GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.852 TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2023

Eco clubs under National Green Corps Programme

852. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Eco Clubs have been formed in schools and colleges under the National Green Corps Programme in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of Eco Clubs formed in the State of Andhra Pradesh, district-wise;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that ₹ 5,000 per-Eco Club would be given for spreading awareness on environmental issues, plantation, cleanliness, solid waste management, etc.; and
- (d) if so, the number of schools/colleges identified and provided with ₹ 5,000, districtwise, along with the details of activities undertaken by such schools and colleges?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (d) National Green Corps (NGC) Programme was implemented by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change under the Central Sector Scheme Environment Education, Awareness and Training (EEAT) since the year 2001-02 and till 2021-22. Under this programme, more than 1 lakh Eco-clubs have been formed in schools and colleges to educate students and to spread awareness on environmental issues.

In the State of Andhra Pradesh, 6500 Eco-clubs were supported during the year 2019-20 under NGC Programme. A financial assistance of Rs 5,000/- per Eco-club was provided to 500 School Eco-clubs each in the then 13 districts of Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Prakasam, Nellore, Kurnool, Kadapa, Chittoor and Anantapur. The grant-in-aid was provided to promote environmental awareness and mobilize students' participation in environment conservation through activities like plantation drives, cleanliness drives, celebration of important environmental days, awareness and capacity building on solid waste management through waste segregation, etc.

The EEAT scheme has been revamped during the year 2022-23 into 'Environment Education Programme'. This programme leverages on the key sectoral strength of Eco-clubs already formed under NGC programme, in addition to targeting Youth Clubs and other such clubs/ units/ groups formed under various programmes/ schemes of the Government. The objective of this Programme is to sensitize children/ youth, on issues related to environment and to motivate them to adopt sustainable lifestyle, through varied pedagogical initiatives like workshops, projects, exhibitions, campaigns, competitions, nature camps, summer vacation programmes, etc.
