

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1764**  
ANSWERED ON 28.11.2019

**RESTORATION OF WATER BODIES**

†1764. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH  
SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of lakes, ponds, pools, wells and step wells existing in the country at present and the current status thereof;
- (b) the State-wise details of the efforts made for the restoration of the said water bodies for ground water management during the last five years;
- (c) the ground water recharge modalities being adopted;
- (d) whether these water bodies in various parts of the country have been encroached upon by anti-social elements; and
- (e) if so, the State-wise details of the action taken against them along with the initiatives taken by the Government to remove the encroachments on the said lakes, ponds, pools, wells and step wells and the restoration thereof for the sustenance of ground water for future?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI & SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)

- (a) As per the Water Bodies mapped on India- WRIS portal, total number of water bodies in the country are 7,98,908 (size more than 0.01 Ha). Further, as per the 5th Minor Irrigation Census conducted by this Ministry, there are 5,16,303 water bodies in the rural areas of the country being used for minor irrigation, out of which 53,396 are not in use for various reasons such as non availability of water, less and erratic rainfall, siltation, salinity etc.
- (b) 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. The restoration of water bodies also helps in ground water recharge.

Under the RRR of Water Bodies scheme, a total of 2219 water bodies 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. Total Central Assistance amounting to Rs.369.11 crore has been released to the States upto March, 2019 for completion of works of these water bodies. Further, such works are undertaken through MGNREGA also.

States-wise detail of works carried out under RRR of Water Bodies Scheme and MGNREGA are at **Annexure – I**.

(c) Initiatives on water management including conservation and artificial recharge to ground water comes under the purview of concerned State Government. However, Central Government is also taking several measures towards sustainable management of ground water resources in the country. Some of the key ground water management initiatives taken by the Central Government are given at **Annexure-II**.

(d) to (e) Matter related to encroachment of water bodies comes under purview of the concerned State Government. However, considering the importance of water bodies for socio economic development, Secretary (WR, RD & GR) vide letter dated 26.02.2016 requested State Governments to take necessary steps for keeping all the water bodies encroachment free. Further, Secretary (WR, RD & GR) vide letter dated 07.11.2016 requested the State Governments to take appropriate action in respect of inclusion of water bodies in land records, inclusion of water bodies as integral part of town planning process, strict action for the encroachers, etc.

Further, water bodies are included under RRR of Water Bodies scheme only after concerned State Government certify that these are encroachment free.

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**Annexure referred to in reply of Part – (b) of Unstarred Question No. †1764 to be answered on 28.11.2019 in Lok Sabha regarding “Restoration of Water Bodies”.**

**States-wise details of works carried out under RRR of Water Bodies Scheme and MGNREGA**

S No.	State	Works completed under MGNREGA (last 5 years)			RRR of Water Bodies (XII Plan onwards)	
		Ponds	WELLS	Renovation of traditional water bodies	CA Released (in crore)	Completed Water Bodies
1	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	79	1	24		
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	630839	45358	81473	2.70	
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	1043	67	84		
4	ASSAM	12056	1141	2164		
5	BIHAR	12981	2778	6726	6.26	
6	CHHATTISGARH	62470	10553	23031		
7	GOA	14	4	320		
8	GUJARAT	16035	4795	20322	8.81	
9	HARYANA	1643	830	2172		
10	HIMACHAL PRADESH	50827	1726	3013		
11	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	3565	2824	4825		
12	JHARKHAND	264966	63921	9224		
13	KARNATAKA	93503	27279	35940		
14	KERALA	19787	29404	87425		
15	LAKSHADWEEP	0	0	2		
16	MADHYA PRADESH	91416	133743	11693	37.70	121
17	MAHARASHTRA	30199	106616	12493		
18	MANIPUR	1134	169	295	10.37	
19	MEGHALAYA	2147	364	913	5.18	4
20	MIZORAM	7223	889	543		
21	NAGALAND	1254	125	113		
22	ODISHA	36785	8062	23815	110.65	715
23	PUDUCHERRY	74	0	2157		
24	PUNJAB	211	879	12141		
25	RAJASTHAN	111846	15625	18454	50.23	52
26	SIKKIM	67	50	5		
27	TAMIL NADU	42202	4488	161290	16.25	104
28	TELANGANA	97088	23626	9552	104.56	164
29	TRIPURA	30161	11213	9173		
30	UTTAR PRADESH	53990	8267	47041	16.41	
31	UTTARAKHAND	9961	1143	3916		
32	WEST BENGAL	204667	11657	88626		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1890233</b>	<b>517597</b>	<b>678965</b>	<b>369.11</b>	<b>1160</b>

