



MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
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Period of Analysis: 24-04-2023 to 24-04-2023

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1	24th Apr 2023	EVERY DROP COUNTS	The Indian Express	New Delhi	10	Bureau	44.75
2	24th Apr 2023	Waterbodies' census puts State's count at 55,734	The Hindu	Kochi	4	Tiki Rajwi	53.99
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5	24th Apr 2023	Karnataka has 26,994 water bodies, finds census	Deccan Herald	Bangalore	1	Bureau	31.4
6	24th Apr 2023	Most of 24 lakh water bodies are in rural areas, says survey	The Morning Standard	New Delhi	7	Amit Mukherjee	69.23
7	24th Apr 2023	Counting For The First Time 24,24,540 Water Sources In The Country 97 Percent Are In Villages	Amar Ujala	New Delhi	13	Bureau	58.27
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		Report Enumerating Over 24 Lakh Water Bodies					
9	24th Apr 2023	Jal Shakti Ministry Releases Report Enumerating Over 24 Lakh Water Bodies	The New India Express	Hyderabad	7		
10	24th Apr 2023	Jal Shakti Ministry Releases Report Enumerating Over 24 Lakh Water Bodies	Namaste Telangana	Hyderabad	7		



Publication	The Indian Express	Language	English
Edition	New Delhi	Journalist	Bureau
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EVERY DROP COUNTS

Water body census is a welcome initiative. Increasing reliance on local sources will make it more informative

IN A FIRST-EVER count of its kind, a census has recorded an overwhelming disparity between rural and urban areas in terms of water bodies. The report highlights that cities and towns have less than 3 per cent of these reservoirs. Conducted by the Jal Shakti ministry, the survey included natural and human-made water repositories like ponds, tanks, and lakes. With nearly 7,50,00 water bodies, West Bengal tops the list. The country's most populous state, Uttar Pradesh, is a distant second with about 2,50,000 repositories. At a time when stressed aquifers pose difficult ecological, economic and policy challenges — including for the government's flagship scheme of providing drinking water to every household — the significance of this database cannot be overstated. With details on the size, encroachment status and storage capacity of the water bodies, the report could help policymakers arrive at informed decisions on matters as diverse as urban planning and rural employment generation schemes.

The Centre has been conducting a census of minor irrigation structures every five years since 1986. Much of the data indirectly compiled from the population Census by government agencies has also focused on minor irrigation works. The irrigation-centred approach was, to an extent, a fallout of the inclination of successive governments to view tanks, ponds and canals as economic utilities, rather than critical resources for human and ecological well-being. In the past two decades, there have been some attempts at course correction. The UPA government, for instance, launched the Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies scheme in 2005 and MGNREGA works have focussed on reviving traditional water bodies. But the lack of a comprehensive database has meant that these projects have not done sufficient justice to their objectives. The significance of the current study is underscored by the fact that it counted nearly five times the number of repositories enumerated by the last minor irrigation survey in 2013-14. The past studies did not have much data on urban centres. The enumeration of tanks, lakes and other water sources in cities and towns was left, largely, to civil society outfits and academic institutions. Such endeavours did provide valuable insights into the depletion of lakes in cities such as Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Srinagar and Bengaluru. The government's entry into the field is sure to make the data richer.

That said, such enumeration initiatives will not do adequate justice to their objectives if they remain top-down affairs. Making panchayats, municipalities and other local bodies the nodal points for future water body surveys as well as roping in civil society groups in the endeavour could help policymakers arrive at a better picture of the water crisis, and frame solutions.



Publication

The Hindu

Language

English

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Kochi

Journalist

Tiki Rajwi

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4

CCM

53.99

Waterbodies' census puts State's count at 55,734

Tiki Rajwi

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala has 55,734 waterbodies out of which 9,184 are 'not in use' and 111 are plagued by encroachment, indicate the first census report on waterbodies in the country released by the Union Jal Shakti Ministry.

Waterbodies in Kerala include 51,007 ponds, 848 tanks, four lakes, 63 reservoirs, 3,349 water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/check-dams and 463 other waterbodies, according to the report.

The definition

Kerala ranked 12th overall in the number of waterbodies, and third in their number in urban locations. For the purpose of the census, 'waterbodies' were defined as "all natural or man-made units bounded on all sides with some or no masonry work used for storing water for irrigation or other purposes."

The Union Ministry launched the first census in convergence with the Sixth Minor Irrigation Census. Of

National census says 9,184 waterbodies are 'not in use' and 111 have been encroached upon

the waterbodies in the State, 49,725 are in rural areas and 6,009 in urban locations.

In the number of urban ones, Kerala stood third after West Bengal and Tamil Nadu. In all, 46,550 waterbodies are in use in Kerala, while 9,184 have fallen into disuse owing to a variety of reasons.

As many as 8,286 ponds, 81 tanks, two reservoirs, 721 water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/check-dams and 112 other waterbodies are in the 'not in use' category. Reasons include drying up, construction, siltation, salinity and being rendered unusable due to the influx of industrial effluents. In the latter category, there were 43 waterbodies. As many as 1,326 were also designated as 'destroyed beyond repair.'

Of the waterbodies in use, a little over 20,000

were being used for irrigation and 10,192 for domestic/drinking water purposes. As many as 2,663 were put to use for fish farming and 260 others, for industrial purposes.

Encroachments were reported in 111 waterbodies, mostly in rural areas. In the case of seven of these, the extent of encroachment was found to be more than 75%.

West Bengal on top

Of the 24.24 lakh waterbodies counted nationwide, West Bengal had 7.5 lakh, topping the list. The census was carried out with the objective of creating a national database for waterbodies. West Bengal has the highest number of ponds and reservoirs, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu topped the list for tanks and lakes respectively and Maharashtra, that of water conservation schemes.

The Kerala government had announced plans to dig 2,000 ponds as part of water conservation measures. The first 1,000 were inaugurated on March 22, World Water Day.



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LETTERS

TN ENCROACHMENTS

The union water resources ministry's report that Tamil Nadu stands first in encroachment of water bodies should make the authorities squirm. It is an undeniable fact many water bodies were encroached upon with the knowledge of officialdom and politicians too, regardless of who was in power. For example, the Korattur lake was once covering 1,300 acres area but due to encroachments it has shrunk to hardly 300 acres. The encroachers not only built houses but also colleges and huge commercial buildings courtesy babus and netas whose palms were greased. Otherwise the buildings would not have been provided TNEB, water and sewage connections and pucca bitumen roads laid. CM Mr.Stalin should emulate his UP counterpart CM Yogi Adithyanath, send bulldozers and JCBs to remove encroachments in the water bodies without political bias.

A.Seshagiri Rao
Chennai

LOVE BEYOND BOUNDARIES

In the ongoing IPL, we witnessed MSD's fans wearing a CSK jersey with his face on it when he walked in to bat against RCB. He might have retired from international cricket but when it comes to popularity, very few cricketers on earth can stake claim to the kind of love and admiration 'Captain Cool' enjoys in the cricketing arena. This is a classic example of a great cricketer and a fine human and the tribute for MSD from his fans is true love beyond boundaries which will be relished forever.

A. P. Thiruvadi, Chennai

HI-TECH TOILETS

The government constructing new hi-tech toilets keeping in mind needs of the differently-abled too is praiseworthy. Many cities have toilets below flyovers with a small garden and benches. But it is also important to keep existing toilets clean and make them common man friendly. People are sensitive, apart from cleanliness, good fragrance and music too could also be played. Mahatma Gandhi said "I learnt from the West 35 years ago that a lavatory must be as clean as a drawing-room."

T.S.Karthik, Chennai



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WATER BODIES FOR IRRIGATION: TS IN TOP RANK

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 23

The first census on water bodies across the country, released by the Union jal shakti ministry, listed Telangana among the Top five states with regard to use of water bodies in irrigation.

The state was listed along with Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Gujarat in the report that Union jal shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat released on Sunday.

The census enumerated 24,24,540 water bodies nationwide, out of which 97.1 per cent (23,55,055) were in the rural areas and 2.9 per cent (69,485) in the urban areas.

The census provided a comprehensive inventory of water resources, including natural and man-made water bodies, and collected data on the encroachment of water bodies. The census highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed crucial insights into water resources.



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Karnataka has 26,994 water bodies, finds census

NEW DELHI, DHNS: India has 24.24 lakh water bodies, like ponds, tanks and lakes, with West Bengal accounting for the most (7.47 lakh) and Sikkim the least (134), according to the census of water bodies released by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

A total of 26,994 water bodies have been enumerated in Karnataka, out of which 97.1% (26,205) are in rural areas and the remaining 2.9% (789) are in urban areas, said the report. The first-ever census conducted by the ministry said that out of 24,24,540 water bodies that have been enumerated in the country, 97.1% (23,55,055) are in rural areas and 2.9% (69,485) are in urban areas.

The top five states in terms of the number of water bodies are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Assam, which constitute around 63% of the total water bodies.

The top five states in terms of the number of water bodies in urban areas are West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and Tripura, whereas, for rural areas, the top five are WB, UP, AP, Odisha and Assam.

Totally, 59.5% of water bod-

ies are ponds, followed by tanks (15.7%), reservoirs (12.1%), water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/check dams (9.3%), lakes (0.9%) and others (2.5%). While 55.2% of water bodies are owned by private entities, the rest 44.8% are in the domain of public ownership.

The census showed out of all publicly owned water bodies, the maximum number are owned by Panchayats, followed by state irrigation/state water resources department.

Out of all privately owned water bodies, the maximum are in the hands of individual owners/farmers, followed by a group of individuals and other private bodies.

Out of the total water bodies enumerated, 78% are man-made, 22% are natural water bodies and 1.6% (38,496) water bodies, out of the total enumerated are reported to be encroached upon. Of this, 95.4% are in rural areas and the remaining 4.6% are in urban areas, the report said.

