

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2800  
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2013  
WATER BODIES IN RURAL AREAS  
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

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

- (a) whether water bodies in rural areas are getting dried up;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise including Andhra Pradesh during the last four years and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the corrective steps being taken/ proposed to be taken in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) According to 3rd Minor Irrigation census conducted by Ministry of Water Resources with reference year 2000-2001, the number of water bodies identified in the country are 5.56 lakh. The total number of water bodies not in use are 85807. This includes both urban and rural water bodies. The state- wise details of water bodies not in use as per 3rd Minor Irrigation census are given in Annexure.

(c) To revive, restore and rehabilitate the traditional water bodies in india, the MoWR, Government of India had launched a pilot scheme for "Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" during X Plan. The works of 1085 water bodies were completed in 26 districts of 15 states.

During XI Plan, two schemes of Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies were launched- one with domestic support and the other with external assistance. The scheme envisaged comprehensive improvement of selected tank systems including de-silting of water bodies, improvement of catchment areas of tank commands, increase in storage capacity of water bodies, ground water recharge, improvement in agriculture, horticulture productivity, development of tourism, cultural activities and increased availability of drinking water. Under the Scheme with domestic support, 3341 water bodies were taken up for restoration. This includes 1029 number of water bodies of Andhra Pradesh. The works have been completed on 1736 water bodies including 117 water bodies of Andhra Pradesh. Under the scheme of external assistance, 10887 water bodies have been taken up for restoration. This includes 3000 water bodies of Andhra Pradesh. The works have been completed on 4244 water bodies including 1119 water bodies of Andhra Pradesh.

The scheme for RRR of water bodies for implementation during XII Plan is under formulation.