs. 30 lakhs was released for updation of Integrated Management Plan (IMP), training workshop for field staff, etc during FY 2020-21.

MoEF&CC has also notified the Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules, 2017, which are applicable to all Ramsar sites (including Kabartal Wetland) in the country. Vide these Rules, Bihar State Wetlands Authority has been constituted, which is responsible for protection and conservation of wetlands and Ramsar sites in the state.

(c) The State Government of Bihar has recommended two wetlands namely Nagi Bird Sanctuary and Nakti Bird Sanctuary for their designation as Ramsar sites under the provision of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.
