

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 685**  
**ANSWERED ON 10/02/2025**

**COMPLETION OF PROJECTS UNDER SCM**

**685. DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:**

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

- (a) the challenges that have led to the delay in the completion of the remaining projects under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) that have been pending;
- (b) the details of raw materials sourced locally, if any and measures to incentivize the same;
- (c) the steps being taken to monitor and ensure that the extended timeline of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, is adhered to; and
- (d) the measures being taken to involve local communities in the planning and execution phases, to ensure the projects meet the actual needs of the residents?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) Government of India's policy and strategy for Indian Urban Development follows the provisions as laid down in the Constitution of India. It is pertinent to mention here that 'Land' and 'Colonization' are State subjects. Further, as per the 12th Schedule of Indian Constitution (Article 243W), Urban Planning including Town Planning is the responsibility of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)/ Urban Development Authorities. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States through schematic interventions/ advisories.

As apprised by the Smart Cities, the challenges encountered in implementing smart city projects include, *inter-alia*, legal issues, delay in obtaining clearances from different departments, land acquisition, construction in hilly areas, challenges in vendor and resource availability in small & medium cities, centralization of decision making in few cities, utilization of full capacity of Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCCs) with integration of all municipal departments and agencies, frequent changing and dropping of projects.

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- (b) The implementation of Smart Cities Mission (SCM) is done at the City level by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) specifically created for planning, appraising, approving projects, releasing funds, procuring, managing, operating, monitoring and evaluating the Smart City development projects.
- (c) MoHUA has a multi-level review structure to expedite the progress of projects under the SCM. At the National level, implementation is monitored by an Apex Committee headed by Secretary, MoHUA. At the State level, Mission implementation is monitored by the State level High Powered Steering Committee (HPSC) chaired by the Chief Secretary. At the City level, there is a provision for establishing Smart City Advisory Forum (SCAF) for all 100 smart cities to advise and enable collaboration among various stakeholders. Nominee Directors of MoHUA on the Board of SPVs monitor progress in respective cities on a regular basis. MoHUA also regularly interacts with the States /smart cities through video conferences, review meetings, field visits, regional workshops at various levels to expedite the performance of the smart cities and handhold them for improving the same, wherever required.
- (d) Each Smart City, at the time of selection, prepared a Smart City Proposal in consultations with all stakeholders, including citizens. At the City level, there is a provision for establishing Smart City Advisory Forum (SCAF), which includes the District Collector, MP, MLA, Mayor, CEO of SPV, local youths, technical experts, and at least one member from Residents Welfare Association, Tax Payers Association, Secretary of slum level federation, Non-Governmental Organization, Mahila Mandali, Chamber of Commerce, Youth Associations, to advise and enable collaboration among various stakeholders.

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