

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION No. 175**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.03.2022

**Effectiveness of smog towers**

175. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR:

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

- (a) whether the smog towers installed in Delhi have been effective in countering air pollution in the city, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the measures that have been taken by Government to expand its coverage if found effective, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount of environmental cess that has been collected so far and amount that has been utilized till date, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)**

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARAS (a) TO (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 175 DUE FOR REPLY ON 17.03.2022 REGARDING 'EFFECTIVENESS OF SMOG TOWERS' RAISED BY SHRI MAHESH PODDAR, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

(a) & (b)

In compliance of the order dated 13.01.2020 of The Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Civil) 13029/1985 M.C. Mehta vs Union of India & Ors., two experimental pilot projects of smog towers, one at Anand Vihar and another at Connaught Place have been commissioned by Central Government on 31st August, 2021 and by Delhi Government on 1st October, 2021 respectively.

The purpose of this Research & Development pilot project is to evaluate the performance efficiency of such outdoor air cleaning systems (Smog Tower).

Total duration of this project is 2 years and 10 months from the Zero date of signing of the MoU (10 months for installation by Tata Projects Limited (TPL) and National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC) and 2 years for research by a team of IIT-Bombay and IIT-Delhi after commissioning of tower). The teams from IIT-Bombay and IIT-Delhi have started performance evaluation study of Smog Tower at both sites under various operating scenarios. The performance of smog tower will be known after submission of final report by the study team.

The decision regarding expansion of coverage of the Smog Towers shall be taken after due consideration of recommendation derived from this present R&D Studies.

(c) Water cess collected under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977 have been subsumed with the Goods and Services Tax w.e.f. 01.07.2017. The Water Cess collection and reimbursement were made to the SPCBs/PCCs as per the provision of section 8 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977. The water cess collection and reimbursement made to SPCBs/PCCs for the year 2016-17 is annexed at Annexure-I.

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## ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 175 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 17.03.2022 REGARDING 'EFFECTIVENESS OF SMOG TOWERS' RAISED BY SHRI MAHESH PODDAR, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

**Water Cess collection and reimbursement to the SPCBs/PCCs for the year 2016-17**

(figure in ₹)

S.No	SPCB	2016-17	
		Collection	Reimbursement
1	Andhra Pradesh	262387419	195553135
2	Assam	0	0
3	Bihar	14100000	11280000
4	Chandigarh	9637685	7710148
5	Chhattisgarh	74800000	58160000
6	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	473487	0
7	Daman & Diu	189389	0
8	Delhi	15188093	12150474
9	Goa	1091490	873192
10	Gujarat	281867008	221389993
11	Haryana	64670913	12061587
12	Himachal	0	0
13	Jharkhand	22185000	12388000
14	Karnataka	60775923	38178304
15	Kerala	32459688	0
16	Madhya Pradesh	92718000	74174400
17	Maharashtra	232657796	177542276
18	Meghalaya	79752	63802
19	Orissa	79321650	52427576
20	Puducherry	235293	0
21	Punjab	162901208	114720966
22	Rajasthan	104023349	83218679
23	Tamil Nadu	110041904	78307516
24	Uttar Pradesh	355830974	0
25	Uttarakhand	25966907	20198379
26	West Bengal	108607580	86886063
27	Telangana	46190600	36952480
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2158401108</b>	<b>1294236972</b>