

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 840
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2023

Blue flag certification

840. SHRI NARHARI AMIN:

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

- (a) the concept of eco level blue flag certification;
- (b) whether the beaches get any boost in tourism after getting this certification;
- (c) if so, the total number of beaches in the country that have been certified with blue flag as on date; and;
- (d) whether any coast of the State of Gujarat has been certified by blue flag, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has supported 'Blue Flag' Certification for select beaches in the country. This certification is accorded by an international agency, 'Foundation for Environment Education (FEE)', Denmark, on the basis of 33 criteria under four major heads i.e. (i) environmental education and information, (ii) bathing water quality, (iii) environment management and conservation and (iv) safety and services in the beaches. The 'Blue Flag' is an eco-tourism model endeavoring to provide the tourists/beach goers a clean beach, hygienic bathing water, tourist friendly facilities/amenities and a healthy environment. Tourist footfall are reported to have increased with Blue Flag certification.

(c): A total of 12 beaches have been conferred with Blue Flag certification for the year 2022-2023. The details are as follows,

1. Shivrajpur Beach, Gujarat
2. Ghogla beach, Diu
3. Kasarkod beach, Karnataka
4. Padubidri beach, Karnataka
5. Kappad beach, Kerala
6. Kovalam beach, Tamil Nadu
7. Eden Beach, Puducherry
8. Radhanagar beach, Andaman and Nicobar Island

9. Rushikonda beach, Andhra Pradesh
10. Golden beach, Odisha
11. Minicoy, Thudi beach, Lakshadweep
12. Kadmat beach, Lakshadweep

(d): Shivrajpur Beach, Gujarat has been accorded Blue Flag Certification
