



**LiFE**  
Lifestyle for  
Environment

Government of Puducherry

Department of Science, Technology & Environment  
Puducherry Pollution Control Committee  
Supported by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change,  
Government of India, New Delhi

## EIACP HUB NEWSLETTER

*Status of Environment Related Issues in Puducherry*

# Green Budgeting:

A pioneering Initiative in the U.T. of Puducherry

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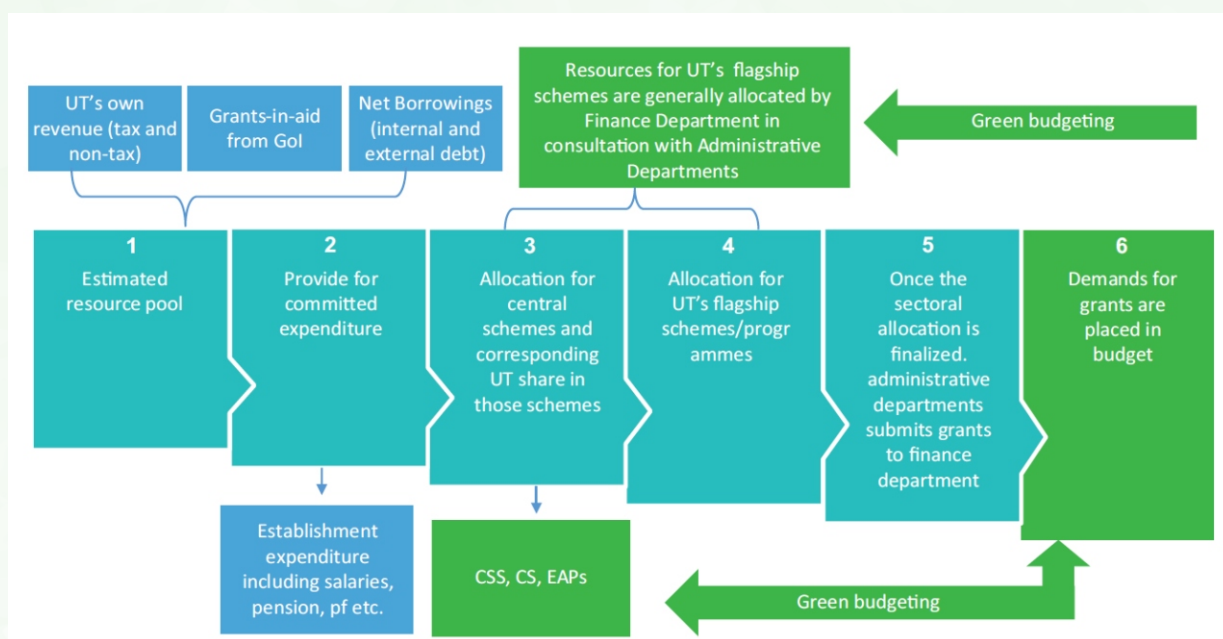
## **Green Budgeting: A pioneering Initiative in the U.T. of Puducherry**

In an era where the pursuit of economic growth intertwines with the urgent need for environmental stewardship, the concepts of green financing and green policy-making have emerged as at most essentials in the endeavour for a sustainable future. Governments worldwide are recognizing the imperative to balance economic development with ecological responsibility, and the integration of green financing and policy making serves as a compass in this transformative journey. Green financing, at its core, involves the allocation of financial resources toward projects and initiatives that demonstrate environmental sustainability, contribute to climate change mitigation, and foster overall ecological well-being. Green policy making involves the formulation and implementation of policies that prioritize environmental sustainability, address climate change challenges, and promote eco-friendly practices across various sectors. It is here, the process of Green Budget helps a government to have a better assessment of their green financing and policy making and strategize effectively towards sustainable policy making and budgetary allocation that offers long standing climate resilience.

