

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.942
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2021

REVIVAL OF WATER BODIES IN TRIBAL AREAS

942. SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether there is any proposal in the Government for revival of water bodies / improve access to water in the tribal areas under "1000 Springs Initiative;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the tribal population of Odisha that will be covered under the scheme?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SMT. RENUKA SINGH SARUTA)

(a) to (c): Ministry of Tribal Affairs in collaboration with United Nations Development Programme has taken up '1000 Springs Initiative' as a localized innovative solution by harnessing the potential of perennial springs to meet the water needs of the remote tribal communities. It is envisaged to upscale 1000 Springs Initiative to other tribal regions. 408 springs across 77 habitations/villages in 8 districts (Ganjam, Gajapati, Jajpur, Kalahandi, Kandhmal, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Rayagada) of have been mapped to create an online Spring Atlas thespringsportal.org. Further, a project has been sanctioned to Government of Odisha under the scheme 'Support to Tribal Research Institute' for mapping the springs in the districts of Odisha as mentioned below:

Sl. No.	Name of TSP Districts with LGD Code	Number of TSP Block	No. of villages
1	Mayurbhanj (LGD: 365)	26	5383
2	Sundargarh (LGD: 373)	17	3623
3	Koraput (LGD: 363)	14	2973
4	Malkangiri (LGD: 364)	7	1509
5.	Rayagada (LGD: 370)	11	2202
Total	5	75	15690

This GIS online inventory is helpful in locating springs, analyzing their health status, quality of water, discharge capacity and other physical, chemical and biological properties and filling the crucial information gap to develop a national map of springs and build capacities of communities and other stakeholders in protection, preservation and management of the springs for sustainability of the resource. Community led Spring-based water infrastructure has been demonstrated through convergence with MGNREGA to provide safe and adequate water for drinking, domestic and livelihood.
