

# Parliament Question: Blue Carbon Mapping Initiatives

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Blue carbon stock assessments have been undertaken in mangrove regions of India as part of research and monitoring efforts to quantify carbon sequestration potential.

The Forest Survey of India (FSI) under Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has conducted a national-level assessment called 'Estimation of Carbon Stock in Mangrove Eco-system'. The assessment by FSI was carried out across all 12 states and Union Territories where mangrove forests are found.

The data from blue carbon assessments provide critical inputs for formulating climate resilience strategies by quantifying the carbon sequestration potential of mangroves. This supports the carbon budgeting and reporting under India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and identification of priority conservation areas for maintaining ecosystem services. It aids in planning of initiatives like the Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes (MISHTI) scheme launched by the Government of India in collaboration with coastal States and Union Territories to restore and promote mangroves for preserving and enhancing the sustainability of the coastal ecosystem and habitats. It also highlights the role of healthy mangroves as natural bio-shields protecting coastal communities and livelihoods.

This information was given by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, MoS Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space, in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha today.

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