

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1178**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13TH DECEMBER, 2023/ AGRAHAYANA 22, 1945
(SAKA)**

ZONAL COUNCILS

1178 SHRI MUZIBULLA KHAN:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of meetings held, zone-wise, by the Zonal Councils during last five years;

(b) the budgetary allocations for each zone for the last five years, year-wise; and

(c) the details of matters deliberated upon in the Eastern Zonal Council in the last year?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a): The number of meetings held zone-wise of the Zonal Councils since

2014 is as under:

- i. Central Zonal Council – 05**
- ii. Eastern Zonal Council – 05**
- iii. Northern Zonal Council – 05**
- iv. Southern Zonal Council – 05**
- v. Western Zonal Council – 06**

(b): The work related to Zonal Councils is handled by the Inter-State Council Secretariat (ISCS). The budgetary allocations to the ISCS in the past five years have been as under:

Financial Year	Revised Estimates (Rs / crore)
2018-19	6.61
2019-20	7.17
2020-21	6.24
2021-22	7.14
2022-23	8.22

Zone-wise allocation is not maintained separately.

(c): In the 25th meeting of the Eastern Zonal Council held on 17.12.2022 at Kolkata, West Bengal, the Council deliberated upon various issues, such as those pertaining to coverage of villages with brick and mortar banking facilities, direct benefit transfer, speedy investigation and trial in cases of rape / sexual offences against women and children, water sharing, land acquisition for infrastructure projects, financial assistance to States, siltation in Damodar Valley Corporation reservoirs and their operation, formulation of silt management policy, river bank erosion, illegal transportation of cattle, use of State Government land by coal companies.
