

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2690
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025

GROWTH HUB INITIATIVE

2690 SHRI YERRAM VENKATA SUBBA REDDY:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of Growth Hub initiative propounded by the NITI Aayog;
- (b) whether it is a fact that to push Growth Hub initiative, Government has identified Visakhapatnam as one of the pilot sites and positioned it as the centre of economic region;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) details of specific economic plans devised for Visakhapatnam and the status of implementation of the same; and
- (e) details of funds allocated for Visakhapatnam pilot site?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

- (a) to (c) NITI Aayog, in 2023, conceived of the Growth Hubs initiative to undertake the development of cities as engines of growth. The approach was to identify city regions going beyond urban boundaries and develop an economic plan based on three key components (i) Economic and Investment plan; (ii) Quality of Life; and (iii) Inclusivity and Sustainability plan. To develop the process template four pilot sites were selected, viz. Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), Varanasi, Surat and Vishakhapatnam which were positioned as the centres of the economic region. In each Economic Region, specific economic plans have been developed on the basis of a 5-stage process, viz. (i) As-is-diagnostic, (ii) SWOT, Endowments & Capability analysis, (iii) Economic Visioning, (iv) Selection of key

economic growth drivers and (v) Implementation Framework. The project report presents specific interventions by way of key projects and policy prescriptions.

(d) to (e) The Economic plans for Mumbai and Surat were launched in September 2024. The Economic plans for Varanasi and Visakhapatnam are being finalised.