The census covered all important aspects of the water bodies including their type, condition, status of encroachments, use, storage capacity, status of filling up of storage, etc.



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English
Amit Mukherjee

7

Most of 24 lakh water bodies are in rural areas, says survey

AMIT MUKHERJEE @ New Delhi

Out of over 25 lakh active water bodies in the country, rural India accounts for about 97 per cent and only 3 per cent are active in urban areas, according to India's first-ever census of water resources.

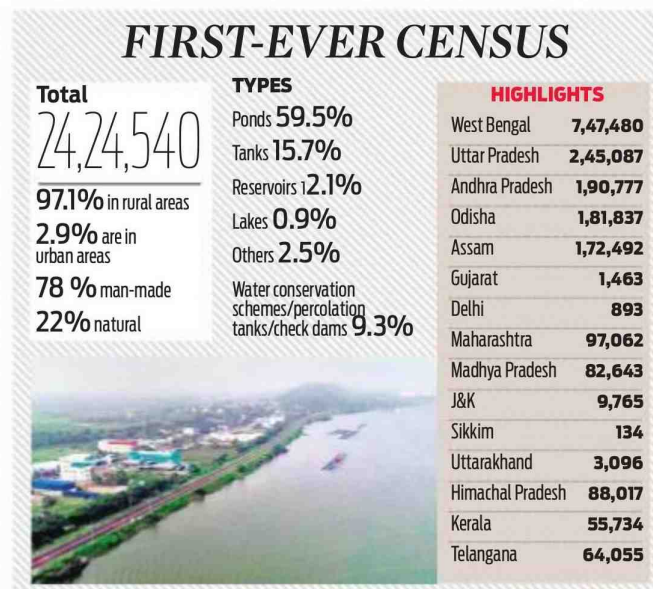
According to 'Irrigation Census, the first-ever comprehensive census of water bodies, by the Ministry of Jal Shakti to evaluate the water security situation, India has 24,24,540 water bodies, out of which 97.1 per cent (23,55,055) are in rural areas and 2.9 per cent (69,485) are in urban areas.

The survey revealed that 78 per cent water bodies are man-made whereas 22 per cent are natural water bodies and 1.6 per cent (38,496) water bodies have been encroached upon.

The census, which was launched in convergence with the 6th Minor Irrigation Census, provides a comprehensive inventory of India's water resources, including natural and man-made water bodies like ponds, tanks, lakes, and more.

It was also aimed at collecting data on the encroachment of water bodies. The census also highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed insights into the country's water resources.

According to ministry sources, the survey was undertaken with the aim to identify, evaluate,



ate, conserve and preserve the water bodies as water is "an important aspect for development which is linked with every Sustainable Development Goal".

With availability of water being limited and the gap between the supply and demand widening over time, concerted efforts are needed to conserve and preserve these water bodies, a senior ministry official said.

Water being a critical element, the Ministry of Jal Shakti which is the nodal ministry for laying down policy guidelines and programmes for the development, conservation and

management of water as a national resource.

The census has released information on all important aspects of the water bodies, including their type, condition, status of encroachments, use and storage capacity and status of filling up was collected.

The survey took into account all uses of water bodies like irrigation, industry, pisciculture, domestic and drinking, recreation, religious, ground water recharge etc. Census has been successfully completed and the pan-India and state-wise reports have been published.

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13

उपलब्ध जल शक्ति मंत्रालय ने जल स्रोतों की कराई गणना, जारी की रिपोर्ट

पहली बार गणना...देश में 24,24,540 जल स्रोत, गांवों में हैं 97 फीसदी

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली। भारत में इतिहास में पहली बार, केंद्र सरकार ने देशभर में जल स्रोतों की गणना की है। इससे देश के जल संसाधनों की एक व्यापक सूची सामने आई है, जिसमें प्राकृतिक और मानव निर्मित जल स्रोत जैसे तालाब, टैंक, झील आदि के साथ-साथ जल स्रोतों पर अतिक्रमण से जुड़ा डेटा एकत्र करना शामिल है। गणना से ग्रामीण और शहरी क्षेत्रों के बीच असमानताओं और अतिक्रमण के विभिन्न स्तरों की जानकारी मिली। जल शक्ति मंत्रालय ने 24 लाख से अधिक जल स्रोतों की गणना रिपोर्ट जारी की। इसमें जलाशयों के प्रकार,



सूची समेत पांच राज्य शीर्ष पर

देश में 24,24,540 जल स्रोतों की गणना की गई है, जिनमें से 97.1 फीसदी (23,55,055) ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में हैं और केवल 2.9 प्रतिशत (69,485) शहरी क्षेत्रों में हैं। जल स्रोतों की संख्या के मामले में शीर्ष पांच राज्य पश्चिम बंगाल, उत्तर प्रदेश, ओडिशा और असम हैं। यहां देश के कुल जल स्रोतों का लगभग 63 फीसदी है। शहरी क्षेत्रों में जल स्रोतों की संख्या के मामले में शीर्ष पांच राज्य पश्चिम बंगाल, तमिलनाडु, केरल, उत्तर प्रदेश और गुजरात हैं, जबकि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में शीर्ष पांच राज्य पश्चिम बंगाल, उत्तर प्रदेश, ओडिशा और असम हैं।

उनकी स्थिति, अतिक्रमण की स्थिति, उपयोग, भंडारण क्षमता, भरने की स्थिति आदि सहित सभी महत्वपूर्ण पहलुओं पर जानकारी एकत्र की गई। इसमें ग्रामीण के साथ-साथ शहरी क्षेत्रों में स्थित उन सभी जल निकायों को शामिल

किया जो उपयोग में हैं या उपयोग में नहीं हैं। गणना में जल स्रोतों के सभी प्रकार के उपयोगों जैसे सिंचाई, उद्योग, मत्स्यपालन, घरेलू/पेयजल, मनोरंजन, धार्मिक, भूजल पुनर्भरण आदि को भी ध्यान में रखा गया है।

सबसे अधिक जल स्रोत तालाब : 59.5 प्रतिशत जल स्रोत तालाब हैं। इसके बाद टैंक (15.7%), जलाशय (12.1%), जल संरक्षण योजनाएं/रियाव टैंक/रोक बंध (9.3%), झीलें (0.9%) और अन्य (2.5%) हैं। 55.2 फीसदी जल स्रोतों का स्वामित्व निजी संस्थाओं के पास है जबकि 44.8 प्रतिशत जल स्रोतों का स्वामित्व सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के पास है।

निजी स्वामित्व में ये राज्य आगे

शीर्ष पांच राज्य जो निजी स्वामित्व वाले जल स्रोतों में अग्रणी हैं, वे पश्चिम बंगाल, असम, ओडिशा, ओडिशा और झारखंड हैं। सभी उपयोग हो रहे जल स्रोतों में से प्रमुख जल स्रोतों की सिंचाई के बाद मत्स्य पालन में उपयोग किए जाने की जानकारी मिली है। शीर्ष पांच राज्य जहां मत्स्य पालन में जल स्रोतों का प्रमुख उपयोग होता है, वे पश्चिम बंगाल, असम, ओडिशा, उत्तर प्रदेश और ओडिशा हैं।

इन राज्यों में सिंचाई में जल स्रोतों का ज्यादा इस्तेमाल

- झारखंड, ओडिशा, तेलंगाना, पश्चिम बंगाल और गुजरात में सिंचाई में जल स्रोतों का प्रमुख रूप से इस्तेमाल होता है।
- 78 फीसदी जल स्रोत मानव निर्मित हैं जबकि 22 प्रतिशत प्राकृतिक जल स्रोत हैं।
- सभी जल स्रोतों में से 1.6 फीसदी (38,496) जल स्रोतों का अतिक्रमण होने की सूचना है, जिनमें से 95.4 फीसदी ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में और शेष 4.6 प्रतिशत शहरी क्षेत्रों में हैं।



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5

సాక్షి

తెలంగాణలో

64,056
జల వనరులు

98.5% జల వనరులు గ్రామీణ ప్రాంతాల్లోనే..

- రాష్ట్రంలో 53,886 మానవ నిర్మిత జల వనరులు
- 3,032 జల వనరుల్లో ఆక్రమణలు
- కేంద్ర జలశక్తి శాఖ తొలి జల వనరుల సెన్సస్లో వెల్లడి

- సాక్షి, న్యూఢిల్లీ

తెలంగాణలో మొత్తం 64,056 జల వనరులు ఉన్నాయని.. వీటిలో 98.5% (63,064) గ్రామీణ ప్రాంతాల్లో, మిగిలిన 1.5% (992) పట్టణాల్లో ఉన్నాయని కేంద్ర జలశక్తి శాఖ విడుదల చేసిన తొలి జల వనరుల సెన్సస్ నివేదిక వెల్లడించింది. 80.5% (51,598) జల వనరులు ప్రభుత్వ యాజమాన్యంలో ఉండగా, 19.5% (12,463) ప్రైవేట్ యాజమాన్యంలో ఉన్నాయి. 17.3% (11,076) జల వనరులు 'కరువు పీడిత ప్రాంతాల కార్యక్రమం'కింద, 10.6% (6,781) గిరిజన ప్రాంతాల్లో, మిగిలిన 72.1% (46,199) వరద పీడిత ప్రాంతాలు, నక్సల్ ప్రభావిత ప్రాంతాల్లో ఉన్నాయి. అంతేగాక 64,056 జల వనరుల్లో 80.8% (51,733) వాడుకలో ఉండగా, 19.2% (12,323) ఎండిపోవడం, చూడిక తీయక పోవడం, మరమ్మత్తు చేయలేని విధంగా నాశనం కావడం, లబ్ధినికేరణ ఇతర కారణాల వల్ల ఉపయోగంలో లేవని నివేదికలో వెల్లడించారు.