Green Budgeting is not merely a financial strategy; it is rather a paradigm shift in the way we approach economic planning. It integrates environmental considerations into our budgetary processes, recognizing that economic prosperity and ecological sustainability are not mutually exclusive but intertwined facets of a responsible government. Green Budgeting finds its space in the planning, policy making and implementation ideologies of national and sub-national governances as it helps in optimizing the financial allocations to developmental activities with environmental concerns. With the intent to foster a sustainable society, the global governance started transitioning from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) post 2015, the difference being that the SDGs mainstreaming environmental concerns into the development planning, while the focus until then was merely social development and well-being without much thought into the environmental aspect of development. However, it is post the SDGs, governments are largely trying to ponder upon the idea of 'development' with no compromise on 'environment'. Now, we have come to a space where we also address the financial aspect involved in development mainstreamed with environmental concern. It is precisely here we place 'Green Budgeting' as our core idea of a government's financial planning.

### *A context on Puducherry's budget:*

This story is to showcase the fact that the Government of Puducherry has taken a significant stride in tabling the Green Budget in the annual budget session 2023-24 and the Department of Science, Technology and Environment had carried out a methodical green budgeting exercise following a comprehensive assessment of the annual budget in consultation with the line Departments of the Government of Puducherry. The Union Territory of Puducherry takes its funding from the Central Government through three different channels: The Central Assistance, Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Other CRF and Loans. It is also worth noting that our U.T. of Puducherry is the only U.T. with legislature having a separate Public Account. Internally, we manage our funding and budget allocation either through our own resources, which are from the Tax and Non-Tax Receipts, Grants from the Centrally Sponsored Schemes or through borrowing from open market & central financial institutions. To be precise, the total budget estimate for Puducherry for the present financial year 2023-24 is Rs. 11,600 crores and the idea was to identify the green allocation out of this 11,600 crores. This way, it will be helpful in optimizing our activities and budget allocations to more greener initiatives, in meeting the environmental and climatic challenges of the present times and to sustain our resources and in developing clean energy resources.



### *Green Budgeting: The Process*

The Green Budgeting exercise for the U.T. of Puducherry was conducted in collaboration with The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi and the analysis explores themes and activities for better integration of environmental components into existing budget items. The analysis was done by establishing a baseline indicator for FY 2022-23 and analyses the green budget for FY 2023-24. The process involved data collection from several Government Departments of the U.T. on the following heads: (i) Green Budget (ii) Percentage of Green Budget of Identified Scheme Budget, (iii) % Green Budget of RE/BE, (iv) the number of

departments that identified schemes and green components, and (v) the number of budget line items with green components and the assessment was done with data inputs from 15 Departments. A comprehensive data collection proforma was prepared which also included a list of environmental sustainability themes based on which theme mapping of the proposed green budget activity could be done.

Categorically demarcating each of the budget item to a list of carefully defined thematic areas helps provide a better rationale in being decisive about an item being a green component, and moreover, mapping of the budget items to the Sustainable Development Goals helps track the UT's commitment towards achieving them by the year 2030, while also emphasising the importance of SDG mapping for tracking environmental impact. Additionally, it highlights sustainability approaches adopted by each department, offering a comprehensive view of their efforts to promote environmentally positive practices.

### *Findings of Green Budgeting for the FY 2023-24:*

The green budget of the Government of Puducherry increased by 153% from 191 crore in the baseline year to 483 crores in FY 2023-24. The percentage of the green budget in the identified schemes increased from 7.78% to 16.42%. As a share of total expenditure (revised estimates for FY 2022-23 and budget estimates for FY 2023-24), the green budget component increased from 1.66% to 4.17%. In the baseline year, 9 departments identified schemes and green components, while in FY 2023-24, 15 departments identified both schemes and green components.

Indicators	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
RE/ BE (in '000 rupees)	11,50,00,000	11,60,00,000
Scheme Budget (in '000 rupees)	2,45,20,483	2,94,37,884
Green Budget (in '000 rupees)	19,08,127	48,34,121
% of Green Budget of Identified Scheme Budget	7.78	16.42
% Green Budget of RE/BE	1.66	4.17
Number of Departments that identified schemes and green components	9	15
Number of budget line items with green components	120	134

#### *1.2 Baseline indicators and Analysis of Green Budget for the FY 2023-24*

Out of 15 departments, 10 departments had thematic activities on climate change mitigation, followed by sustainable consumption and production, clean/green technology, pollution abatement, climate adaptation, water management, waste management, energy conservation, and water quality. Of 15 departments, 13 had activities under the programme/scheme implementation category, followed by green technology and infrastructure, regular operation and maintenance, policy action, IEC, skilling building, capacity-building, and subsidies.

