

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1034

ANSWERED ON:04.03.2013

CONSERVATION OF KOLLERU LAKE

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**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has launched any centrally sponsored scheme for the conservation of lakes across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the number of lakes has declined during the last decade;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the details of funds sanctioned to the State Governments during the last three years for the conservation of such lakes, State-wise ;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to announce Kolleru lake in Andhra Pradesh into an eco sensitive zone; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) & (b) The Ministry have been implementing Centrally Sponsored Schemes of National Lake Conservation Plan and National Wetland Conservation Programme (NWCP) for conservation and management of polluted and degraded lakes and wetlands in the country. These schemes have now been merged as National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems.

(c) & (d) As regards decline in number of lakes in the states, the Ministry has not received any information. However, there is a reduction in expanse of the lakes due to rapid urbanization and other developmental activities.

During the last three years (2009-2012), total funds of Rs.174.86 crore & Rs.38.47 crore were released to various State Governments for conservation of lakes and wetlands respectively.

(e) & (f) Kolleru lake in Andhra Pradesh is one of the 115 identified wetlands for conservation and management under NWCP, and also designated as a Ramsar site under the International Ramsar Convention, 1971. This lake is notified under the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010, which defines regulation on certain activities within the wetlands. The Ministry has not received any proposal from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for declaring Kolleru lake as an eco sensitive zone.