

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.860
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2021

National Wetland Conservation Programme

860. SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of the National Wetland Conservation Programme;
- (b) the details of the wetlands identified during the last three years and the current year in the country including Satna district of Madhya Pradesh, district-wise;
- (c) whether the Tamas Barrage Dam, Govindgarh Lake, Mukundpur Lake, Vishnu Sagar lake, Dharam Sagar lake, Semraval river, Tamas river, Mandakini river have been included under the National Wetland Conservation Programme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) The salient features of National Programme for Conservation of Wetlands of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) includes implementation of the following:
 - **National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems (NPCA)** scheme for conservation and management of wetlands in the country on cost sharing basis between Central Government and respective State Governments i.e. 100% Central Share for Union Territories (UTs), 90% (Centre) &10% (North East& Himalayan States)and 60% (Centre) &40% (remaining States). The scheme covers various activities such as interception, diversion and treatment of wastewater, shoreline protection, lake front development, in-situ cleaning i.e. desilting &deweeding, storm water management, bioremediation, catchment area treatment, Lake Beautification, survey & demarcation, bio-fencing, fisheries development, weed control, biodiversity conservation, education and awareness creation, community participation, etc.
 - As a signatory to the **Ramsar Convention on Wetlandss**since 01.02.1982, India has designated 42 Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites). India stands first in South Asia and third in Asia w.r.t the number of Ramsar Sites.

- **Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017** - Vide these Rules, inter-alia, the State/UT Wetlands Authorities have been constituted. The National Wetlands Committee inter-alia is responsible for advising on appropriate policies and action programmes for conservation and wise use of wetlands. Guidelines have been issued to support the State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations in the implementation of the Rules.
- Four pronged **Wetlands Rejuvenation Programme** by a) Developing baseline information; b) Rapid assessment of wetlands condition (Wetland Health Cards); c) Constitution of 'Wetlands Mitras' - stakeholder platforms to enable collaborative and participatory management; and d) Management planning, addressing the specific wetlands biodiversity and ecosystem services values and threats.
- **Capacity Building and Outreach programme** – National and Regional workshops for Wetlands Managers & Stakeholders are organised on conservation and management of wetlands, preparation of Brief Documents etc. World Wetlands Day is celebrated at National level on 2nd February of each year in collaboration with the concerned State Governments to raise awareness among all sections of the society about values and functions of wetlands and utilization of their resources.

(b) As per the National Wetland Inventory & Assessment, 2011, about two lakh wetlands are above 2.25 hectares with a total wetland area of about 14.70 million hectares. These include lakes/ponds, ox-bow lakes, high altitude & riverine wetlands, waterlogged areas, rivers/streams, tanks, reservoirs, lagoons, creeks, sand beaches, corals, mangroves, mud flats, salt pans, aquaculture ponds, etc. The district-wise wetland maps and statistics of each State/UT are available under Chapter 7 of respective Atlases of each State/UT, which are available on MoEF&CC website at <http://moef.gov.in/en/division/environment-divisions/wetland/national-wetlands-inventory-assessment/>. Subsequent inventorization exercise has not been undertaken by the Ministry after 2011. As per the National Wetland Inventory & Assessment, 2011, 1,287 wetlands (>2.25 hectare) with a total wetland area of 28,862 hectares have been identified in Satna district of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) & (d) The lakes and rivers as mentioned in the question have not been funded under the National Wetland Conservation Programme till date.
