

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:418
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2002
ECO-CITIES
SHYAMA SINGH

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

- (a) whether the Government have drawn up an ambitious plan to convert some major cities in the country into eco-cities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether eco-cities are to be developed with some foreign collaboration or any stringent steps are to be taken to check generation of pollution in such cities; and
- (d) if so, the details of the schemes formulated by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU)

(a),(b),(c) & (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c) & (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.418 DUE ANSWER ON 12.8.2002 REGARDING ECO-CITIES RAISED BY SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH.

(a),(b),(c) & (d) The Government has initiated Eco-city Scheme during the 10th Plan with an objective to improve environment and bring-in visible results through implementation of identified environmental improvement projects in the selected cities/towns. The various components of the Eco-city Scheme include : protection of environmental resources, improving socio-economic and living conditions, planning development activities compatible to environment, improving sanitary conditions, aesthetics, landscaping, traffic and transportation. The scheme has been launched with Central Government funding. Foreign collaboration is limited to technical support and training needs of the local staff through the German Agency for Technical Cooperation. Two projects, Taj Ecocity Programme in Uttar Pradesh and Kottayam-Kumarakom Ecocity Programme in Kerala have been taken up for improving the environment, abatement of pollution and achieving sustainable development through a comprehensive urban improvement system.