

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6467
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2000
DESILTATION OF CHILKA LAKE
ANANTA NAYAK

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the growing siltation of Chilka lake;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to desilt the said lake;
- (c) whether any assistance has been provided by the Union Government for the purpose; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a) Yes, Sir. From a recent estimate by Chilka Development Authority, it is estimated that 365499 cubic meters of silt gets into Chilka through 52 number of rivers and rivulets leading to shrinkage of the lake and reduction of its water holding capacity.

(b) to (d) Chilka lake has been identified for conservation and management under the National Wetland Conservation Programme of Government. The programme includes such activities, as afforestation, soil conservation, habitat improvement of Nalaban, environmental awareness, information data base etc. Besides this, Tenth Finance Commission has also released financial assistance for improvement of Chilka lake for various activities including desiltation. A total amount of Rs. 19.08 crore has been released to the State Government for conservation of Chilka lake so far as per the break-up given below :

Ministry of Environment & Forests	Rs. 1.48 crore
Tenth Finance Commission	Rs. 17.60 crore

Total Rs. 19.08 crore