

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4703
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2018

Repairing of Lakes and Ponds

4703. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA:

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

- (a) whether most of the small water bodies like lakes and ponds have either become non-functional or have been encroached upon due to the apathy of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the number of old ponds and lakes repaired and made usable to deal with such problems; and
- (d) the details of the ponds and lakes made usable as on date, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) & (b) Rapid urbanization, developmental activities and anthropogenic pressures do stress water bodies.

This Ministry is currently implementing a scheme namely, National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems (NPCA) for conservation and management of identified lakes and wetlands in the country on cost sharing basis between Central Government and respective State Governments. The scheme covers various activities such as interception, diversion and treatment of wastewater, shoreline protection, lake front development, in-situ cleaning i.e. desilting & dewatering, storm water management, bioremediation, catchment area treatment, lake beautification, survey & demarcation, biofencing, fisheries development, weed control, biodiversity conservation, education and awareness creation, community participation, etc. Under NPCA, financial assistance has been provided for conservation and management of 65 lakes and 83 identified wetlands in 26 States & 2 UTs.

Further, this Ministry had notified the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010 to regulate various activities within and around the wetlands. These Rules have been superseded by the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 which inter-alia, lays down the list of prohibited activities within the wetlands such as conversion for non-wetland uses including encroachment of any kind etc.

The Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR) is also supplementing the efforts of the State Governments by providing technical and financial assistance to State Governments to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various schemes and programmes such as scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies etc. States submit a certificate that water bodies are free from encroachment before they are considered under RRR of water bodies scheme.

(c) & (d) From the XIIth plan onwards, 1701 water bodies have been included under the RRR of water bodies scheme. Out of these, 581 water bodies have been revived till March, 2017 as reported by States. The State-wise details of these are annexed.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (c) & (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4703 to be answered on 23.03.2018 regarding 'Repairing of Lakes and Ponds' raised by Shri Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai Vasava.

State-wise details of water bodies included from XIIth plan onwards, under the RRR of water bodies scheme:

State	No. of Water bodies included from XII plan onwards	No. of Water bodies revived till March, 2017*
Madhya Pradesh	125	82
Manipur	4	0
Meghalaya	9	0
Odisha	863	370
Rajasthan	68	24
Tamil Nadu	154	105
Telangana	399	0
Uttar Pradesh	74	0
Uttarakhand	5	0
Total	1701	581

* As reported by States