

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4389  
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2013  
BEAUTIFICATION OF PONDS  
Patle Kamla Devi

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

- (a) whether the Government has prepared any scheme for the maintenance and beautification of ponds in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Chhattisgarh; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) The Central Government had approved a State Sector scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies with two components, one with external assistance and another with domestic support being implemented by Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) during XI Five Year Plan period. The scheme aims at improving catchment areas of tank commands, increase in storage capacity, ground water recharge, improvement in agriculture and increased availability of drinking water. Under the scheme covered by external assistance, States may take up projects for funding with 75% loan from the World Bank to be repaid by the States, whereas, the balance 25% is contributed by Government of India as central assistance. As informed by MoWR, under the scheme with domestic support, 3341 water bodies including 131 in Chhattisgarh, have been taken up, out of which 16 have been completed and 115 are in progress.