

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:589

ANSWERED ON:26.11.2014

CONSERVATION OF WETLAND LAKES

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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Wetland Conservation Programme (NWCP) has been merged with National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of wetlands/lakes/ponds identified for conservation under the NLCP, State-wise;
- (d) the funds allocated and released under the plan, State-wise and the results achieved as a result thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) whether Government has taken any special measures with respect to the conservation programmes of Ashthamudi, Sasthamkotta fresh water lake in Kerala and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) This Ministry were earlier implementing two separate schemes namely, National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) and National Wetlands Conservation Programme (NWCP) for conservation and management of identified lakes and wetlands in the country. For better synergy and to avoid overlap, both the schemes have been merged into one integrated scheme of National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-Systems (NPCA) on 70:30 cost sharing between Central Government and respective State Governments (90:10 for North Eastern States). The scheme aims at holistic conservation and restoration of lakes and wetlands for achieving the desired water quality enhancement, improvement in biodiversity and ecosystem through an integrated and multidisciplinary approach, and a common regulatory framework.

(c) & (d) Based on the proposals received from different States, the Ministry has so far sanctioned projects for conservation of 63 lakes in 14 States at a total cost of Rs.1096.09 crore under the NLCP/NPCA scheme. State wise details of lakes covered under NLCP/NPCA, along with allocation and release of funds are at Annexure. Out of these, the projects which have been completed have reportedly shown improvement in lake water quality and aesthetics of the surrounding area.

(e) Ashtamudi and Sasthamkotta wetlands in Kerala were identified under the NWCP, and also designated as Ramsar sites. Both the wetlands are covered the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010 for effective conservation and protection of wetlands. An amount of Rs. 53.08 lakhs for Sasthamkotta and Rs.97.19 lakhs for Ashtamudi wetland have been released so far to the State Government of Kerala for their conservation and management.