నిండిన స్థితిలో

43,695 జల వనరులు

రాష్ట్రంలో 10,170 సహజసిద్ధమైన, 53,886 మానవ నిర్మిత జల వనరులు ఉన్నాయి. సహజ జల వనరుల్లో 98.2% (9,781) గ్రామీణ ప్రాంతాల్లో, 3.8% (389) పట్టణ ప్రాంతాల్లో ఉన్నాయి. మానవ నిర్మిత జల వనరుల్లో 98.9% (53,283) పల్లెల్లో, 1.1% (603) పట్టణాల్లో ఉన్నాయి. రాష్ట్రంలోని 64,056 జల వనరుల్లో 43,695 వనరులు 'నిండిన నిల్వ సామర్థ్యం' / 'నిండిన స్థితి' కలిగి ఉన్నాయి. గత ఐదేళ్లలో నిల్వ సామర్థ్యాన్ని పెంచడం లాంటి ప్రమాణాల ఆధారంగా ఈ 43,695 వనరుల్లో 20.3% (8,862) ప్రతి ఏటా నిండుతున్నట్లు గుర్తించారు. 41.9% (18,301) సాధారణంగా నిండుతుండగా, 29.8% (13,033) చాలా అరుదుగా నిండుతున్నాయని, 8.0% (3,499) ఎప్పుడూ నిండట్లేదని నివేదికలో వెల్లడించారు. మొత్తమ్మీద 38,540 వనరులు జిల్లా స్థితిపాదుడల ప్రణాళిక/రాష్ట్ర స్థితిపాదుడల ప్రణాళికలో ఉన్నాయి. వీటిలో 45.9% (17,681) చెరువులు కాగా, 54.1% (20,859) ట్యాంకులు, సరస్సులు, రిజర్వాయర్లు, నీటి సంరక్షణ పథకాలు/చెక్ డ్యాములు మొదలైనవి ఉన్నాయి.

1,540 చెరువులు, 1,492

ట్యాంకులు, సరస్సుల్లో ఆక్రమణలు

రాష్ట్రంలోని 3,032 జల వనరుల్లో ఆక్రమణలను గుర్తించారు. వాటిలో 50.8% (1,540) చెరువులు, 49.2% (1,492) ట్యాంకులు, సరస్సులు, రిజర్వాయర్లు, జల సంరక్షణ పథకాలు/చెక్ డ్యాములు మొదలైనవి ఉన్నాయి. వీటిలో 3,032 ఆక్రమణకు గురైన జల వనరులు, 2,028 జల వనరుల్లో ఆక్రమణ ప్రాంతాన్ని అంచనా వేశారు. ఈ 2,028 వనరుల కుగాను 1,415 జల వనరుల్లో 25% కంటే తక్కువ విస్తీర్ణంలో ఆక్రమణలకు గురవుతున్నాయని, 402 జలవనరులు 25%-75% మధ్య ఆక్రమణ కలిగి ఉన్నాయని నివేదికలో పొందుపరిచారు. మిగిలిన 211 జల వనరులు 75% కంటే ఎక్కువ ఆక్రమణకు గురైనట్లు గుర్తించారు. 64,056 జల వనరుల్లో 63,769 వనరుల్లో 'జల వ్యాప్తి ప్రాంతం'నివేదించారు. వీటిలో 51.6% (32,914) జల వనరులు 0.5 హెక్టార్ల కంటే తక్కువ జల వ్యాప్తిని కలిగి ఉన్నాయి. అయితే 1.8% (1,166) జల వనరులు 50 హెక్టార్ల కంటే ఎక్కువ జల వ్యాప్తిని కలిగి ఉన్నట్లు నివేదికలో పేర్కొన్నారు.

Date: 24/04/2023, Edition: Hyderabad (Hyderabad), Page: 5
Source : <https://epaper.sakshi.com/>

Most of 24 lakh water bodies are in rural areas, says survey

AMIT MUKHERJEE @ New Delhi

Out of over 25 lakh active water bodies in the country, rural India accounts for about 97 per cent and only 3 per cent are active in urban areas, according to India's first-ever census of water resources.

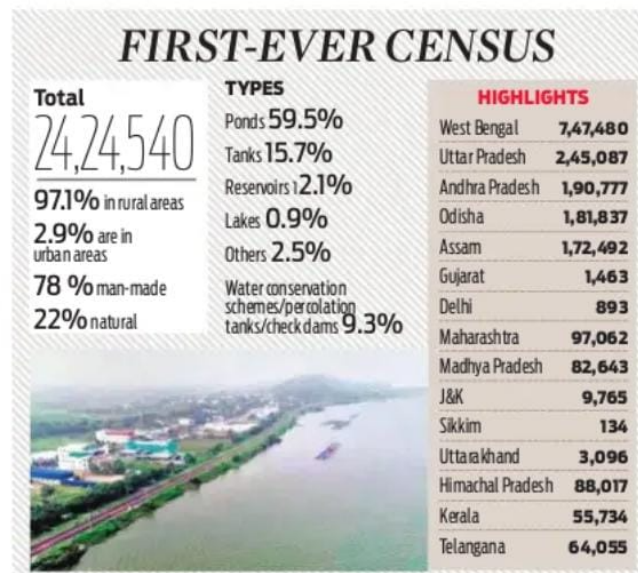
According to 'Irrigation Census, the first-ever comprehensive census of water bodies, by the Ministry of Jal Shakti to evaluate the water security situation, India has 24,24,540 water bodies, out of which 97.1 per cent (23,55,055) are in rural areas and 2.9 per cent (69,485) are in urban areas.

The survey revealed that 78 per cent water bodies are man-made whereas 22 per cent are natural water bodies and 1.6 per cent (38,496) water bodies have been encroached upon.

The census, which was launched in convergence with the 6th Minor Irrigation Census, provides a comprehensive inventory of India's water resources, including natural and man-made water bodies like ponds, tanks, lakes, and more.

It was also aimed at collecting data on the encroachment of water bodies. The census also highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed insights into the country's water resources.

According to ministry sources, the survey was undertaken with the aim to identify, evalu-



ate, conserve and preserve the water bodies as water is "an important aspect for development which is linked with every Sustainable Development Goal".

With availability of water being limited and the gap between the supply and demand widening over time, concerted efforts are needed to conserve and preserve these water bodies, a senior ministry official said.

Water being a critical element, the Ministry of Jal Shakti which is the nodal ministry for laying down policy guidelines and programmes for the development, conservation and

management of water as a national resource.

The census has released information on all important aspects of the water bodies, including their type, condition, status of encroachments, use and storage capacity and status of filling up was collected.

The survey took into account all uses of water bodies like irrigation, industry, pisciculture, domestic and drinking, recreation, religious, ground water recharge etc. Census has been successfully completed and the pan-India and state-wise reports have been published.



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దేశంలో జల వనరులు 24,24,540 97.1 శాతం గ్రామాల్లోనే: కేంద్రం

న్యూఢిల్లీ, ఏప్రిల్ 23: దేశంలోనే తొలిసారిగా కేంద్రం జలగణన సర్వేను చేపట్టింది. దేశవ్యాప్తంగా చెరువులు, రిజర్వాయర్లు, ట్యాంకులు, సరస్సులు తదితర జలవనరులు ఎన్ని ఉన్నాయన్న దానిపై కేంద్ర జలశక్తి సమగ్ర మైన నివేదికను సిద్ధం చేసింది. ఈ జలగణన వివరాలను కేంద్ర జలశక్తి శాఖ తాజాగా మీడియాకు విడుదల చేసింది. దీని ప్రకారం, దేశంలో మొత్తం 24,24,540 నీటి వనరులున్నాయి. గ్రామీణ ప్రాంతాల్లో 97.1 శాతం, పట్టణ ప్రాంతాల్లో 2.9 శాతం మేరకు విస్తరించాయి. మొత్తం నీటి వనరుల్లో అత్యధిక భాగం (59.5 శాతం) నీటి కొలనులు, సరస్సులు, చెరువుల్లో విస్తరించి ఉన్నాయి. 15.7 శాతం నీటి ట్యాంకులు, 12.1 శాతం రిజర్వాయర్లు, 9.3 శాతం చెక్ డ్యాములు ఉన్నాయి. పైవేటు యాజమాన్యంలో 55.2 శాతం, ప్రభుత్వ ఆదీనంలో 44.8 శాతం నీటి వనరులున్నట్లు లెక్క తేలింది. గ్రామీణ ప్రాంతాల్లో చెరువులు, నీటి కొలనులు పెద్ద ఎత్తున ఆక్రమణకు గురయ్యాయని, పట్టణాల్లోనూ ఆ మేరకు ఆక్రమణలున్నాయని సర్వే గుర్తించింది.

