

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

**LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*319**

ANSWERED ON 10.08.2023

**REVIVAL OF WATER BODIES IN KOZHIKODE**

\*319 SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures being taken to revive ponds and water bodies in the State of Kerala, particularly in Kozhikode; and
- (b) whether any funds have been disbursed for reviving old water bodies such as ponds, rivulets etc. in Kozhikode and if so, the details thereof along with the status of the projects being undertaken?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI**

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (b) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*319 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2023 REGARDING “REVIVAL OF WATER BODIES IN KOZHIKODE”.**

**(a) & (b)** Water being a State subject, the State Governments concerned are mandated to take up revival of ponds, water bodies, etc. in their respective jurisdiction, as per their priorities, availability of funds, etc.

Government of Kerala has informed that it takes up such works from funds available under State Plan/ Non-Plan funds, deposit fund from local authorities such as panchayat/ municipality, deposit fund from MLA/MPs, and also under Harithakeralam master plans prepared based on watershed maps of local bodies. The State Government has further reported that since April, 2016, 18 works of renovation of ponds have been completed in Kozhikode district, while one such work is presently ongoing.

Further, in order to supplement the efforts of the State Government, a number of initiatives have been taken by Government of India, some of which are given below.

1. Under Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies components of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana- Har Khet Ko Pani, partial financial assistance is provided by Government of India for renovation of identified projects/ clusters of water bodies. However, in recent past no eligible proposal for inclusion under the scheme has been received from Government of Kerala.
2. Focused interventions under Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) annual campaigns taken up by the Government of India and the State Governments, inter alia, include renovation of traditional and other water bodies/ tanks, enumeration, geo-tagging and making inventory of all water bodies, and removal of encroachments of tanks/ lakes, and de-silting of tanks. An estimated 24,000 traditional water bodies from Kerala have been rejuvenated under JSA, out of which about 1,472 belong to Kozhikode district. The resources for JSA are inter alia mobilized under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) which 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. During the year 2023-2024, a provision of Rs. 4,297 crore has been made under MNREGS by the State Government, a substantial part of which is earmarked for such works.
3. Launched in April 2022, Mission Amrit Sarovar is aimed at developing and rejuvenating at least 75 water bodies of minimum pondage area of 1 acre each, in each district of the country as a part of celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. Since its inception, 762 water bodies have been created/ rejuvenated in Kerala, out of which 28 belong to Kozhikode district.
4. Ministry of Jal Shakti has conducted first Census of Water Bodies in convergence with the Sixth Minor Irrigation Census (Reference Year 2017-18) with the objective of developing a national data base of all water bodies in the country. Out of 55,734 water bodies identified in Kerala in the census report, 6,192 belong to Kozhikode district.

5. Rejuvenation of water bodies is also a component under water supply sector of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) Scheme under Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs. Under water supply component of AMRUT, ULBs/State may take up projects related to new/augmentation/rehabilitation of water supply system; rejuvenation of water bodies for water supply and recharge of ground water etc. So far, 5 water bodies rejuvenation projects involving expenditure of Rs. 5.41 crore have been taken up in the State of Kerala. However, none of these belongs to Kozhikode district. Further, AMRUT 2.0 launched in October, 2021, targets to promote circular economy of water through development of city water balance plan for each city focusing on recycle/reuse of treated sewage, rejuvenation of water bodies and water conservation. So far, 255 water body rejuvenation projects worth Rs. 82.35 crore from Kerala have been approved. Out of these, 7 water body rejuvenation projects worth Rs. 2.43 crore belong to Kozhikode district.
6. Desiltation activities have also been carried out in Kozhikode in Korapuzha river (Poonurpuzha & Manhapuzha), Mahe river, Kuttiady river, Chaliyar and its tributaries. Further, river course correction work by dredging Korapuzha river from railway bridge at chainage 418.32 km to Korapuzha river mouth in Koyilandy Taluk, and desilting of Kallai river from Kaduppini to Kothi have been taken up. The State Government has reported that an amount of Rs. 1.82 crore has been spent on the above works in Kozhikode district. Further, the estimated cost for ongoing/ tender stage work of course correction of Korapuzha and Kallai river is Rs. 3.75 crore and Rs. 7.9 crore, respectively.

\*\*\*\*\*