

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5333

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2014

WATER BODIES

Chautala Shri Dushyant

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has planned to count and identify water bodies across the country during the current Plan period;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has also formulated an action plan to update the data regarding water bodies periodically;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has accordingly instructed the State governments to provide such data;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response from the State Governments; and
- (e) the action proposed by the Government to conserve the existing water bodies and protect them from illegal encroachments?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION;  
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TEXTILES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE). (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

- (a) & (b) The Ministry has planned to collect information on number of water bodies in villages as part of 5th Minor Irrigation Census during the 12th Plan period. The Census is conducted and data updated periodically.
- (c) & (d) The State Governments are fully involved in conduct of Minor Irrigation Census. They participate in collection of data and its processing.
- (e) Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation implements scheme of Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) of water bodies with the objective of comprehensive development of water bodies and increase in storage capacity of water bodies. In addition, the Central Government supplements the efforts of State Government for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources by way of technical and financial support through various schemes such as Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme, Command Area Development etc. Ministry of Urban Development has published an "Advisory on conservation and restoration of water bodies in urban areas" in August,2013 in which various steps are suggested for water body conservation and restoration. In the Advisory, the states are advised to set up "a State Level advisory Committee" for conservation and preservation of lakes/water bodies.