

Revival of traditional water bodies

2173. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

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

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Coverage of rural drinking water in rural areas is monitored in terms of habitations. As on 1.4.2011, out of the total of 16,64,186 rural habitations in the country, States have reported that there are 1,21,046 habitations remaining which have some drinking water sources contaminated.

(b) and (c) States have reported 3659 traditional water bodies in the on-line Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry. Under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme guidelines provision exists for the revival of traditional water bodies from the sustainability component. As per information provided in the IMIS, Karnataka State has reported the implementation of schemes to revive traditional water bodies.

Foreign assistance for drinking water and sanitation facilities

2174. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has sought any foreign assistance to provide safe drinking water and sanitation facilities in the country particularly in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the names of countries which are providing assistance for safe drinking water and sanitation facilities in the rural areas of the country, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of the projects undertaken in the country during the last year till date, State-wise and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial