GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. 88
TO BE ANSWERED ON DECEMBER 06, 2021

SMART CITY MISSION

NO. 88. SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA:

Will the ***Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs*** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has addressed issues of climate change, disaster preparedness, mitigation and adaptation in the Smart City Mission;

(b) if so, the details of the Smart City Mission proposals that addresses these issues; and

(c) the details of Smart City Mission projects in the selected smart cities that are aimed at issues of climate change, disaster preparedness, mitigation and adaptation, as on date?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS

(SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 88 FOR ANSWER ON 06.12.2021 REGARDING "SMART CITY MISSION".

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. Government of India launched the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) on 25 June 2015. 100 Smart cities have been selected through 4 rounds of competition from January 2016 to June 2018. The objective of SCM is to promote cities that provide core infrastructure and give a decent quality of life to its citizens, a clean and sustainable environment through application of 'Smart' solutions.

Implementation of SCM at the city level is done by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) created for the purpose. The Smart City Proposal (SCP) of each city has been prepared through extensive citizen engagement. Since needs and aspirations of citizens in different cities are different, the priorities and projects contained in such SCPs vary from city to city.

Most of the Smart Cities have addressed issues related to climate change, disaster preparedness, mitigation and adaptation as part of their SCPs. In order to enhance walkability, increase use of non-motorized and public transport, Smart Cities are implementing 776 Smart Road projects worth ₹ 26,205 crore. Further for driving shift towards renewable sources of energy, these cities are implementing 94 Smart Solar projects worth ₹ 1,266 crore. Efficient management of water resources is key to climate change mitigation. Smart Cities are implementing 311 Smart Water projects worth ₹ 23,669 crore. In order to better manage used water, these Cities are implementing 262 Smart Wastewater projects worth ₹ 17,706 crore. 664 projects of bioenergy, conservation of water bodies, mobility including e-mobility, parks and river front development etc. worth ₹ 11,404 crore are also being implemented by different Smart Cities.

Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework (CSCAF) was launched in 2019 as a mechanism to strengthen climate-sensitive development practices in cities through healthy competition amongst them. The second edition of the assessment, CSCAF 2.0 was launched in September 2020. The final report of the assessment was released on 25 June 2021. The assessment was open to all Smart Cities, all Capital cities and all cities with population above 5 lakh in 2011 Census. The 126 participating cities were assessed through 28 diverse indicators across 5 thematic areas namely Energy and Green Buildings; Urban Planning, Green Cover and Biodiversity; Mobility and Air Quality; Water Management; and Waste Management. The results of CSCAF-2.0 are available at https://niua.org/c-cube/c-cube-documents .

In order to support climate action in both areas of adaptation and mitigation across India's cities, the Climate Center for Cities (C-cube) has been established under National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA).

Integrated Command and Control Centers (ICCCs) have been operationalized in 75 Smart Cities. These ICCCs are playing important role in ensuring better monitoring and efficiency in areas like traffic management, solid waste management, water distribution management. Disaster Management is a key component of their functions.

Cities like Mengaluru, Vadodara, Thane, Vishakhapatnam, Bhubaneshwar and Kakinada have deployed Disaster Management, Emergency Response and Early Warning Systems to monitor water-logging, present and manage urban flooding and coordinate disaster management activities.

With important objective of achieving green recovery from COVID-19 pandemic, SCM has launched important national level challenges to promote safer, healthier and environment friendly cities viz. Streets4People, India Cycles4Change, Transport4All, Nurturing Neighborhoods and EatSmart Cities Challenges.

Smart Cities have effectively used ICCCs and related Smart infrastructure for better management of the COVID 19 pandemic. The response to COVID-19 in Smart Cities can be classified in four areas of action, viz., Information, Communication, Management and Preparedness. The details of such steps taken by these Cities to manage the pandemic are available in the document "*The Smart Responses to COVID-19: A Documentation of Innovative Actions by India's Smart Cities during the Pandemic*" which is available on smartnet.niua.org.

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