

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1736
ANSWERED ON 28.11.2019

RESTORATION OF PONDS

†1736. SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per an estimate there were 24 lakh ponds at the time of independence to store rain water and maintain the level of underground water and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether most of the ponds now do not exist;
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect these ponds;
- (d) the total number of ponds available in the country including Rajasthan at present;
- (e) whether there is a plan to repair, renovate and desilt the ponds/reservoirs in the country including Rajasthan; and
- (f) if so, the budget allocated for the purpose and the expenditure incurred thereon during each of the last three years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

(a), (b) & (d) As per the Water Bodies mapped on India- WRIS portal, total number of water bodies in the country are 798908 (size more than 0.01 Ha). Out of these, 43870 water bodies are in the state of Rajasthan. Further, as per the 5th Minor Irrigation Census (2013-14) conducted by this Ministry, there are 516303 water bodies (including 12296 in Rajasthan) in the rural areas of the country being used for minor irrigation, out of which 53396 (including 445 in Rajasthan) are not in use for various reasons such as non availability of water, less and erratic rainfall, siltation, salinity etc.

(c), (e) & (f) Works related to water resources development & management are planned, funded, executed and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priorities. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to State Governments to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various schemes and programmes.

Central Assistance (CA) for restoration of water bodies is provided by the Ministry under the scheme of Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies, which is a component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). The scheme aims at restoring the lost irrigation potential by improvement and restoration of existing water bodies.

Under the RRR of Water Bodies scheme, a total of 2219 water bodies (including 68 in Rajasthan) with an estimated cost of Rs.1910.68 crore have been taken up for restoration in various states since XII Plan onwards as per eligible proposals received from the concerned State Governments, out of which 1160 water bodies have been reported to be completed upto March, 2019. Further, such works are undertaken through MGNREGA also.

Details of Expenditure/CA released during last 3 years under above Schemes areas below:

Year	Expenditure for completed works under 'Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies' through MGNREGA(in Rs Crore)		Central Assistance (CA) released under RRR of Water Bodies scheme (in Rs Crore)	
	All States/UTs	Rajasthan	All States/UTs	Rajasthan
2016-17	6130.18	298.80	0	0
2017-18	5547.21	171.48	79.649	14.30
2018-19	2368.19	127.95	24.795	0
