

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4503
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, JULY 19, 2019**

SALT WATER LAKE

4503. SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Lonar Lake in Buldhana Constituency, Maharashtra is the second biggest salt water lake in the world, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take any step for the extensive study of this lake; and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

- (a) Yes Sir. Lonar Lake is known as Crater Lake created by the impact of meteorite during the geological time scale of Pleistocene age (57,000 years ago). It is formed within Deccan Traps a huge basaltic formation in India. The crater is oval shape and the water in the lake is saline and alkaline (carbonate water). The mean diameter is 1.2 km with an average depth of 137m. It is one of the four hyper velocity impact craters created in basaltic rock anywhere on Earth. Lonar Lake faces anthropogenic and environmental problems.**
- (b) Yes Sir.**
- (c) The Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad have carried out some studies. A recent study conducted by IIT Bombay has revealed that the soil has very similar minerals as found in moon rock.**
