

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1322
ANSWERED ON 31/07/2025

WHITE PAPER ON BLUE ECONOMY

1322 **SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA:**
SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA:

Will the Minister of **Earth Sciences** be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which the Ministry's white paper titled "Transforming India's Blue Economy: Investment, Innovation and Sustainable Growth" aims to unlock the potential of India's marine resources for sustainable and economic development;
- (b) whether the white paper highlights collaborative efforts involving 25 Ministries, coastal States and Union Territories in driving sustainable growth across various ocean-related sectors; and
- (c) if so, the details of specific initiatives or models identified in the white paper that demonstrate the potential for achieving both economic growth and environmental sustainability?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR
MINISTRY OF SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY
AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a) The Ministry's white paper titled, "Transforming India's Blue Economy: Investment, Innovation and Sustainable Growth," aims to unlock India's marine resource potential by strategically leveraging sustained investment in blue infrastructure, research and ocean innovation. It emphasizes fostering public-private partnerships and targeted financial mechanisms. The paper outlines a roadmap to 2035, prioritizing feasible projects and building investor confidence to establish the blue economy as a vital engine for national development.
- (b) Yes. The white paper confirms collaborative efforts across various ocean-related sectors involving 25 central ministries/departments, coastal states, and union territories.
- (c) The white paper identifies specific models demonstrating economic growth and environmental sustainability:
 - **Community-led seaweed cultivation in Odisha:** This initiative addresses the socio-economic vulnerability of fishing communities due to dwindling fish stocks by offering seaweed cultivation as a low-investment, high-impact alternative livelihood. It provides supplementary income for over 10,000 coastal households and is estimated to absorb dissolved carbon dioxide, contributing to climate change mitigation and improving water quality.

- **Kochi's smart port transformation:** Integrating digital twin technology, this has led to improved operational efficiency, reduced vessel waiting times, and better resource utilization, enhancing sustainability through precise environmental monitoring.
- **Alang, Gujarat's shipbreaking transformation:** Adhering to Hong Kong International Convention standards, Alang now maximizes resource recovery, with steel and non-ferrous metals channeled back into the economy, and hazardous waste managed through dedicated facilities and bioremediation, minimizing environmental impact.
- **Andaman and Nicobar Islands' sustainable tourism:** Initiatives like eco-friendly infrastructure and community-led eco-tours have generated significant revenue and jobs, while bans on single-use plastics and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) have preserved coral reefs and cut tourist-zone waste.