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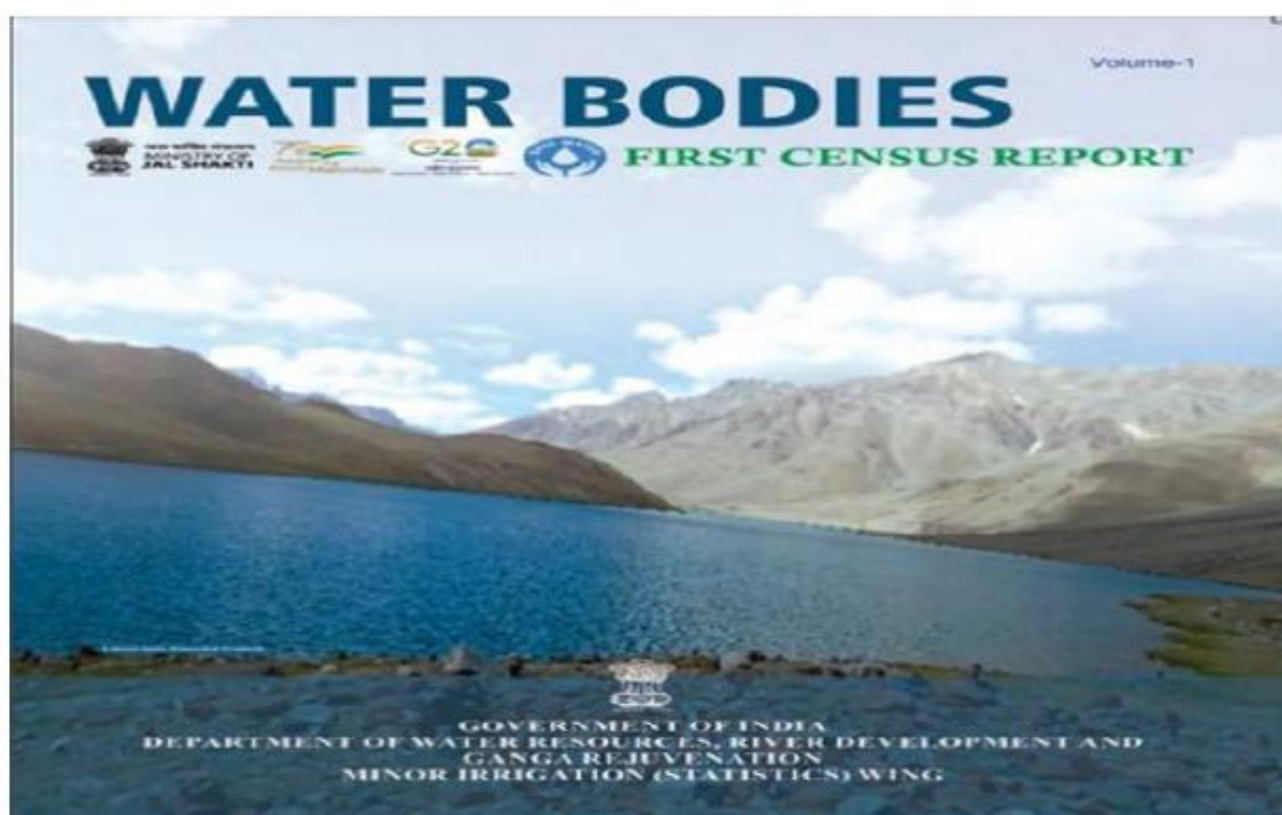
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Centre conducts first-ever census of water bodies across the country

By AIR News

April 23, 2023



Ministry of Jal Shakti has conducted the first-ever census of water bodies across the nation. The census provides a comprehensive inventory of India's water resources, including natural and man-made water bodies like ponds and lakes. In the census, over 24.24 lakh water bodies have been enumerated in the country out of which more than 23 lakh water bodies are in rural areas and nearly 69,000 are in urban areas. The top five States in terms of number of water bodies are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Assam which constitute around 63 per cent of the total water bodies in the country. The Census also highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed crucial insights into the country's water resources.

The Times of India



A file photograph of the EKW

KOLKATA: Bengal emerged as the state with the highest number of water bodies, and Sikkim, the least, revealed the country's first census of water bodies carried out by the ministry of Jal Shakti. Out of 24.2 lakh water bodies, 7.5 lakh are in Bengal, the report found.

South 24 Parganas ranked as the top district with the highest (3.5 lakh) number of water bodies in the country. Bengal has the highest number of ponds and reservoirs, whereas Andhra Pradesh has the highest number of tanks; Tamil Nadu has the most lakes and Maharashtra is the leading state for water conservation schemes.

State-wise data

State	Water bodies
Bengal	7.5 lakh
Uttar Pradesh	2.4 lakh
Andhra Pradesh	1.9 lakh
Odisha	1.8 lakh
Assam	1.7 lakh
Delhi	193
Chandigarh	188
Sikkim	134

During this first census, 24,24,540 water bodies were enumerated in the country, of which 59.5% (14,42,993) are ponds, 15.7% (3,81,805) are tanks, 12.1% (2,92,280) are reservoirs and the remaining 12.7% (3,07,462) are water conservation schemes, check dams or percolation tanks, lakes and other water bodies. Out of all enumerated water bodies in India, 97.1% (23,55,055) are in rural areas with only 2.9% (69,485) in urban areas.

The study's objective was to develop a national database for all water bodies by collecting information on their size, condition, status of encroachment, use, storage capacity, and status of filling up of storage. Until the 5th minor irrigation census, water body data was only available at the village level. The first water body census included data on all types of water bodies in both rural and urban areas. For the first time, data on the encroachment of water bodies was also gathered, the report said.

The census defines a water body as "all-natural or man-made units bounded on all sides with some or no masonry

Man-made water bodies make up 78% (18,90,463) of the total number listed, and 22% (5,34,077) are natural water bodies. In terms of storage capacity, 50% (12,12,283) water bodies have storage capacity between 1,000 cubic metres and 10,000 cubic metres, whereas 12.7% (3,06,960) have storage capacity of more than 10,000 cubic metres.

Of all the enumerated water bodies, 1.6% are reported to have been encroached - 95.4% are in rural areas and 4.6% in urban areas. Out of all encroached water bodies, 62.8% have less than 25% area under encroachment, whereas 11.8% have more than 75% area under encroachment.

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EXPRESS VIEW

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The Centre has been conducting a census of minor irrigation structures every five years since 1986. Much of the data indirectly compiled from the population Census by government agencies has also focused on minor irrigation works.

In a first-ever count of its kind, a census has recorded an overwhelming disparity between rural and urban areas in terms of water bodies. The report highlights that cities and towns have less than 3 per cent of these reservoirs. Conducted by the Jal Shakti ministry, the survey included natural and human-made water repositories like ponds, tanks, and lakes. With nearly 7,50,00 water bodies, West Bengal tops the list. The country's most populous state, Uttar Pradesh, is a distant second with about 2,50,000 repositories. At a time when stressed aquifers pose difficult ecological, economic and policy challenges — including for the government's flagship scheme of providing drinking water to every household — the significance of this database cannot be overstated. With details on the size, encroachment status and storage

The Centre has been conducting a census of minor irrigation structures every five years since 1986. Much of the data indirectly compiled from the population Census by government agencies has also focused on minor irrigation works. The irrigation-centred approach was, to an extent, a fallout of the inclination of successive governments to view tanks, ponds and canals as economic utilities, rather than critical resources for human and ecological well-being. In the past two decades, there have been some attempts at course correction. The UPA government, for instance, launched the Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies scheme in 2005 and MGNREGA works have focussed on reviving traditional water bodies. But the lack of a comprehensive database has meant that these projects have not done sufficient justice to their objectives. The significance of the current study is underscored by the fact that it counted nearly five times the number of repositories enumerated by the last minor irrigation survey in 2013-14. The past studies did not have much data on urban centres. The enumeration of tanks, lakes and other water sources in cities and towns was left, largely, to civil society outfits and academic institutions. Such endeavours did provide valuable insights into the depletion of lakes in cities such as Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Srinagar and Bengaluru. The government's entry into the field is sure to make the data richer.

That said, such enumeration initiatives will not do adequate justice to their objectives if they remain top-down affairs. Making panchayats, municipalities and other local bodies the nodal points for future water body surveys as well as roping in civil society groups in the endeavour could help policymakers arrive at a better picture of the water crisis, and frame solutions.

The Indian Express

Bengal tops list of States with most ponds and reservoirs: first-ever waterbody census

Over 24 lakh waterbodies across India, states census data released by the Ministry of Jal Shakti

Written by [Harikishan Sharma](#)

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New Delhi | Updated: April 22, 2023 11:36 IST

 NewsGuard



West Bengal's South 24 Parganas has been ranked as the top district having the highest (3.55 lakh) number of waterbodies across the country. In addition to West Bengal, six other states have over one lakh waterbodies, while four states and UTs account for less than 1,000 waterbodies each (see box).

India has 24.24 lakh waterbodies like ponds, tanks and lakes, with West Bengal accounting for the most (7.47 lakh) and Sikkim the least (134), according to the

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India conducts first-ever census of water bodies; Here's some revelations

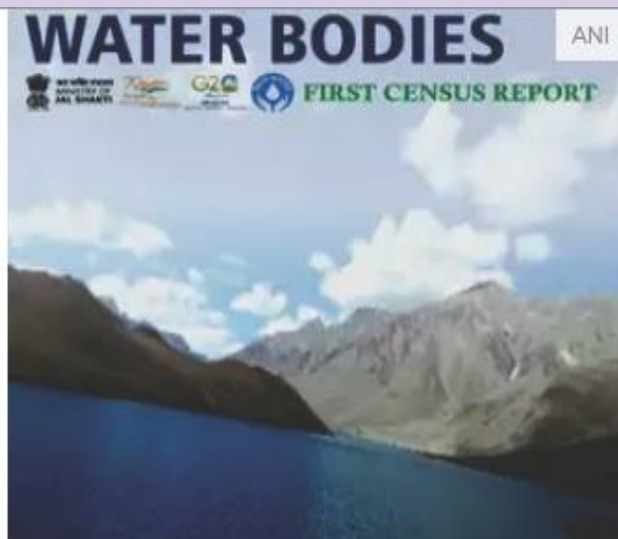
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Synopsis

About 2,424,540 water bodies have been enumerated in the country by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, out of which 97.1 per cent are in rural areas and only 2.9 per cent are in urban areas. The top five states in terms of a number of water bodies are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Assam -- which constitute around 63 per cent of the total water bodies in the country.

