

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5278

ANSWERED ON:14.05.2007

RENOVATION OF WATER BODIES

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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an urgent need for all States to chalk out a coordinated plan to preserve existing water bodies as reported in The Hindu dated April 12, 2007;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the role to be played by the Union Government to preserve existing water bodies;
- (d) whether the State Governments have faced paucity of funds and resources which hindered the conservation of existing water resources; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to allocate sufficient funds to develop existing water resources?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (e) The Government has launched a Pilot Scheme for "National Project for Repair, Renovation & Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" in January 2005. The water bodies having culturable command area of more than 40 hectares and upto 2000 hectares are included under the Scheme in one or two districts each in States: The restoration of 1098 water bodies has been approved in 26 districts of 15 States under the Scheme at a cost of Rs.299.9155 crore to be shared by Centre and State in the ratio of 3:1. As announced in the Budget Speech for 2006-07 of the Hon'ble Finance Minister, it has been decided that the expansion of the Scheme at national level will be with external funding in the Xth Plan. The funding pattern of the Scheme will be 75% as World Bank loan by State Government and 25% as Central subsidy.