

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 381  
TO BE ANSWERED ON FEBRUARY 5, 2019**

**SMART CITIES FELLOWSHIP**

**381. DR. P. VENUGOPAL:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal for Smart Cities fellowship and internship programmes and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government is likely to give digital payment award to cities to promote ease of living and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether it is true that the focus is to enable planning for developing infrastructure in brownfield areas which are already developed and greenfield areas which are the periphery of the city prone to haphazard development; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE  
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS  
(SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI)**

**(a): The India Smart Cities Fellowship (ISCF) and India Smart Cities Internship (ISCI) programmes were launched on 9 July 2018.**

**The India Smart Cities Fellowship Program seeks to engage young graduates/post-graduates and PhDs in the fields of urban planning, design, engineering, information and technology, mobility, finance, social sector and environmental issues for a period of one year, extendable upto three years. This Program is designed to provide valuable experience to the youth interested in smart cities specifically, and urban renewal sector in general to bring in new ideas, passion and energy to the challenging work of implementing**

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cutting edge, high-impact solutions to key urban problems. This programme ultimately aims at cultivating young leaders, strengthening their understanding of Indian urban sector and preparing them for greater leadership roles in future. The first batch of Fellows has already been selected.

The India Smart Cities Internship (ISCI) programme seeks to engage students pursuing Undergraduate / Graduate / Post-Graduate Degrees from recognized Universities/Institutions from India or abroad, as "Interns" for a period of six to twelve weeks. This programme aims at giving exposure to the interns in various areas of urban development like planning, design, engineering, information and technology, mobility, finance, social sector and environmental issues under Smart Cities Mission.

(b): The Smart Cities Digital Payments Awards 2018 is an initiative of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to promote ease of living for India's urban residents. The objective of these awards is to guide, motivate, recognize and reward the Smart Cities for promoting digital payments and carrying out innovative payment initiatives in their respective cities through a two-stage Challenge process. This not only aims to reward Smart Cities at the forefront of digital payments but also to encourage other cities to follow suit and strengthen their digital payments infrastructure, create awareness through promotion of digital payments amongst all stakeholders and to provide citizens with multiple options to make digital transactions. The evaluation process for awards is at an advanced stage.

(c) & (d) : The objective of Smart Cities Mission is to promote cities which provide core infrastructure and give a decent quality of life to its citizens, a clean and sustainable environment and application of 'Smart' solutions.

The Smart Cities Mission has adopted a two pronged strategy for developing Smart City Proposals (SCPs), Area Based Development (ABD) and Pan City Development. Under ABD, compact areas are taken up for comprehensive development of physical, social, institutional and economic infrastructure, through one or more Greenfield/retrofitting/redevelopment models. Pan City Development envisages application of selected Smart Solutions to the existing city-wide infrastructure.

**Retrofitting model is for planning an existing built-up area of more than 500 acres, to make the existing area more efficient and liveable. Since existing structures remain largely intact in this model, more intensive infrastructure service levels and a large number of smart applications are packed into retrofitted model. Redevelopment effects replacement of existing built-up area of more than 50 acres and enables co-creation of a new layout with enhanced infrastructure using mixed land use and increased density. Greenfield development introduces Smart solutions in a previously vacant area (more than 250 acres) using innovative planning, plan financing and plan implementation tools. Cities are working on retrofitting, redevelopment and greenfield developments as per needs expressed by their citizens as part of their respective Smart City proposals.**

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