

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. - 179
ANSWERED ON 08/12/2022

COASTAL WATER QUALITY

179. SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA:
SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether real-time information on coastal water quality is collected across the country's coastal areas and shared with the respective stakeholders, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether Government proposes to develop an action plan for cases of high pollution levels in the coastal waters, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore; and;
- (c) the steps being taken to augment the scientific and research capabilities of National Centre for Coastal Research?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes, Sir. The real-time information on coastal water quality is collected by National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) and Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) of Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) by deploying water quality buoys in the coastal waters of off-Chennai Kochi and off-Puducherry. The data is shared with the respective State Pollution Control Boards.
- (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has instructed all the coastal State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and the Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) of the Union Territories to take the assistance of NCCR for developing an action plan for prevention of coastal pollution.
- (c) NCCR has taken up several initiatives to augment the scientific and research capabilities. NCCR is establishing the state of art water quality laboratory at Visakhapatnam. Along with the traditional methods of identification and analysis of biological samples, advanced techniques like use of molecular tools are being employed. NCCR is collaborating with leading oceanographic institutes of the world.