In terms of SDG mapping, out of the 15 departments, 12 contributed to SDG 13, making climate action a major focus of green/environmental sustainability activities. SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy), and SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production) were included in the activities of eight departments. SDG 3 (good health and well-being) and SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) were included in the activities of seven departments.



**The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Puducherry releasing the Green Budget Report 2023 - 24.**

The Union Territory of Puducherry is the first federal entity of India to table the Green Budget in the Annual Budget Session in the Assembly and is the first Union Territory to release the Green Budget Report.

The Green Budget Report 2023-24 can be accessed at: <https://dste.py.gov.in/PCCC/pdf/Reports/GreenBudget23.pdf>

## Way Forward:

The Green Budget Report of the Union Territory of Puducherry for FY 2022-23 (baseline year) and FY 2023-2024 is a comprehensive document that outlines the green budget allocation, highlights sustainability initiatives, maps activities to promote environment-sensitive planning, accountability, aligns with the SDGs, and provides valuable recommendations for departmental budgeting. It is a road map for fostering sustainable development and promoting a greener future in Puducherry. It is a sincere hope that the Union Territory of Puducherry champions the cause of environmental protection by further integrating environmental components in more budget line items by various departments. Our ambition in the coming years is to continue this green budget exercise every financial year roping in more Departments into proposed green activities in their annual budget so that all the Departments become an integral part of the Green Budgeting of Puducherry and also to increase the share of green budget, which is presently around 5% of the total budget, to 10% in the present year and beyond 10% in the future years.



## Puducherry EIACP Hub Environment Events

**Event:** Awareness talk, Drawing Competition and Yoga Practice for a Healthy Lifestyle on the occasion of International E-Waste Day celebration on 14.10.2024.

**Venue:** Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Kathirkamam, Puducherry.

**No. of Participants:** 150



**Event:** Hands -on-Training -cum-Competition on E-waste materials.

**Resource Person:** Kalaimamani V. Umapathy, a Fine Arts Teacher from Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Kathirkamam, Puducherry.

**Venue:** Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Kathirkamam, Puducherry.

**No. of Participants:** 150

**Event:** Conducted awareness talk on "Green Diwali" & Mission LiFE on 28.10.2024

**Venue:** Government High School, Kothapurinatham, Puducherry.

**No. of Participants:** 86



**Event:** Conducted awareness talk on "Green Diwali" & Mission LiFE on 29.10.2024

**Venue:** College of Allied Health Sciences & College of Nursing, East Coast Institute of Medical Science, Puducherry

**No. of Participants:** 200+



**Event:** Launched Tree Saplings Distribution event on October 2, 2024, at Kamban Kalai Arangam, Puducherry, as part of the *Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam – Plant4Mother* National Campaign.

**Chief Guest:** Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor and Hon'ble Chief Minister of Puducherry

**No. of Participants:** 500+



**Event:** Plant saplings were distributed to 500 residents of Embalam Assembly Constituency in the Nettapakkam Commune Panchayat on 25.10.2024.

**No. of saplings:** 500

**Event:** Tree plantation drive under the **Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam (Plant4Mother)** national campaigns at **Chellapappu Nagar, Reddiarpalayam, Puducherry**, as part of the Urban Plantation initiative on 05.11.2024.

**Chief Guest:** Hon'ble MLA of Ozhukarai, Puducherry

**No. of saplings:** 50



**Event:** Tree plantation drive under the **Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam (Plant4Mother)** national campaigns at **Bharathidasan College for Women, Puducherry**, as part of the **Green Campus** initiative on 18.11.2024.