**Annexure referred to in reply of Part – (c) of Unstarred Question No. †1764 to be answered on 28.11.2019 in Lok Sabha regarding “Restoration of Water Bodies”.**

**Some of the key ground water management initiatives taken by the Union Government:**

- Hon’ble Prime Minister has written a letter to all sarpanchs regarding the importance of water conservation and harvesting and exhorted them to adopt all appropriate measures to make water conservation a mass movement.
- Ministry of Jal Shakti has recently launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan- a campaign for water conservation and water security in 1592 stressed blocks in 256 districts. The five important water conservation interventions are- water conservation and rainwater harvesting, renovation of traditional and other water bodies/tanks, reuse of water, bore well recharge structures, watershed development and intensive afforestation.
- National Water Policy (2012) formulated by Ministry of Water Resources advocates conservation, promotion and protection of water and highlights the need for augmenting the availability of water through rain water harvesting, direct use of rainfall and other management measures. The Policy has been forwarded to all States/UTs concerned Ministries/Departments of Central Government for adoption.
- The Ministry has circulated a Model Bill to all the States/UTs to enable them to enact suitable ground water legislation for regulation of its development, which includes provision of rain water harvesting. So far, 15 States/UTs have adopted and implemented the ground water legislation on the lines of Model Bill.
- Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has prepared a conceptual document titled “Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water – 2013” which provides information about area-specific artificial recharge techniques to augment ground water resources based on the availability of source water and capability of subsurface formations to accommodate it. The Master Plan is available in public domain and has also been circulated to the State Governments for implementation.
- Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted under Section 3 (3) of the “Environment (Protection) Act, 1986” for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the country. CGWA has issued directives to the Chief Secretaries of all States as well as Administrators of all UTs to take measures to promote/adopt artificial recharge to ground water / rainwater harvesting. It also grants No Objection Certificates (NOCs) for ground water abstraction to Industries, Infrastructure units and Mining projects in feasible areas with mandatory conditions for conservation, augmentation and efficient use of ground water.

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- Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) regularly undertakes training programs and IEC activities for capacity building and awareness creation of stakeholders on various aspects including the importance of water conservation, rainwater harvesting in augmenting the ground water resources, preventing water pollution and safe use of contaminated water.
- Central Ground Water Board is implementing a nationwide programme of “National Aquifer Mapping and Management (NAQUIM)” for mapping of aquifers (Water bearing formations), their characterization and development of aquifer management plans to facilitate sustainable development of ground water resources. Aquifer maps and management plans have been shared with the respective State Government agencies. Public Interaction Programs are being organised at grass root level for disseminating the tenets of the Aquifer Management Plans for the benefit of the stakeholders.
- Central Ground Water Board is implementing innovative schemes for Aquifer Rejuvenation under ‘Ground Water Management and Regulation’ scheme in select overexploited blocks of the Aspirational districts on pilot basis. Water Harvesting and Recharge Augmentation are proposed to be piloted through construction of Bridge cum Bhandaras in parts of Maharashtra. Further, a Joint Action Plan has been prepared with the Ministry of Rural development for effective implementation of water conservation and artificial recharge structures in convergence with MGNREGS. Nine water stressed blocks in the State of Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have been identified, where work is in progress.
- Best practices of water conservation by various entities including private persons, NGOs, PSUs etc. have been compiled and put on the web site of the Ministry for the benefit of general public. An interactive link on best practices has also been created for receiving inputs from public, which after necessary evaluation/validation shall be put on the website.
- Model Building Bye Laws, 2016 circulated by Ministry of Urban Development includes provision for Rainwater Harvesting and it has been shared with all the States. So far 32 States / UTs have adopted the provisions of rainwater harvesting of MBBL-2016.
- Activities related to augmentation/conservation of water resources are undertaken under various Schemes of Government of India i.e. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) and Command Area Development & Water Management (CAD&WM) Programme etc.

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