GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 893
ANSWERED ON 06.12.2021

DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL WATER BODIES

893 # SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to develop small water bodies in villages, i.e. ponds, ahars, wells etc in order to reduce dependency of agriculture on rain water;
(b) whether Government would focus on developing these water sources so that the farmers in adverse conditions and in the times of need are able to utilize water from these water source for irrigation and they save the crop; and
(c) if so, any special scheme would be implemented for this so that work can be done on comprehensive level?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) to (c) Planning, funding, execution and maintenance of water resources projects, including development of water bodies or water sources, lies in the domain of the State Government concerned. Role of Government of India is limited to providing technical support and in some cases, partial financial assistance under the existing schemes.

This Ministry is providing financial assistance to the identified schemes under Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies and Surface Minor Irrigation component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)-Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP). Further, under Jal Shakti Abhiyan campaign, renovation of traditional and other water bodies/ tanks is also being taken up by the State Governments. The activities in this regard include maintenance of old/ building of new check dams/ ponds; enumeration, geo-tagging and making inventory of water bodies; removal of encroachments of tanks/ lakes; de-silting of tanks; removal of obstructions in their channels, etc.

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) also has provisions for public works relating to natural resource management, water conservation and water harvesting structures to augment and improve ground water like underground dykes, earthen dams, stop dams, check dams and roof top rain water harvesting structures in public buildings.

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