The Indian government conducted its first-ever census of water bodies. the census will take a comprehensive inventory of India's water resources, including natural and man-made water bodies like ponds, tanks lakes, and



India conducts first-ever census of water bodies;
Here's some revelations

more. The inventory has collected data on the encroachment of water bodies.

The census also highlighted the disparities between rural and urban areas and other issues related with varying levels of encroachment and reveals crucial insights into the country's water resources.

About 2,424,540 water bodies have been enumerated in the country by the [Ministry of Jal Shakti](#), out of which 97.1 per cent are in rural areas and only 2.9 per cent are in urban areas.

TAP TO WATCH

The top five states in terms of a number of water bodies are [West Bengal](#), [Uttar Pradesh](#), [Andhra Pradesh](#), Odisha and Assam -- which constitute around 63 per cent of the total water bodies in the country.

The top five States in terms of the number of water bodies in urban areas are West Bengal, [Tamil Nadu](#), Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and [Tripura](#), whereas in rural

areas, top five States are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Assam.

West Bengal has highest number of ponds and reservoirs, whereas Andhra Pradesh has highest number of tanks, Tamil Nadu has highest number of lakes and Maharashtra is the leading state for water conservation scheme.

59.5 per cent of water bodies are ponds, followed by tanks (15.7 per cent), reservoirs (12.1 per cent), Water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/check dams (9.3 per cent), lakes (0.9 per cent) and others (2.5 per cent).

It was found that 55.2 per cent of water bodies are owned by private entities whereas 44.8 per cent of water bodies are in the domain of public ownership.

According to the report, 9.6% (2,32,637) water bodies are located in tribal areas, 8.8% (2,13,454) in flood prone areas, 7.2% (1,74,592) in the area under “Drought Prone Areas Programme”, 2% (49,470) water bodies are in the naxal affected areas, 0.7% (16,018) under Desert Development Programme (DDP) whereas remaining 71.7% (17,38,369) water bodies are located in other areas.

A major proportion of water bodies i.e., 83.7% (20,30,040) are in use whereas remaining 16.3% (3,94,500) are not in use on account of drying up, construction, siltation, destroyed beyond repair, salinity and other reasons.

First national census on waterbodies puts Kerala's count at 55,734

In Kerala, 9,184 are 'not in use' and 111 are encroached, says the report. The State is ranked third on the list of waterbodies in urban areas, after West Bengal and Tamil Nadu, and 12th overall.

April 23, 2023 08:15 pm | Updated 08:15 pm IST - THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

TIKI RAJWI

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Kerala has 55,734 waterbodies out of which 9,184 are 'not in use' and 111 are plagued by encroachment, indicate the first census report on waterbodies in the country released by the Union Jal Shakti Ministry.

Waterbodies in Kerala include 51,007 ponds, 848 tanks, four lakes, 63 reservoirs, 3,349 water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/check-dams and 463 other waterbodies, according to the report.

The definition

Kerala ranked 12th overall in the number of waterbodies, and third in their number in urban locations. For the purpose of the census, 'waterbodies' were defined as "all natural or man-made units bounded on all sides with some or no masonry work used for storing water for irrigation or other purposes."

The Union Ministry launched the first census in convergence with the Sixth Minor Irrigation Census. Of the waterbodies in the State, 49,725 are in rural areas and 6,009 in urban locations. In the number of urban ones, Kerala stood third after West Bengal and Tamil Nadu. In all, 46,550 waterbodies are in use in Kerala, while 9,184 have fallen into disuse owing to a variety of reasons.

As many as 8,286 ponds, 81 tanks, two reservoirs, 721 water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/check-dams and 112 other waterbodies are in the 'not in use' category. Reasons include drying up, construction, siltation, salinity and being rendered unusable due to the influx of industrial effluents. In the latter category, there were 43 waterbodies. As many as 1,326 were also designated as 'destroyed beyond repair.'

Of the waterbodies in use, a little over 20,000 were being used for irrigation and 10,192 for domestic/drinking water purposes. As many as 2,663 were put to use for fish farming and 260 others, for industrial purposes.

Encroachments were reported in 111 waterbodies, mostly in rural areas. In the case of seven of these, the extent of encroachment was found to be more than 75%.

West Bengal on top

Of the 24.24 lakh waterbodies counted nationwide, West Bengal had 7.5 lakh, topping the list. The census was carried out with the objective of creating a national database for waterbodies. West Bengal has the highest number of ponds and reservoirs, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu topped the list for tanks and lakes respectively and Maharashtra, that of water conservation schemes.

Dainik Jagran

Water Bodies Census: भारत में पहली बार जल निकायों की हुई गणना, पश्चिम बंगाल टॉप पर; जाने अन्य राज्यों का हाल



भारत में पहली बार जल निकायों की गणना हुई है। इस गणना के मुताबिक पश्चिम बंगाल में सबसे ज्यादा जल निकाय हैं। इसके बाद उत्तर प्रदेश आंध्र प्रदेश ओडिशा और असम हैं जहां देश के कुल जल निकायों का लगभग 63 प्रतिशत है।

नई दिल्ली, एएनआई। भारत में पहली बार सरकार ने जल निकायों की गणना की है। इस गणना से भारत के जल संसाधनों की एक व्यापक सूची तैयार हुई है, जिसमें प्राकृतिक और मानव निर्मित जल निकाय जैसे तालाब, टैंक, झील और बहुत कुछ शामिल हैं। इस गणना के जरिए जल निकायों के अतिक्रमण पर डेटा एकत्र किया गया।

जल निकायों की गणना ने ग्रामीण और शहरी क्षेत्रों के बीच असमानताओं और अतिक्रमण के विभिन्न स्तरों पर प्रकाश डाला और

शहरी क्षेत्रों में जल निकायों की संख्या के मामले में शीर्ष पांच राज्य पश्चिम बंगाल, तमिलनाडु, केरल, उत्तर प्रदेश और त्रिपुरा हैं, जबकि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में, शीर्ष पांच राज्य पश्चिम बंगाल, उत्तर प्रदेश, आंध्र प्रदेश, ओडिशा और असम हैं।

जल निकायों में 59 प्रतिशत तालाब

59.5 प्रतिशत जल निकाय तालाब हैं। इसके बाद टैंक (15.7 प्रतिशत), जलाशय (12.1 प्रतिशत), जल संरक्षण योजनाएं / रिसाव टैंक / चेक डैम (9.3 प्रतिशत), झीलें (0.9 प्रतिशत) और अन्य (2.5 प्रतिशत) हैं। यह पाया गया कि 55.2 प्रतिशत जल निकाय निजी संस्थाओं के स्वामित्व में हैं जबकि 44.8 प्रतिशत जल निकाय सार्वजनिक स्वामित्व के क्षेत्र में हैं।

The Deccan Herald

Over 24 lakh water bodies across India, 26,994 in Karnataka

Top five states in terms of the number of water bodies in urban areas are West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and Tripura



Ajith Athrady, DHNS, New Delhi, APR 23 2023, 20:19 IST | UPDATED: APR 23 2023, 20:19 IST



View of Benniganahalli lake in Bengaluru. Credit: DH Photo/BK Janardhan

India has 24.24 lakh water bodies like ponds, tanks and lakes, with [West Bengal](#) accounting for the most (7.47 lakh) and [Sikkim](#) the least (134), according to the census of waterbodies released by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

The first-ever census of water bodies conducted by the Ministry also said that out of 24,24,540 water bodies that have been enumerated in the country, 97.1 per cent (23,55,055) are in rural areas and only 2.9 per cent (69,485) are in urban areas.

Top five states in terms of number of water bodies are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Assam, which constitute around 63 per cent of the total water bodies in the country.

Top five states in terms of the number of water bodies in urban areas are West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and Tripura, whereas the same for rural areas are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and Assam.

59.5 per cent of the total water bodies are ponds, followed by tanks (15.7 per cent), reservoirs (12.1 per cent), water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/check dams (9.3 per cent), lakes (0.9 per cent) and others (2.5 per cent).

55.2 per cent of water bodies are owned by private entities whereas 44.8 per cent are in the domain of public ownership.

The census also revealed that out of all publicly owned water bodies, the maximum are owned by Panchayats, followed by the states' Irrigation/State Water Resources Departments.

Out of all privately owned water bodies, the maximum are in the hands of Individual owners/farmers, followed by a group of individuals and other private bodies, said the report.

Out of total water bodies enumerated, 78 per cent water bodies are man-made whereas 22 per cent are natural. 1.6 per cent (38,496) water bodies out of all the enumerated water bodies are reported to be encroached out of which 95.4 per cent are in rural areas and remaining 4.6 per cent in urban areas, said the report.

The census covered all important aspects of the water bodies including their type, condition, status of encroachments, use, storage capacity, status of filling up of storage, etc. It covered all the water bodies located in rural as well as urban areas that are in-use or not in-use, said a statement from the Jal Shakti Ministry.

The Statesman

The top five states in terms of number of water bodies are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Assam which possess around 63 per cent of the total water bodies in the country, said the first-ever census of water bodies across the nation conducted by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

A total of 24,24,540 water bodies have been enumerated in India, out of which 97.1 per cent (23,55,055) are in rural areas and only 2.9 per cent (69,485) are in urban areas, the census said.

The census provides a comprehensive inventory of India's water resources, including natural and man-made water bodies like ponds, tanks, lakes, and more, and to collect data on the encroachment of water bodies.

The census also highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed crucial insights into the country's water resources.

Top five states in terms of number of water bodies in urban areas are West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and Tripura, whereas in rural areas, top five states are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Assam, said the key findings of the census.

