

Rejuvenation of traditional water bodies

869. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to start work pertaining to the rejuvenation of traditional water bodies, removal of encroachment in water bodies, desilting of lake ponds, construction/strengthening of inlets, catchment area treatment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (b) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) was launched in 2015-16 with an aim to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices etc. Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP) is one of the component of PMKSY. The scheme of Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies has become a part of PMKSY (HKKP).

The Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies Scheme aims at restoring irrigation potential by improvement and restoration of water bodies along with other multiple objectives such as enhancing the tank storage capacity, ground water recharge, increased availability of drinking water, improvement of catchment of tank commands etc.

Under the Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies scheme, since XIIth plan onwards, 2219 water bodies have been taken up with an estimated cost of ₹ 1910 crore. Central Assistance (CA) of ₹ 433 crore has been released to various states upto March, 2020. Further, 1465 water bodies have been completed upto March, 2020 as reported by states. Target irrigation potential restoration of these schemes is 1.888 Lakh Ha and out of this, 1.319 Lakh Ha is reported to be restored till March, 2020.

Financial packages to publications and broadcasting during COVID-19

870. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the media houses of the country have asked Government for financial packages to continue publications and broadcasting in a smooth manner during the COVID-19;