

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:763
ANSWERED ON:12.07.2004
CONSERVATION OF LAKES
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of lakes is declining in the country constantly;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; (
- (c) whether the Government has chalked out any plan for their conservation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the targets fixed and the achievements made thereunder; and
- (f) the details of lakes taken up/to be taken up under the said plan during 2003-04 and 2004-05 alongwith fund allocation, lake-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (e) The Government of India is implementing National Lake Conservation Plan(NLCP) for conservation of lakes and tanks that have degraded due to pollution, shrinkage of lake, siltation, loss of ecological balance & aesthetic value etc. The NLCP was initiated in June, 2001. Till 2002-03, projects for conservation of 20 lakes were approved at a total estimated cost of Rs. 72.61 crore. The lakes approved were Vengaiakere, Kamakshipalaya, Nagavara, Jarganahalli, Bellandur & Kotekere in Karnataka, Powai & 9 lakes of Thane in Maharashtra, Mansagar in Rajasthan, Ooty & Kodaikanal in Tamil Nadu and Rabindra Sarovar in West Bengal. The work in respect of Powai lake, Vengaiakere & Nagavara has completed and others are in various stages of implementation. Kamakshipalaya project is dropped by the State Government.

(f) During 2003-04, the lakes approved for conservation include Nainital Lake (Rs. 47.97 crore) & 4 lakes of Nainital District in Uttaranchal, namely, Bhimtal, Naukuchiatal, Sattal and Khurpatal (Rs. 16.85 crore), along with Bhisma(Rs.2.50 crore) & Lal Bagh lakes(Rs. 1.66 crore) of Karnataka.

So far no new proposal under NLCP has been approved during 2004-05. Conservation and restoration projects for lakes from Haryana, West Bengal, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala etc. have been received for consideration under NLCP.