

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †595
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2021

ENCROACHMENT OF WATER BODIES

†595. DR. KRISHNA PAL SINGH YADAV

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of water bodies in many States has decreased due to encroachment, unplanned urbanisation, industrialisation, lack of proper management and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any separate study on the condition, increase/decrease in numbers of water bodies and status of their encroachment;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether a Central database is being maintained on water bodies presently and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether it regularly compiles data on total number of water bodies, increase/decrease in their numbers dried up/extinct water bodies changes in land use of catchment areas on water bodies and encroachment etc; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (f) It is for the State Governments concerned to undertake enumeration, protection and management of water bodies in their respective States. However, this Ministry undertakes census of minor irrigation schemes from time to time, which also captures information pertaining to certain specific water bodies in the country. As per the latest census, being 5th census of minor irrigation schemes with reference year 2013-14, there are 5,16,303 water bodies in the rural areas of the country, which are being used for minor irrigation. Out of these, 53,396 water bodies are not in use for various reasons such as non-availability of water, siltation, salinity, etc. The commensurate figures as per 4th Minor Irrigation Census undertaken by this Ministry with reference year 2006-07, are 5,23,816 water bodies in the rural areas being used for minor irrigation, out of which 80,128 water bodies not being in use.
