

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:657
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2015
Vanishing Water Bodies
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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any data on the traditional water bodies created in ancient times in most of the districts in Andhra Pradesh which are gradually vanishing and resulting in lowering of water level; and
(b) if so, the details thereof and the plans to revive them?

Answer

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION

(PROF. SANWAR LAL JAT)

(a) The Ministry collects information on those water bodies only, which either function as surface flow minor irrigation schemes or on which, there are minor irrigation schemes (either in-use or out-of-use). Accordingly, as per the information collected in the 4th Minor Irrigation Census, number of water bodies used for minor irrigation in Andhra Pradesh were 72,000 in 2006-07 including 22,877 water bodies with not-in-use minor irrigation schemes. However, information on traditional water bodies created in ancient times is not available.

(b) State Governments undertake several measures for protection and revival of water bodies in the States which, inter-alia, include conservation of water resources in reservoirs, traditional water bodies and rain water harvesting. Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation supplements their efforts through technical and financial assistance under various schemes and programmes namely Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) and Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies etc. The Government of India has launched the National Water Mission with the objective of conservation of water, minimising wastage and ensuring its more equitable distribution both across and within States through integrated water resources development and management. The National Water Policy, 2012 has also been formulated, which has made several recommendations for development and improved management of water resources in the country.
