

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1399
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2008
DESILTING OF WATER BODIES
Dhanaraju Dr. K.;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether desilting of water bodies is being done periodically in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the desilting work done during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of funds allocated for this work, State-wise during the above period indicating the World Bank (WB) assistance, if any?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Desilting of water bodies is required to be carried out by various agencies, particularly, the State Governments as part of regular operation and maintenance. The Ministry of Water Resources has not taken up any specific programme or scheme for 'Desilting of Water Bodies'. However, removal of deposited material in tanks or other water bodies or lakes etc. is taken up as site specific measure in respect of water bodies or lakes included under the scheme of the Ministry of Water Resources for 'Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture' and 'National Lake Conservation Plan' of Ministry of Environment and Forests. The Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India approved project proposals in respect of 1098 water bodies for 26 districts in 15 States under Pilot Scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture. Besides, the World Bank Loan Agreement has been signed with Tamil Nadu for Rs. 2182 crore to restore 5763 water bodies. Loan agreements in respect of the project in Andhra Pradesh for Rs. 835 crore for restoration of 3000 water bodies and the project in Karnataka for Rs. 259 crore for restoration of 1225 water bodies have also been signed with the World Bank. The components of the scheme, inter-alia, include activities related to desilting. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has informed that out of the proposals received so far, the Ministry has sanctioned projects for conservation of 52 lakes at a total estimated cost of Rs. 687.52 crore which generally include desilting as one of the components.