**Chief Guest:** Hon'ble MLA of Muthialpet, Puducherry

**No. of saplings:** 50



**Event:** Tree plantation drive under the **Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam (Plant4Mother)** national campaigns at **Embalam, Puducherry**, as part of the **'One Home, One Tree'** initiative on 21.11.2024.

**No. of saplings:** 350





**Event:** Tree plantation drive under the **Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam (Plant4Mother)** national campaigns at **Odiampet, Puducherry**, as part of the **‘One Home, One Tree’** initiative on **22.11.2024**.

**Chief Guest:** Hon’ble MLA of Villianur, Puducherry

**No. of saplings:** 500

**Event:** Tree plantation drive under the **Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam (Plant4Mother)** national campaigns at Fire Service Department, D. Nagar, Puducherry, on 26.11.2024.

**No. of saplings:** 20



**Event:** Conducted awareness talk on Mission LiFE on 19.11.2024

**Venue:** Government High School, Keezharikkalpet, Puducherry.

**No. of Participants:** 120

**Event:** Conducted awareness talk on Mission LiFE on 19.11.2024

**Venue:** Govt. Boys Middle School, Bahour, Puducherry.

**No. of Participants:** 177



**Event:** Conducted awareness talk on Mission LiFE on 19.11.2024

**Venue:** Bharathi Government Higher Secondary School, Bahour, Puducherry.

**No. of Participants:** 50





**Event:** Conducted awareness talk on Mission LiFE on 19.11.2024

**Venue:** Govt. Primary School, Irulansandai Puducherry.

**No. of Participants:** 60

**Event:** Two-day Village Sensitization Programme on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at Kamala Nehru Kalyana Mandapam, Bahour, Puducherry on the topic '*Sustainable and Environmentally Friendly Practices: Cold-Process Soap Making with Natural Ingredients*', aimed to support the Naari Shakti Se Jal Shakti theme under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan-2024 and the Mission LiFE initiative

**Resource Person:** Mrs. Uma Gurumurthy, a retired AGM from NABARD

**No. of Participants:** 50



**Event:** Tree plantation drive under the **Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam (Plant4Mother)** national campaigns at campaign at **Thirukannur, Thethampakkam, and Kumarapalayam**, as part of the '**One Home, One Tree**' initiative on 16.12.2024.

**No. of saplings:** 1000



**Event:** Tree plantation drive under the **Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam (Plant4Mother)** national campaigns at campaign at **Thiruvandarkoil, Puducherry**, as part of the '**One Home, One Tree**' initiative on 17.12.2024.

**Chief Guest:** Hon'ble MLA of Thirubhuvanai, Puducherry

**No. of saplings:** 1000

**Event:** Tree plantation drive under the **Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam (Plant4Mother)** national campaigns at campaign at **Nettapakkam, Puducherry**, as part of the **‘One Home, One Tree’** initiative on 26.12.2024.

**Chief Guest:** Hon'ble MLA of Nettapakkam, Puducherry

**No. of saplings:** 1000



**Event:** 300 Tree Saplings at Mangalam Iyyanar Koil & 500 Tree Saplings at One Home One tree component at Mangalam, Puducherry on 26.12.2024.

**No. of saplings:** 800

**Event:** Village Sensitization Programme on the topic: **Sustainable Waste Management Practices: A Lifestyle for Environment** was held for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme(MGNREGA) workers on 26<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at Thondamanatham Commune Panchayat, Puducherry.

**Resource Person:** Mrs. Gayathri, Senior Officer, Keep Namma Pondy Clean Project, Recity Network Private Ltd, Puducherry.

**No. of Participants:** 100



**Event:** Village Sensitization Programme on the topic: on **‘Sustainable Crafting with Palm Leaves: Empowering Communities and Protecting the Environment’** was held for Self-Help Group (SHG) on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at Gender Resource Centre, Kakkayanthope, Ariyankuppam Block, Puducherry.

**Resource Person:** Mrs. Marry , a skilled Palm Craft Artisan, Art & Craft Village, Ariyankuppam, Puducherry.

**No. of Participants:** 30

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