GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 452 ANSWERED ON 05/12/2023

AMRIT SAROVAR SCHEME

452. COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE: SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the fundamental features and objectives of the Amrit Sarovar Scheme;
- (b) the current progress of the Amrit Sarovar Scheme specifically in terms of the number of ponds constructed or renovated as of the latest available data:
- (c) the manner in which the Government plans to ensure the widespread implementation of the Amrit Sarovar Scheme;
- (d) whether there are specific targets set for the construction or renovation of these ponds in each district; and
- (e) whether there is a comprehensive timeline or deadline for achieving the goal of constructing/renovating 1,00,000 Amrit Sarovars across the country and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a): The Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched on 24th April 2022, with an objective to conserve water for the future. The Mission aimed at developing / rejuvenating 75 Amrit Sarovar (Pond) in each district of the Country, totaling about 50,000 Amrit Sarovars in the country. Amrit Sarovar has been a visible manifestation of the actions during Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. The salient features of the Mission Amrit Sarovar is given at Annexure.

(b): As on 28.11.2023, the number of Amrit Sarovar works commenced, number of Amrit Sarovar works completed, is given below:

| Total number of Amrit Sarovar works commenced | Total number of Amrit Sarovar works completed |
|---|---|
| 83,531 | 68,119 |

- (c): The Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched on 24th April 2022 and completed on 15th August, 2023.
- (d): The Mission was aimed at developing / rejuvenating 75 Amrit Sarovar (Pond) in each district of the Country, totaling about 50,000 Amrit Sarovars in the country.
- (e): The Mission Amrit Sarovar has been completed on 15th August, 2023.

Annexure referred in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.452 dated 05.12.2023.

- i. Mission Amrit Sarovar is based on "Whole of Government" approach with the participation from the Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and technical organizations.
- ii. Under the Mission every district of the country will construct or rejuvenate at least 75 Amrit Sarovars.
- iii. Every Amrit Sarovar will have a pondage area of at least 1 acre with a water holding capacity of about 10,000 cubic metre.
- iv. Every Amrit Sarovar will be surrounded by trees like Neem, Peepal and Banyan etc.
- v. Every Amrit Sarovar will be a source of generation of livelihoods by using the water for different purposes like irrigation, fisheries, duckery, cultivation of water chestnut, water tourism and other activities. The Amrit Sarovar will also act as a social gathering point in that locality.
- vi. Mission Amrit Sarovar is a visible manifestation of the action during Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- vii. Every Amrit Sarovar site is a place for flag hoisting on every Independence Day. In Mission Amrit Sarovar, freedom fighters or their family members, martyrs' family members, Padma awardees are associated.
- viii. The Mission Amrit Sarovar works through the States and Districts with convergence from various schemes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS), 15th Finance Commission Grants, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sichayi Yojna sub schemes such as Watershed Development Component, Har Khet ko Pani, besides States' own scheme. Public contribution like crowd funding and Corporate Social Responsibility is also allowed for the work.
 - ix. The Mission Amrit Sarovar focuses on water conservation, people's participation and proper utilization of soil excavated from the water bodies to boost infrastructural projects.
 - x. Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways and other public agencies engaged for infrastructure project development are also engaged in the Mission for the purpose of use of soil/silt excavated out of the Amrit Sarovar.
