

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4267

ANSWERED ON:06.09.2012

DRIED POOLS AND PONDS FOR RAINWATER HARVESTING

Singh Shri Mahabali;Singh Smt. Meena

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is formulating any scheme for upgradation of dried pools/ponds for water harvesting;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of pools/ponds identified for upgradation in Bihar under the said scheme;
- (d) the State-wise details of the funds sanctioned, spent and balance left under the scheme during the last three years and the current year; and
- (e) the efforts made by the Government for nation-wide construction of big wells instead of tubewells and reinstating old ponds?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) & (b) Government had approved a State Sector scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration(RRR) of water bodies with two components (i) one with external assistance with an outlay of Rs 1500 crore and (ii) another with domestic support with an outlay of Rs 1250 crore for implementation during XI Five Year Plan period.

A sum of Rs.839.390 crores has since been released under the scheme of RRR of water bodies with domestic support so far. The state-wise/project-wise details of funds released and funds utilised during last three years and current year (upto 3.9.2012) are given at Annexure.

(c) As per information furnished by the Minor Water Resources Department, Government of Bihar, 6 projects under the pilot scheme of National Project for RRR of water bodies have been completed in Bihar covering 1 tank in Nalanda district, 1 bandh cum weir, 3ahars and 1 reservoir in Jamui district. Work is under progress for extensive renovation and restoration of 12 minor irrigation schemes and ahars/ pynesin Patna district and 1 each in Rohtas, Jahanabad and Gaya districts. Government of Bihar has also submitted 39 proposals for implementation in parts of Patna, Bhojpur, Rohtas, Kaimur, Gaya, Aurangabad, and Nalanda districts to Ministry of Water Resources.

(d) State-wise/project-wise details of funds released and funds utilised under the RRR scheme during last three years and current year (upto 3.9.2012) are given at Annexure.

(e) 'Water' being a State subject, construction of big wells instead of tubewells and reinstating old ponds are taken by concerned State agencies, however, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation implements the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) in which one of the components of NRDWP funds allocated to States is the Sustainability component which has an allocation of 10%, which is a 100% Central Grant. Under this component, construction of village ponds, percolation tanks, rural water harvesting structures can be carried out to ensure sustainability of drinking water sources. There is, however, no specific allocation to the States for carrying out these activities.