

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 872
ANSWERED ON 08/12/2025**

STEPS FOR ENCROACHMENT-FREE FOOTPATHS IN CITIES

872. SHRI JAGGESH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the growing encroachment on footpaths reflects a failure in urban planning and governance of cities in the country;
- (b) whether the local municipal authorities are effectively enforcing laws to prevent illegal encroachments on broad and expensive footpaths under the Smart City initiatives;
- (c) whether the Smart City projects include regular monitoring mechanisms to keep public pathways free from unauthorized vendors;
- (d) whether the funds allocated for Smart City development are being properly utilised to ensure sustainable and encroachment-free pedestrian infrastructure; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

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

- (a) & (b) The Smart Cities Mission (SCM) followed an area-based development approach through retrofitting, redevelopment and greenfield development in 100 cities. Smart City Proposals (SCPs) have been planned at the local level based on the local needs of the cities, in consultation with various stakeholders, including citizens, across various sectors. Implementation of Smart Cities Mission (SCM) at the City level has been done by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) created for planning, appraising, approving projects, releasing funds, procuring, managing, operating, monitoring and evaluating the Smart City development projects.
- (c) As per the information provided by the State, regular monitoring of public pathways is carried out through the Integrated Command and Control Centers (ICCCs), which have been established in all 100 Smart Cities. Under the Smart Cities Mission, around 83,000 CCTV-based surveillance systems have been deployed and integrated with the ICCCs. These systems enable continuous, technology-driven monitoring based on local needs, helping ensure that public pathways remain free.
- (d) & (e) Under the SCM, the Central Government had a total outlay of ₹48,000 Cr for the 100 cities. As reported by the States/ UTs, as on 01.12.2025, the cities have been able to claim Central Financial Assistance of ₹47,458 Cr (i.e. 99% of the total Central share allocation). The States/Union Territories are reported to have utilized ₹46,093 Cr (i.e. 97% of the total Central share claimed).
