

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 917**

TO BE ANSWERED ON JULY 21, 2022

REFURBISHING URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE

NO. 917. SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:

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

- (a) Whether the Government agrees with the view that refurbishing urban infrastructure in the larger cities is an obvious need and avoids the embedded carbon of new constructions;**
- (b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE)**

(a)to (c): Urban Development is a State subject. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs assists the States/Union Territories (UTs) in development of urban infrastructure through its Missions- Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation 2.0 (AMRUT 2.0), Smart Cities Mission, Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0) and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban(PMAY-U). Details of steps taken for refurbishing urban infrastructure under the Missions are given in Annexure-I.

Annexure I referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No 917 regarding ‘Refurbishing Urban Infrastructure’ for answer on 21 July, 2022.

Details of Refurbishing Urban Infrastructure

1. Smart Cities Mission

There are close to 4800 cities and towns in India with around 40 crore inhabitants today. At current rate of growth, urban population in India is estimated to reach 60 crore by 2030. It is projected that more than 50% of the country’s population will be urban by 2050.

Rapid urbanization comes with both opportunities and challenges. With the objective to effectively manage rapid urbanization, Government of India has taken a comprehensive approach to urban development with a multipronged structure of programs.

The Government of India had launched eight Missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) to promote adaptation and mitigation of climate change. The National Mission on Sustainable Habitat (NMSH), one of the eight Missions, is anchored by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). NMSH aims at (i) Promoting low-carbon urban growth towards reducing GHG emissions intensity for achieving India’s NDC and (ii) Building resilience of cities to climate change impacts and strengthening their capacities to ‘bounce back better’ from climate related extreme events and disaster risks. The first version of NMSH released in 2010 has been revised in 2021 in the context of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under Paris Agreement, SDGs, and New Urban Agenda.

Aligning with the goals of NMSH, MoHUA has also launched the “Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework (CSCAF)” in February 2019 with an objective to build climate action in cities. CSCAF serves as a tool for cities to assess their present situation and provides a roadmap for cities to adopt and implement relevant climate actions.

CSCAF consists of actions across diverse sectors and progressive and measurable indicators across 5 thematic areas (i) Energy and Green Buildings, (ii) Urban Planning, Green Cover and Biodiversity, (iii) Mobility and Air Quality, (iv) Water Management, and (v) Waste Management. In the second round of assessment under the Framework conducted in 2020, 126 cities participated of which the results have been published in June 2021.

Further, MoHUA has set up the ‘Climate Centre for Cities’ within National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) to support States and cities through training and capacity building activities, knowledge management, building alliances and partnerships, development of tools / technology and other means.

2. Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation(AMRUT)

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has released the India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP) in March 2019 as a roadmap for sustainable cooling in India. The ICAP prioritizes energy efficient and climate-friendly cooling in appliances, buildings, cold chain, and transport sectors. In compliance to the recommendations of India Cooling Action Plan, Town and Country Planning Organization, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs have brought out addendums to both Urban and

Regional Development Plan and Formulation Guidelines (URDPFI),2014 and Model Building Bye Laws (MBBL)-2016. Some of the co-benefits identified by the ICAP are as follows:

- (i) Thermal comfort for all with specific focus of cooling in affordable housing projects.
- (ii) Sustainable cooling with low emissions from cooling.
- (iii) Augment domestic manufacturing of air conditioning and related cooling equipment.
- (iv) Robust R&D on alternative cooling technologies.

Some of the important recommendations pertaining to construction of buildings which ought to be energy efficient buildings are:

- Enforcing efficient building envelope guidelines in the construction of commercial and residential building.
- Wider adoption of Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC) and Energy Conservation Building Code Residential (ECBCR) in various infrastructure schemes of Government.
- Awareness campaign to sensitize both the construction community and users regarding efficient buildings.
- Retrofitting and retro commissioning of existing building to reduce cooling requirement and energy consumption.

(2) Enforcing efficient building envelope guidelines in the construction of commercial and residential building.

Ministry has issued advisories to Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI), National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO) and Central Public Works Department (CPWD) requesting to comply with Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC).Retrofitting and retro commissioning of existing building to reduce cooling requirement and energy consumption. All States and UTs have been advised to ensure retrofitting and retro commissioning of existing building which will facilitate reduction in carbon emissions.
