

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2271
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2013
EURO INDIA SUMMIT
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Sixth Euro India summit on greening the cities was held recently at Hyderabad;
- (b) if so, the details of the discussions held ; and
- (c) the remedial steps suggested in the summit to tackle the growing burden on urban cities and better management of urban local bodies in providing and maintaining the facilities for the people ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SMT DEEPA DASMUNSHI)

(a) : Yes, Madam,

(b)&(c): During the 2 days conference in Hyderabad, discussion was held, inter-alia on the topic of Greening Cities in India and Europe. Cities of both regions face the common challenge of rapid urbanization, which is putting high pressure on urban systems in the areas of energy, water, waste, mobility, heritage and others. A total of eight plenary and thematic sessions addressed each of these areas, highlighting the immense challenges and presenting best practice examples of technological and administrative solutions from Indian and European cities to make cities sustainable, liveable, socially inclusive and economically competitive for the future. Further, the following critical topics of current and future urban management were discussed:

- "Waste Management"
- "Sustainable Urban Mobility"
- "Energy Efficiency and Security"
- "Human Resources and Capacity Building"
- "Greening Cities in Heritage Context : Challenges and Opportunities"
- "Water Management"

Possible follow up action plan suggested for translating the conclusion in the Summit into concrete and mutually beneficial Euro-Indian cooperation projects at city-level with focus on sustainable urban development are as follows:

(i) In the short run, further building up the existing system of on-line queries to foster multiple one-to-one Euro-Indian matches of interests.

(ii) In the medium run:

Expanding the reach of our Summit-like Euro-Indian exchange platform to all interested cities across Europe and India

Catering to the specific assistance needs of Indian cities of through framework agreements with federate States.

Helping existing India-based Centres of Excellences to scale up and impart critical training to Indian civic managers with European technical support

(iii) In the longer run, fostering Euro-Indian research programmes on sustainable urban development to evolve a new pattern of green urbanization that is suited to the Indian context.