GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 718 TO BE ANSWERED ON DECEMBER 07, 2023

OBJECTIVES AND MAJOR COMPONENTS OF NULM

718. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

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

- a) the objectives and major components of the National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) project implemented in different districts of Kerala;
- b) whether the Government has any schemes to safeguard and create new public spaces to cater to the needs of the growing urban population, ensuring a balance between commercial development and essential public amenities for the well-being of citizens and if so, the details thereof;
- c) whether the current schemes such as the DAY-NULM would address the issues of loss of public space and climate change in Kerala while fulfilling its objectives; and
- d) if so, the details therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN AFFAIRS [SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE]

(a): Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) is administering a Centrally Sponsored Scheme named "Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)", through the respective States/UTs, to reduce poverty and vulnerability of urban poor households on a sustainable basis.

As informed by the State Govt. of Kerala, Social Mobilization and Institutional Development (SM&ID), Employment through skills training and placement (EST&P), Self Employment Programme (SEP), Scheme for Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH) and Support to Urban Street Vendors (SUSV) components of DAY-NULM are being implemented in all the districts of Kerala.

(b): Atal Mission for Rejuvenation & Urban Transformation (AMRUT) Scheme of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs was launched on 25th June 2015 with the objective that includes, inter alia, provision of universal water supply, upgrade of sewerage & septage, providing drainage facilities, non-motorized transport and development of parks and green spaces, thus improving the quality of life for all citizens, in 500 cities covering more than 60% population living in urban India. Further, Hon'ble Prime Minister launched AMRUT 2.0 on 1st October, 2021 extending the scheme to all households in all ULBs.

Further, under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM), to cater to the needs of growing urban population, a total of 1,377 projects worth Rs 12,820 crore have been undertaken, which include inter alia, riverfront development, Rejuvenation of parks and public spaces, Open Air Gyms, Rejuvenation of lakes and development, Development of open spaces and Development of Eco Tourism parks.

(c)&(d): DAY-NULM Scheme primarily focuses on poverty alleviation through skill development and livelihood opportunities for the urban poor. While it may indirectly contribute to improving the economic conditions of the urban poor, it does not have specific provisions to address the loss of public space and climate change.

The issues relating to loss of public spaces in urban areas and climate change are being addressed by Missions vis. AMRUT and SCM. Under AMRUT, in kerala to enhance public space and mitigate climate change effect, 47 acre of green space area has been developed. In addition, 0.23 acre of water bodies area have been rejuvenated in the State. Moreover, under AMRUT 2.0 in Kerala, 255 Water bodies rejuvenation project worth Rs. 82.35 crore have been approved.

Under SCM. the two cities of Kerala vis. Kochi and Thiruvananthapuram, are developing a total of 139 projects worth Rs. 1,833 crore. The projects at Kochi include development of public spaces like Renovation of Calvathy Community Hall and Customs Boat Jetty in West Kochi, Restoration of Rameswaram-Kalvathy canal - Upto Cochin college, Walkways along the Canal Bank Road, Open Air Theatre at Fort Kochi, upgradation of Dutch Palace Entry Area, and Renovation of Changambuzha Park. Some of the public spaces being developed in Thiruvananthapuram include inter alia Urban Street haat - Charithra Veedhi including Sree Chitra Park, Cultural Streets -Manaveeyam Redevelopment of Children's Park, Construction of OAT and Park at Putharikkandam Maidanam, and Redevelopment and Landscaping of Ponnara Sreedhar Park.
