

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3101

ANSWERED ON 04.08.2022

CONSERVATION OF WATER BODIES

3101 SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASAR SU

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of water bodies in the country have been encroached upon, drained up, beyond revival, not traceable and diverted for various other purposes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether any steps are being taken by the Government or directions issued to the States to identify and conserve such water bodies in a stipulated time frame;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) to (e) Ministry of Jal Shakti has launched the first Census of Water Bodies in convergence with the Sixth Minor Irrigation Census (reference year 2017-18) with the objective of developing a national database of all water bodies in the country. As per currently available data, the provisional figures of State-wise number of water bodies and number of cases of encroachment of water bodies is given in **Annexure A**. However, works related to enumeration of water bodies, their protection from encroachment, or diversion for use for other purposes, comes under the purview of the State Government concerned.

Though water is a State subject, Government of India has taken a number of important measures to identify and conserve such water bodies in a stipulated time frame. Key measures taken recently in this regard are listed below:

1. Government of India is providing financial assistance to the States under Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) – Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP).

2. Rejuvenation of water bodies is also a component under water supply sector of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme under Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs. AMRUT 2.0, launched in October, 2021.

3. In 2019, Jal Shakti Abhiyan was launched by the Government. This was followed in 2021 by “Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain” (JSA:CTR) campaign. The JSA:CTR campaign for the year 2022 has been launched in March 2022, in all districts (rural as well as urban) of the country. The main theme of the campaign is “Catch the Rain, where it falls, when it falls”. Focused interventions under these annual campaigns taken up by the Government of India and the State Governments, inter alia, include renovation of traditional and other water bodies/ tanks, enumeration, geo-tagging and making inventory of all water bodies, and removal of encroachments of tanks/ lakes, and de-silting of tanks, and protection of water catchment area.

4. Mission on Amrit Sarovar, aimed at developing and rejuvenating 75 water bodies in each district of the country as a part of celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, has been launched in April, 2022. The Mission works through the States and districts, through refocusing of various ongoing schemes of the Government, as well as inclusion of citizen and non Government resources. The Mission is to be completed by 15th August 2023.

5. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) has provisions for public works relating to natural resource management, water conservation and water harvesting structures to augment and improve ground water like underground dykes, earthen dams, stop dams, check dams and roof top rain water harvesting structures in public buildings.

ANNEXURE A

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3101 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 04.08.2022 REGARDING “CONSERVATION OF WATER BODIES”.

STATE-WISE NUMBER OF WATER BODIES AND NUMBER OF ENCROACHMENTS REPORTED IN THE FIRST CENSUS OF WATER BODIES (PROVISIONAL)

S.No.	States/UTs	Total number of water bodies reported	Total number of encroachments reported
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS	3,528	59
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	1,90,777	3,920
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	993	0
4	ASSAM	1,72,492	13
5	BIHAR	45,793	871
6	CHANDIGARH	188	0
7	CHHATISGARH	34,000	111
8	GOA	1,463	8
9	GUJARAT	54,069	22
10	HARYANA	14,898	50
11	HIMACHAL PRADESH	88,017	42
12	JAMMU & KASHMIR	9,765	103
13	JHARKHAND	1,07,598	560
14	KERALA	55,734	111
15	MAHARASHTRA	97,062	251
16	MANIPUR	1,658	6
17	MEGHALAYA	13,332	6
18	MIZORAM	2,185	7
19	NAGALAND	1,432	1
20	ODISHA	1,81,837	1,048
21	PUDUCHERRY	1,171	34
22	PUNJAB	16,012	1,578
23	RAJASTHAN	16,939	47
24	SIKKIM	134	0
25	TAMIL NADU	1,06,957	8,366
26	TELENGANA	64,056	3,032
27	TRIPURA	36,239	1
28	UTTARAKHAND	3,096	5
29	UTTAR PRADESH	2,45,088	15,301
30	WEST BENGAL	7,47,480	0
31	KARNATAKA*	26,994	948
32	MADHYA PRADESH*	97,285	423
