

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:470
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012
LAUNCH OF ECO CITY PROJECTS
De Dr. Ratna

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has initiated the eco-city projects on bringing in visible environmental improvement in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, Location-wise and the Status of the project; and
- (c) the extent to which success has been achieved as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (c) The Eco-City Scheme was initiated by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in 2002-03 in selected towns/cities, namely, Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh) , Puri (Orissa), Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh), Kottayam (Kerala) , Thanjavur (Tamil Nadu) and Vrindavan (Uttar Pradesh) with a view to improving the environment through implementation of identified environmental improvement projects.

Funds were to be provided by CPCB to the Municipalities for the identified projects, on 50:50 cost-sharing basis, wherein 50% of the total budget was to come from Municipalities either from their own funds or through financial institutions or any other means.

Limited success was observed at Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh, Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh and Kottayam in Kerala under the scheme. In view of the limited capacities of the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs), issues of coordination between CPCB, SPCBs & Municipalities, and availability of other schemes for Urban development like Jawahar Lal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), it was decided in October 2011 to close the eco-city scheme of CPCB in public interest.