GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1486 ANSWERED ON 09/12/2024

GLOBAL LIVABILITY INDEX

NO. 1486. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) given that no Indian city currently features in the Global Livability Index, the steps which Ministry is taking to address critical infrastructure challenges such as sewage, drinking water, and 24-hour electricity supply;
- (b) with India striving for economic growth, the manner in which Government plans to enhance public transport systems to improve urban livability and make cities more competitive on the global stage; and
- (c) the concrete measures which are being implemented to improve the overall livability of Indian cities, ensuring they meet global standards of sustainability, accessibility, and quality of life?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI TOKHAN SAHU)

(a) to (c): As per 12th Schedule of the Constitution, Urban Planning is the function of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and Urban Development Authorities and management of water, sewerage and septage system in the cities/towns is the responsibility of the State Governments and the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)/Urban Development Authorities. The State Governments are also responsible for planning, initiating and developing urban transport infrastructure including integration amongst various modes of public transport. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States through schematic interventions/ advisories. It provides financial and technical support to the States to strengthen Urban Planning ecosystem to improve livability of Indian cities.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) is implementing Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), which was launched on 25 June 2015 in selected 500 cities (485 cities including 15 merged cities) and towns across the country. The Mission focuses on development of basic infrastructure, in the selected cities and towns, in the sectors of water supply; sewerage and septage management; storm water drainage; green spaces and parks; and non-motorized urban transport with an outlay of ₹1 lakh crore. Against allocation of ₹77,640 crore, projects worth more than ₹83,371 crore have been grounded. As reported by the States/ UTs under AMRUT Mission, 189 lakh water tap connections and 149 lakh sewer connections [including households covered through Fecal Sludge and Septage Management (FSSM)] have been provided through AMRUT and convergence against targeted 139 lakh water connections and 145 lakh sewer connections respectively. AMRUT 2.0 has been launched on 01 October, 2021 in all ULBs/ cities, enabling the cities to become 'self-reliant' and 'water secure'. Providing universal coverage of sewerage & septage management in 500 AMRUT cities is one of the major focus areas of AMRUT 2.0. Rejuvenation of water bodies, development of green spaces and parks, etc are other components of the Mission. The total indicative outlay for AMRUT 2.0 is ₹2,77,000 crore including total Central assistance of ₹76,760 crore for five years. Under AMRUT 2.0, so far 3,596 water supply projects worth ₹1,14,073.65 and 595 projects worth ₹68,198 crore have been approved by MoHUA under water and sewerage and septage management sector for augmentation of around 1.81 crore new tap connections, 10,679 MLD water treatment capacity, 1.25 lakh km of water network, 1.51 crore new/service sewer connections, 35,865 km sewerage network and 6784 MLD of sewage treatment capacity.

Ministry of Power has informed that Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) has been launched with the objective of improving the quality and reliability of power supply to consumers through a financially sustainable and operationally efficient distribution Sector with an outlay of \gtrless 3,03,758 crore and estimated Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) from Central Government of \gtrless 97,631 crore. The scheme has two major components namely (i) Prepaid Smart Metering & System Metering and upgradation of the Distribution Infrastructure and (ii) Training & Capacity Building and other Enabling & Supporting Activities.

MoHUA has formulated policies viz. National Urban Transport Policy, 2006, Metro Rail Policy, 2017 and Transit Oriented Development Policy, 2017 which act as a guide to State Governments so that urban transport systems are planned and implemented in the most sustainable and viable manner. About 993 Km of metro rail lines have become operational and construction of another 971 km of metro rail lines are in various cities at different stages. Metro Rail System is a pollution free and energy efficient Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) which helps significantly in improving quality of life in urban areas by providing fast, safe, comfortable, punctual and reliable transport system. Expansion of MRTS network is not only enhancing employment and business opportunities but also becoming a lifeline of urban population by way of providing better mobility.

Further this Ministry has launched the PM-eBUS Sewa Scheme to increase the mode of share of public transport across Indian cities. This Scheme aims to augment bus operations by deployment of 10,000 electric buses and provide support for development of associated infrastructure.
