

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1015
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2013
DISTURBANCES IN ECOLOGICAL BALANCES
Singh Shri Radha Mohan

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study in regard to risks posed due to unplanned urbanisation which is disturbing ecological balances in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to check the problem of urbanisation?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)/Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has not carried out any specific study on the impacts of unplanned urbanisation disturbing ecological balances. The urbanisation is being regulated by the State Urban Development Departments. Most of the States have either prepared or in process of preparing the city specific management plans for metropolitan cities which inter alia include

- (i) urban planning combining with environment planning
- (ii) spatial planning with socio-economic planning to check urban sprawl so as to making urbanization more sustainable and ecological sound.

(c) To check the problem of urbanization, the Government has taken several steps which include:

(i) The Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) has launched Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), a reformed linked programme launched in 2005 under which schemes of urban water supply, sanitation, solid waste management and storm water drainage in urban areas have been taken up;

(ii) funds are provided for improvement of water supply, sewerage, storm water drainage and solid waste management projects in satellite towns of seven mega cities;

(iii) financial assistance is provided for improvement of urban infrastructures and basic services in 5 capital cities in North Eastern States;

(iv) accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) launched in 1993-94.