

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 861
ANSWERED ON 08/12/2025**

SMART CITIES MISSION AND DIGITAL URBAN GOVERNANCE

**861. DR. KALPANA SAINI:
DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE:
DR. DINESH SHARMA:
SHRI SHAMBHU SHARAN PATEL:
SHRI BRIJ LAL:
DR. PARMAR JASHVANTSINH SALAMSINH:
SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA:
SHRI NARHARI AMIN:
SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE:**

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

- (a) the manner in which the financial and operational sustainability of the Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCCs) in all 100 Smart Cities is ensured and the revenue model adopted for their continued operation;
- (b) the mechanism through which successful digital solutions in one Smart City are implemented in other non-mission cities; and
- (c) whether a dedicated data governance framework is established to ensure the safety and privacy of citizen data collected through the Integrated Command and Control Centres and other urban platforms, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has advised all 100 Smart Cities to ensure the financial and functional sustainability of their Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCCs) by releasing of relevant advisories, assessments, and monitoring mechanisms. Advisory No. 27 on “Re-purposing the SPVs created under the Smart Cities Mission” vide letter no. F. No. K-15016/6/2024-SC-I/US-II dated 10 June, 2025 directs States/UTs to support ICCCs in developing self-sustaining business plans, data-sharing mechanisms, and Standard Operating Procedures to enable long-term operations. Advisory No. 29, “Outcomes of the National Conference on 'Making Cities Cybersecure’” vide letter no. K-14012/101(16)/2025-NUDM/ (E-9202547) dated 25 November, 2025 further encourages States/UTs to adopt viable revenue-generation models, including CSR partnerships, Public–Private Partnership (PPP) arrangements, and other cost-recovery mechanisms.

Additionally, the Ministry has conducted ICCC Maturity Assessments to evaluate key parameters such as infrastructure readiness, functional use cases, governance structures, human resource management, inter-departmental coordination, and financial planning. Based on this assessment, the Ministry has provided recommended actions points to the cities for bridging the identified gaps.

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- (b) The Ministry has published comprehensive manuals, compendiums and best practices along with conducting structured capacity-building sessions to facilitate replication of successful solutions. These initiatives enable knowledge sharing, promote standardisation, and support the adoption of proven solutions across urban local bodies nationwide.
- (c) The Ministry has developed the Data Smart Cities Strategy as a comprehensive data governance framework, structured around the three pillars of People, Process, and Platform, to guide cities in the ethical, secure, and responsible management of data collected through ICCCs and other urban platforms. Additionally, the Ministry has released a detailed reference guide ‘Designing a City Data Policy’, which outlines key components such as data classification & categorization, data flow mechanisms, data archival & retention norms, security & privacy protocols, and standard operating procedures for data collection, processing, collaboration, and analysis. To ensure continuous improvement, the Ministry also conducted multiple cycles of Data Maturity Assessment Framework (DMAF) to assess cities on pillars of systemic and sectoral maturity of Smart Cities across their digital ecosystem. Collectively, these guidelines and framework enable Smart Cities to uphold robust privacy standards and ensure the ethical use of citizen data across their digital ecosystems.
