

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3729
ANSWERED ON 18.03.2021

CLEANING OF WATER BODIES

3729. SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures taken/to be taken by the Government to keep water bodies clean, reduce the over consumption of water, strive for equal distribution of resources and add innovative solutions like small water enterprises etc.; and
- (b) the efforts made/to be made by the Government to meet the biggest challenge of cleaning and rejuvenation of water bodies?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (b) Works related to renovation and maintenance of water bodies, reduce the over consumption of water, equal distribution of water etc., are planned, funded, executed and maintained by the State Governments themselves, as per their own resources and priorities. The role of Government of India is limited to being catalytic, and partial financial assistance under the existing schemes, as per the guidelines.

A scheme titled Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies is being implemented by this Ministry, under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana - Har Khet Ko Pani (PMKSY-HKKP). From XIIth Plan onwards, 2,219 water bodies, with estimated cost for repair, renovation & restoration of Rs.1,910 crore, have been included from various States for central assistance under this scheme. Central assistance of Rs.469.68 crore has been released for these water bodies, and out of the above, 1,465 water bodies have been reported to be repaired, renovated and restored.

Further, National Water Policy (2012), inter-alia, recommends for conservation of rivers, river corridors, water bodies and infrastructure should be undertaken in a scientifically planned manner through community participation.

Further, from time to time this Ministry has been sensitising the State Governments regarding the importance of water bodies for socio economic development and sustainable water security to the local population. Under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan, being conducted with the state governments and public participation, mapping, cleaning and rejuvenation of water bodies is a special area of emphasis. Need for taking necessary steps for keeping all the water bodies encroachment-free, such as inclusion of water bodies in land records and making them integral part of town planning process, strict action for the encroachers, etc. is also being emphasised to the State Governments by this Ministry, from time to time.