[Read More](#)

The census further said that 59.5 per cent of water bodies are ponds, followed by tanks (15.7 per cent), reservoirs (12.1 per cent), Water conservation

Jal shakti ministry releases report enumerating over 2.4 million water bodies

2 min read · Updated: 22 Apr 2023, 08:46 PM IST

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Around 55.2% of water bodies are owned by private entities, whereas 44.8% of water bodies are in the domain of public ownership.

SYNOPSIS

West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and Assam have the most water bodies with a share of 63% in the country

The census of water bodies conducted by the Jal Shakti ministry enumerated 2.4 million water bodies in the country, out of which 2.3 million water bodies are in rural areas and 69,485 are in urban areas.

About 59.5% of water bodies are ponds, followed by tanks (15.7%), reservoirs (12.1%), Water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/check dams (9.3%), lakes (0.9%) and others (2.5%), according to Jal Shakti ministry's census on water bodies report.

Around 55.2% of water bodies are owned by private entities, whereas 44.8% of water bodies are in the domain of public ownership.

Aiming at providing a comprehensive inventory of India's water resources, including natural and man-made water bodies such as ponds, tanks, lakes, and more, and collecting data on the encroachment of water bodies, the Ministry of Jal Shakti has conducted the first-ever census of water bodies across the nation.

The Census also highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed crucial insights into the country's water resources.

The census has been launched under the centrally sponsored scheme, the 'irrigation census' in convergence with the 6th Minor Irrigation Census to have a comprehensive national database of all water bodies. The information on type, condition, status of encroachments, use, storage capacity, status of filling up of storage of water bodies was collected. It covered all the water bodies located in rural as well as urban areas that are in-use or not in-use.

The census also considered all types of uses of water bodies like irrigation, industry, pisciculture, domestic drinking, recreation, religious, ground water recharge etc.

The IEC division of Jal Shakti ministry is ensuring dissemination of the Census report especially for planners, research scholars, agricultural and water scientists, policy makers, administrators, and all other stakeholders across the country.

देश में सबसे ज्यादा साढ़े सात लाख तालाब-झील बंगाल जानें पहले वॉटर बॉडीज सेंसस की बड़ी बातें

जल शक्ति मंत्रालय की ओर से वॉटर बॉडीज सेंसस जारी किया गया है। इसमें सामने आया है कि जबकि आंध्र प्रदेश में सबसे अधिक टैंक हैं। गणना में पहली बार जलाशयों के अतिक्रमण के आंकड़े भी जुटाए गए हैं। 1.6% जल निकायों का अतिक्रमण किया गया है।



resources.water@gmail.com



Anubhav Singh
g20pib@gmail.com

1 more account



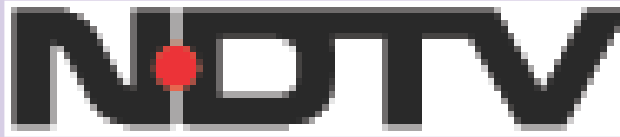
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नई दिल्ली, 21 अप्रैल 2023, (अपडेटेड 21 अप्रैल 2023, 2:58 PM IST)



आपने अभी जनगणना तो सुनी होगी, लेकिन देश में पहली बार जल निकायों यानी वॉटरबॉडीज की गणना भी करवाई गई है। केंद्र सरकार की ओर से कराई गई इस गणना में चौंकाने वाले आंकड़े सामने आए हैं। इस रिपोर्ट को हाल ही में जल शक्ति मंत्रालय की ओर से जारी किया गया है। इसके मुताबिक भारत में तालाबों, टैंकों और झीलों जैसे 24.24 लाख जल निकाय हैं, जिनमें सबसे ज्यादा (7.47 लाख) पश्चिम बंगाल और सबसे कम 134 सिक्किम में हैं।

सेंसस में नेचुरल और मानव निर्मित वॉटर बॉडीज को शामिल किया गया है, लेकिन ऐसे सभी जल निकायों में से सिंचाई, सप्लाई, चिनाई, औद्योगिक, मत्स्यपालन, घरेलू, पेयजल समेत किसी काम के लिए पानी का इस्तेमाल नहीं किया जाता है।



[Home](#) > [India News](#) > [In A First, Centre Conducts Water Bodies' Census](#)

In A First, Centre Conducts Water Bodies' Census

The census highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed crucial insights into the country's water resources.

India News | Asian News International | Updated: April 23, 2023 9:33 pm IST

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About 2,424,540 water bodies have been enumerated in the country.



New Delhi: For the first time in India, the government has conducted the first-ever census of water bodies.

The census provided a comprehensive inventory of India's water resources, including natural and man-made water bodies like ponds, tanks, lakes, and more, and to collect data on the encroachment of water bodies.

The census highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed crucial insights into the country's water resources.

About 2,424,540 water bodies have been enumerated in the country by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, out of which 97.1 per cent are in rural areas and only 2.9

It was found that 55.2 per cent of water bodies are owned by private entities whereas 44.8 per cent of water bodies are in the domain of public ownership.

(Except for the headline, this story has not been edited by NDTV staff and is published from a syndicated feed.)

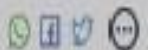
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CNBC TV 18

First-ever waterbody census: West Bengal tops list among states, Sikkim at the bottom



🕒 3 Min(s) Read



By CNBCTV18.com

Apr 21, 2023 3:57:45 PM IST (Published)

This census is in convergence with the 6th Minor Irrigation (MI) Census under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Irrigation Census" launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti. It aims to create a national database of all water bodies in the country by collecting information on their size, condition, encroachment status, storage capacity, and other important aspects. The census covered both rural and urban areas and captured photographs of water bodies using a mobile app developed for the purpose.

West Bengal has the highest number of water bodies in India whereas Sikkim has the least number of water bodies, the first Census of Water Bodies by the Ministry of Jal Shakti revealed. This census is in convergence with the 6th Minor Irrigation (MI) Census under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Irrigation Census" launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

Deccan Chronicle

Telangana among top five states in water body use for irrigation: Census report



Telangana state was listed along with Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Gujarat in the report that Union Jal Shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat released on Sunday. (Representational Image: DC)

Hyderabad: The first census on water bodies across the country, released by the Union Jal Shakti ministry, listed Telangana among the top five states with regard to use of water bodies in irrigation.

The state was listed along with Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Gujarat in the report that Union Jal Shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat released on Sunday.

The census enumerated 24,24,540 water bodies nationwide, out of which 97.1 per cent (23,55,055) were in the rural areas and 2.9 per cent (69,485) in the urban areas.

The census provided a comprehensive inventory of water resources, including natural and man-made water bodies, and collected data on the encroachment of water bodies. The census highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed crucial insights into water resources

News Nine

Over 38,000 water bodies encroached in India, reveals first-ever water national census



Nivedita Khandekar

Updated On: 19 Apr 2023 18:05:PM

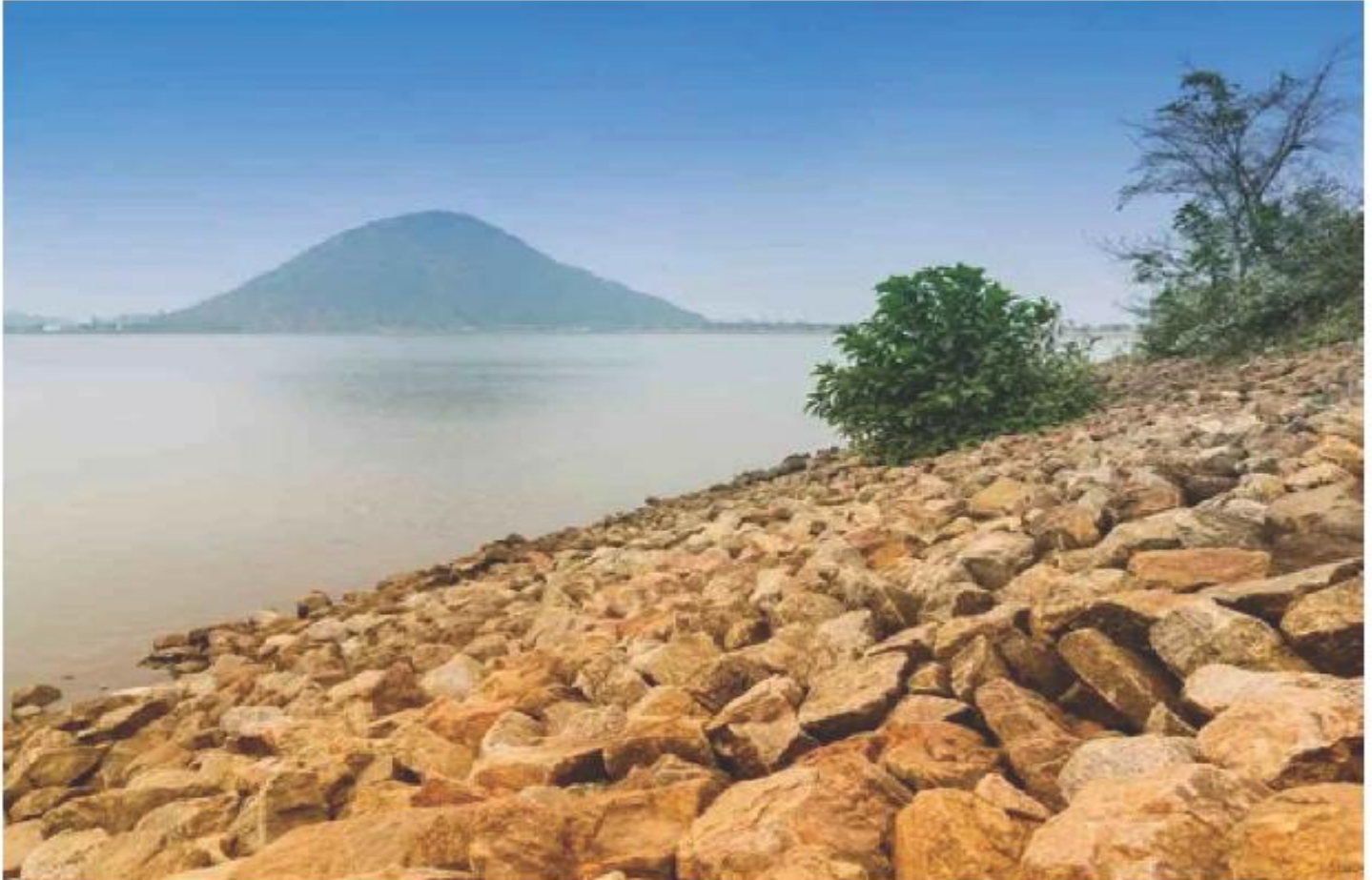


Image for representational purpose only. (Photo credit: depositphotos)

Encroachment, defunct water bodies causes of concern in the era of climate change, say experts.

