GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 849
ANSWERED ON 28/07/2025

URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE AND DIGITAL GOVERNANCE SUPPORT FOR ODISHA

849.   SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:

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

(a)   whether special measures are being considered to include the State of Odisha's cultural heritage zones, such as the Ekamra Kshetra in Bhubaneswar, under the Urban Infrastructure Development Fund (UIDF) for integrated conservation and infrastructure development;

(b)   the number of urban local bodies in the State of Odisha that have adopted the National Urban Digital Mission (NUDM) framework for improving urban governance; and

(c)   whether any financial or technical assistance is being planned to help smaller municipalities in Odisha undertake digital upgrades and adopt NUDM-based systems?

ANSWER

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

(a) Urban Infrastructure Development Fund (UIDF) aims to supplement efforts of the State / UT Governments for urban infrastructure development works, by providing a low-cost, stable and predictable source of financing through use of priority sector lending shortfall. The fund is being managed by National Housing Bank (NHB) under Department of Financial Services. One of the eligible activities of UIDF include Heritage Conservation under Comprehensive Area Development Projects. A normative allocation of ₹ 267.30 crore each under Tranche 1 (FY 2023-24) and Tranche 2 (FY 2024-25) has been done by the NHB for the State of Odisha. However, NHB has not yet received any project proposal including cultural heritage zones from the State of Odisha.

(b) & (c) The proposed National Urban Digital Mission (NUDM) is under active consideration of the Government. The pilot implementation of the mission was launched in February, 2021, under which citizen centric urban digital infrastructure named as the Urban Platform for deliverY of Online Governance (UPYOG) is being developed. It comprises a set of e-governance solutions usable by all ULBs for delivery of digital municipal services. As the Mission evolves, the range and scale of services, platform adoption, and advanced technology integration are being progressively considered, subject to policy decisions and implementation readiness.

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