

O.I.H

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 50
ANSWERED ON 03/02/2025**

EMPOWERMENT OF URBAN STAFF FOR BETTER CITY PLANNING MANAGEMENT

**50. DR. DINESH SHARMA:
SHRI RYAGA KRISHNAIAH:
SHRI BRIJ LAL:
DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE:
SMT. DARSHANA SINGH:
SMT. REKHA SHARMA:
SHRI NARESH BANSAL:
SMT. SANGEETA YADAV:
SHRI MITHLESH KUMAR:
SHRI NARHARI AMIN:
SHRI DHANANJAY BHIMRAO MAHADIK:
SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA:
SHRI BABURAM NISHAD:**

Will the Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which Government envisions the future of urban staff working in alignment with advanced smart city technologies;
- (b) whether there are any specific programs aimed at encouraging gender equality and the empowerment of women in urban planning roles; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI TOKHAN SAHU)**

(a) to (c): Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) is supporting States/ Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in capacity building activities through various Schemes of the Ministry such as Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), for improving the capacities of ULB functionaries, elected representatives, etc., which includes all sections of the society including women. Under AMRUT, against the target of 45000 functionaries, 57134 functionaries have already been trained so far.

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Under AMRUT 2.0, capacity building programs are conducted for all stakeholders including contractors, plumbers, plant operators, students, women and citizens.

MoHUA has designated 4 Institutes in different regions as Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Urban Planning and Design, which inter alia impart certified trainings/ certified courses to Civil Servants, State Town Planners, Municipal Officials, practitioners/professionals, young students etc. These centres have been provided endowment funds of Rs 250 crore each.

Besides, MoHUA has also designated 6 institutes as AMRUT Funded Centre of Urban Planning for Capacity Building. The role envisaged for these institutes inter alia include subject specific trainings to Municipal officials/ Town and Country Planning officials, augmenting capacity building of State / Local authorities and hand hold them in urban planning.

Under AMRUT 2.0, Ministry has also launched AMRUT Mitra initiative which involve women SHGs in water demand management, water quality testing, water infrastructure operations, and other water sectoral projects. So far, 1762 projects worth Rs.140 crore have been approved under this initiative.
