

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1057  
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2012  
WATER BODIES UNDER MGNREGS  
Sugumar Shri K.

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) large number of new water bodies are being encouraged;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is also considering to take up existing water bodies under the MGNREGS; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES ( SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. As per information received from Ministry of Rural Development, a large number of works related to Water Bodies included in Para 1B of Schedule 1 of the Act under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is given in Annexure.

(c) & (d) Yes, Madam. Section 16(1) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) provides that Gram Panchayats shall be responsible for identification of projects in the Gram Panchayat area to be taken up under the scheme as per the recommendations of the Gram Sabha and Ward Sabhas and for executing and supervising such works. Section 13(1) of MGNREGA provides that the Panchayats at district, intermediate and village levels shall be the principal authorities for planning and implementation of the schemes made under the Act. However, involvement of Gram Panchayat would depend on their capacities, pro-activeness and of extent of autonomy and assertions exercised by them.