India's first-ever census of water bodies has revealed that there are more than 24,00,000 water bodies in the country such as ponds, tanks and reservoirs. The biggest area of concern? Experts say more than half of these are under private ownership. Also, of the encroached water bodies, 11.8% have more than 75% area under encroachment.

The 1st Census of Water Bodies, released in March 2023, for the first time, collected information on encroachment of water bodies. A total of 1.6% water bodies out of all the enumerated water bodies are encroached. As many as 95.4% of them are in rural areas and the remaining number in cities. "11.8% of encroached water bodies have more than 75% area under encroachment while 62.8% water bodies have less than 25% area under encroachment," the Census said, and added: "As many as 16.3% (3,94,500) water bodies are not in use owing to drying up, construction, siltation, destroyed beyond repair, salinity and other reasons."

Advertisement

More than 50%, i.e. 55.2% (13,38,735) of water bodies are owned by private entities whereas 44.8% (10,85,805) of water bodies are in the domain of public ownership, the report says. Out of all public owned water bodies, maximum water bodies are owned by Panchayats, followed by State Irrigation / State Water Resources Departments. Most of the privately owned water bodies are in the hands of individual owners / farmers, followed by group of individuals and other private bodies such as trusts or temples.

These are the findings of the first ever census of various water bodies carried out by the Ministry of Jal Shakti. Earlier, the Ministry used to carry out only the Minor Irrigation Census. A 'Water body' in the document refers to a pond, lake, tank, reservoir or a water conservation structure. Rivers, oceans, lagoons or even covered tanks are not counted.

The objective of the Census of Water Bodies is to develop a national database for all water bodies by collecting information on all important aspects of the subject including their size, condition, status of encroachments, use, storage capacity, status of filling up of storage etc.

"There are 24,24,540 water bodies have been enumerated in the country, out of which 97.1% (23,55,055) are in rural areas and only 2.9% (69,485) are in urban areas. As many as 59.5% (14,42,993) of water bodies are ponds, followed by tanks (15.7%, i.e 3,81,805), reservoirs (12.1%, i.e 2,92,280), water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/check dams (9.3%, i.e 2,26,217), lakes (0.9%, i.e 22,361) and others (2.5%, i.e 58,884)," the Census showed.

Siyasat News

3032 water bodies in Telangana encroached upon: Irrigation Census

Telangana has fourth highest number of 'Water Conservation Schemes/Check Dams' in the country.



K Sherly Sharon | Updated: 11th April 2023 5:19 pm IST

with bunds, check dams etc., the Census shows.

Among the total types together, West Bengal has the largest number of water bodies (30.8%; number 7,47,480), followed by Uttar Pradesh (10.1%; number 2,45,087); Andhra Pradesh (7.9%; number 1,90,777), Odisha (7.5%; number 1,81,837) and Assam (7.1%; number 1,72,492), it showed (See table for top 10 states).

Shashi Shekhar, former Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, said, "A realisation has settled (in the government) that we need to protect these water bodies for the sake of groundwater. Because, ultimately, it is the groundwater that will help mitigate the impact of climate change."

Stating that for better groundwater (levels), the natural recharge system needs to be restored, the floodplains, the catchments, the forests that provides water, the connecting channels, all need to be restored, Shekhar said, "Unfortunately, we don't yet have a law to protect water bodies that are under Panchayats or other local bodies."

In the changing climatic conditions, especially when extreme weather events are becoming the new normal, the encroached water bodies or even those dying because of various reasons are a cause of worry, experts pointed out. These also include the water bodies that are privately owned.

V K Madhavan, CEO, Water Aid India, said, with access to piped water, people in general have lost the incentive to protect or conserve the water bodies. "The numerous water bodies along the eastern coast, are a natural storage for fresh water / rain water. That creates a hydrological pressure and prevents salinity ingress. Given the pressures on land, where the water body owner may find the land for the water body turning into a valuable real estate – my concern is if there is any co-relation between saline ingress and the encroachments and degradation of water bodies."

"Not just in view of the climate change but also in terms of immediate years, this is a cause of concern. The authorities and the communities, both need to ensure that not just the water body but also its catchment, the channels that bring in water, everything is protected," Madhavan said.

However, not all is lost on the encroachment front. Water User Associations (WUAs) have helped to a large extent in preventing encroachments as they are vigilant and alert. "Out of the 13,64,349 water bodies that are not owned by individual owners, WUAs have been formed in case of 3.1% (42,237) water bodies," the report pointed out.

Awareness and community participation in restoration and repair of the water bodies will be the key, the experts opined.

First Census of Water Bodies

AT A GLANCE



जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
JAL SHAKTI

TYPES OF WATER BODIES



PONDS
60%

TANKS
16%

RESERVOIRS
12%

Water Conservation Schemes
9%

Rural 97%

Urban 3%



84% In-Use



16% Not in Use

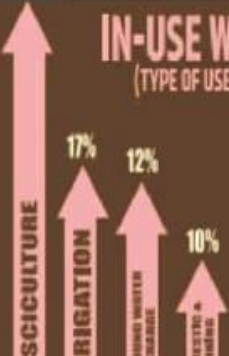


WATER SPREAD AREA DISTRIBUTION



Man Made 78%
Natural 22%

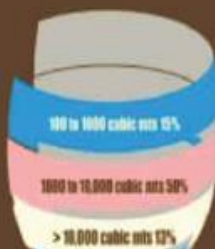
IN-USE WBs (TYPE OF USE)



COST OF CONSTRUCTION (MAN-MADE WBs)



STORAGE CAPACITY



DISTRIBUTION OF WATER BODIES ENCOMPASSED BY TYPE

68% PONDS

NO. OF CITY/TOWN/VILLAGE DIRECTLY BENEFITTED

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Asianet News

Water Census report: West Bengal tops list with most reservoirs; Kerala ranks 12

The census's goal is to create a comprehensive national database of all water bodies by gathering data on all relevant factors, such as their use, size, condition, level of encroachment, and storage capacity.



Aishwarya Nair

First Published Apr 21, 2023, 2:36 PM IST



In comparison to the national average, the number of water bodies in urban Telangana is observed to be substantially lower.

5 leading states with maximum number of water bodies:

- Ponds – West Bengal
- Tanks – Andhra Pradesh
- Lakes – Tamil Nadu
- Reservoirs – West Bengal

- Water Conservation Schemes/Check Dams – Maharashtra

Telangana has the fourth highest number of 'Water Conservation Schemes/Check Dams' in the country.

Encroachments:

The census found that 1.6% of all the water bodies in the country are the victims of these encroachments are being done in the urban areas. In Telangana, the n

This Refugee Sisterhood in Jakarta has No Borders

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Thiruvananthapuram: In accordance with the Sixth Minor Irrigation Census (the reference year 2017–18), the Centrally Sponsored Scheme known as the "Irrigation Census" was launched by the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti. The census's goal is to create a comprehensive national database of all water bodies by gathering data on all relevant factors, such as their use, size, condition, level of encroachment, and storage capacity.

[Also read: Karnataka Election 2023: It's DK Shivakumar vs BJP's R Ashoka as EC accepts Congress leader's nomination](#)

West Bengal has topped the list of the highest number of ponds and reservoirs. Kerala is in the 12th position.

The census also collected data on the encroachment of water bodies for the first time.

1.6% of water bodies are reported to be encroached, out of which 95.4% are in rural areas and the remaining 4.6% are in urban areas. According to the report, Kerala has also encroached upon 111 water bodies. 87 percent of these are ponds. Encroachment has taken place in 1.6 percent of the country's total water bodies. According to the figures released by the Centre, 95 percent of these are in rural areas.

There are 49725 water bodies in Kerala. Among the 30 districts with the largest number of water bodies, there is not a single district from Kerala. West Bengal's South 24 Parganas has been ranked as the top district having the highest (3.55 lakh) number of water bodies across the country.

Tamil Nadu has the highest number of lakes and Maharashtra is the leading state with water conservation schemes.

India has 24.24 lakh water bodies like ponds, tanks and lakes, with West Bengal accounting for the most (7.47 lakh) and Sikkim the least (134), according to the report of the first census of waterbodies released by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

According to the research, "24,24,540 waterbodies have been enumerated in the country, out of which 97.1% (23,55,055) are in rural areas and only 2.9% (69,485) are in urban areas."

The census defines a waterbody as "all natural or man-made units bounded on all sides with some or no masonry work used for storing water for irrigation or other purposes (example industrial, pisciculture, domestic/drinking, recreation, religious, ground water recharge etc)"

India conducts first-ever census of water bodies

Leave a comment (<https://theindianawaaz.com/india-conducts-first-ever-census-of-water-bodies/#respond>)

Published On: 23/04/2023 - 10:29 PM (<https://theindianawaaz.com/india-conducts-first-ever-census-of-water-bodies/>) By

INDIAN AWAAZ (<https://theindianawaaz.com/author/adminweb/>)

By Andalib Akhter

Union Ministry of Jal Shakti has conducted the first-ever census of water bodies across the nation. The census provides a comprehensive inventory of India's water resources, including natural and man-made water bodies like ponds and lakes.

