

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 879
TO BE ANSWERED ON DECEMBER 11, 2023

URBAN CAPACITY SITUATION

NO.879. SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that urban capacity situation is abysmal in many cities across the country which are unable to leverage the opportunities linked to urbanization due to non-availability of urban planning capabilities; and
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the initiatives taken by Government to resolve it?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE)

(a) & (b) As per 12th Schedule of the Constitution of India, urban planning is the function of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)/ Urban Development Authorities. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States through schematic interventions/ advisories. It provides financial and technical support to the States.

Considering the fast pace of urbanization, the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India has taken several initiatives towards planned development in urban areas including the following:

- Urban and Regional Development Plan Formulation and Implementation (URDPFI) Guidelines, 2014
- Model Building Bye-laws (MBBL) – 2016

The Ministry, through schematic interventions facilitates increasing land-use efficiency, promoting sustainability, affordability, and revenue generation through land as a planning tool. The MoHUA has announced the following schemes:

- (i) Under **AMRUT: Sub-Scheme on “Formulation of GIS based Master Plan for 500 AMRUT Cities”** was launched to support States for preparation of master plans in AMRUT towns. Final GIS database has been created for 443 towns, draft GIS based Master Plan prepared for 330 towns and final GIS based Master Plans has been notified for 180 towns.

- (ii) Under **AMRUT 2.0**, Scheme for **Formulation of GIS based Master Plans of Class-II Towns** with population of 50,000 - 99,999 has been launched by MoHUA to support States financially and technically for undertaking planning initiatives in smaller cities. It has been approved for 675 towns with total outlay of Rs. 631Cr and is in initial stage of implementation.
- (iii) **Local Area Plan and Town Planning Scheme (LAP/TPS)**: Pilot Sub-Scheme for preparation of Town Planning Scheme (TPS) and Local Area Plans was launched in 2018. The Scheme has been conceived to bring planned urban development by mobilizing urban land in the city center and in the urban peripheries by adjustment of land parcels. It covers 25 cities in the first phase of Smart City Mission with allocation of around 50 crores.
- (iv) In order to incentivize States to undertake urban planning reforms, following schemes were launched by MoHUA under the Scheme for **Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment** of Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance:
- a) **Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2022-23 – Part – VI (Urban Planning Reforms)** with an allocation of Rs. 6000 Cr - The reform components include Modernization of Building Bylaws, Adoption of Transferrable Development Rights (TDR), Implementation of Local Area Plans (LAP) and Town Planning Schemes (TPS), Implementation of Transit-oriented Development (ToD), Creation of Sponge Cities, Removing Taxation for running the Buses for Public Transport. Funds amounting to Rs. 4093.16 Cr were released by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of finance to 12 States.
 - b) **Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2023-24 – Part – III (Urban Planning Reforms)** with an allocation of Rs. 15000 Cr - The reform components include Augmentation of human resources for strengthening urban planning ecosystem, Implementation of Town Planning Scheme (TPS)/ Land Pooling Scheme, Modernization of Building Bylaws, Promoting in-situ slum rehabilitation, Transit-Oriented Development (TOD), Transferable Development Rights as planning tool, Strengthening natural ecosystems of urban areas through urban planning.