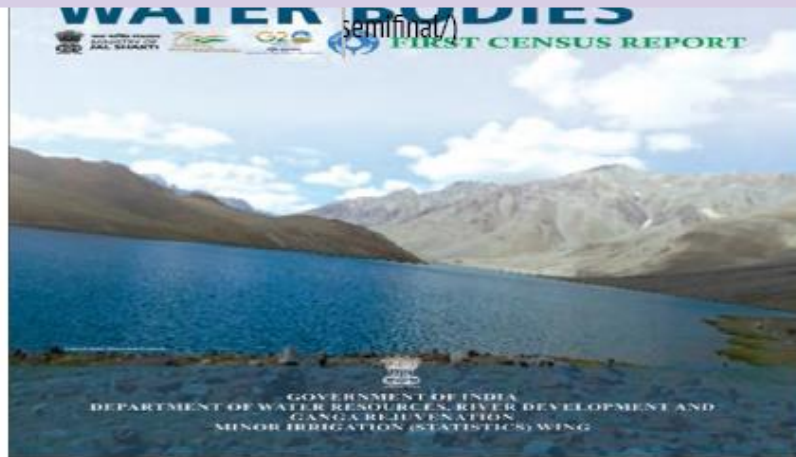
In the census, over 24.24 lakh water bodies have been enumerated in the country out of which more than 23 lakh water bodies are in rural areas and nearly 69,000 are in urban areas. The top five States in terms of number of water bodies are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Assam which constitute around 63 per cent of the total water bodies in the country.

The Census also highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed crucial insights into the country's water resources.

The top five States in terms of the number of water bodies in urban areas are West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and Tripura, whereas in rural areas, top five States are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Assam.



A pond in Madhubani District



Around 55.2% of water bodies are owned by private entities, whereas 44.8% of water bodies are in the domain of public ownership.

Aiming at providing a comprehensive inventory of India's water resources, including natural and man-made water bodies such as ponds, tanks, lakes, and more, and collecting data on the encroachment of water bodies, the Ministry of Jal Shakti has conducted the first-ever census of water bodies across the nation.

78% water bodies are man-made water bodies whereas 22% are natural water bodies. 1.6% (38,496) water bodies out of all the enumerated water bodies are reported to be encroached out of which 95.4% are in rural areas and remaining 4.6% in urban areas.

The Census also highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed crucial insights into the country's water resources.

The census has been launched under the centrally sponsored scheme, the 'irrigation census' in convergence with the 6th Minor Irrigation Census to have a comprehensive national database of all water bodies. The information on type, condition, status of encroachments, use, storage capacity, status of filling up of storage of water bodies was collected. It covered all the water bodies located in rural as well as urban areas that are in-use or not in-use.

The census also considered all types of uses of water bodies like irrigation, industry, pisciculture, domestic drinking, recreation, religious, ground water recharge etc.

The IEC division of Jal Shakti ministry is ensuring dissemination of the Census report especially for planners, research scholars, agricultural and water scientists, policy makers, administrators, and all other stakeholders across the country.

April 24, 2023



India Conducts First Census in 70 Years; Some Revelations

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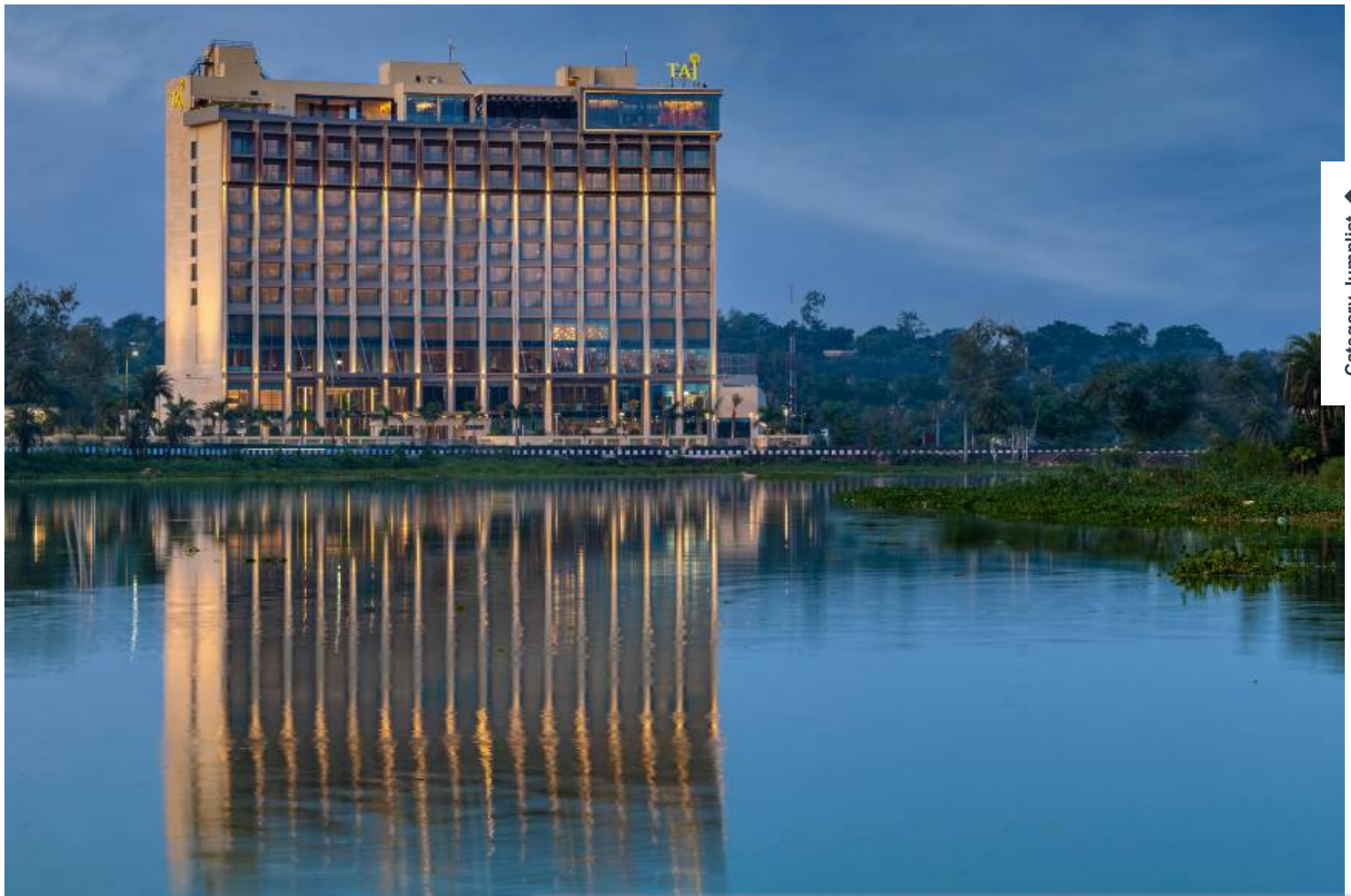
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The census highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed crucial insights into the country's water resources

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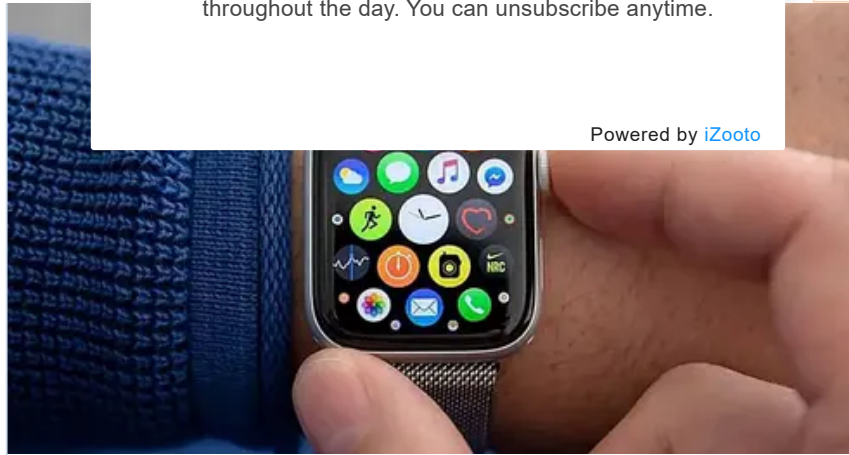
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For the first time in India, the government has conducted the first-ever census of water bodies. The census provided a comprehensive inventory of India's water resources, including natural and man-made water bodies like ponds, tanks, lakes, and more, and to collect data on the encroachment of water bodies.

The census highlighted disparities between rural and urban areas and varying levels of encroachment and revealed crucial insights into the country's water resources.

About 2,424,540 water bodies have been enumerated in the country by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, out of which 97.1 per cent are in rural areas and only 2.9 per cent are in urban areas.

The top five states in terms of the number of water bodies are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Assam -- which constitute around 63 per cent of the total water bodies in the country.

The top five States in terms of the number of water bodies in urban areas are West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and Tripura, whereas in rural areas, the top five States are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Assam.

59.5 per cent of water bodies are ponds, followed by tanks (15.7 per cent), reservoirs (12.1 per cent), Water conservation schemes/percolation tanks/check dams (9.3 per cent), lakes (0.9 per cent) and others (2.5 per cent).

It was found that 55.2 per cent of water bodies are owned by private entities whereas 44.8 per cent of water bodies are in the domain of public ownership. (ANI)