

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 388
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03rd February, 2023

SECUNDERABAD CANTONMENT BOARD

388. SHRI ANUMULA REVANTH REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has constituted an eight-member committee to look into the merger of civil areas of the Secunderabad Cantonment Board (SCB) with the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for not including Public representative/MP and MLAs in the Committee;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to include them in the Committee, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is aware of the Sumit Bose Committee report which states that Cantonment areas are underdeveloped in comparison with urban areas, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to increase the speed of development in the cantonment areas across the country, State/UT-wise including Secunderabad Cantonment Board (SCB)?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI AJAY BHATT)

- (a): Yes, Sir. A Committee has been constituted to look into the details of proposed modalities for excision of civil areas of Secunderabad Cantonment.
- (b) & (c): Any decision regarding excision of civil areas of Secunderabad Cantonment and their merger with adjoining municipality shall be taken after consultation with all stakeholders.
- (d): Sumit Bose Committee has reported inter-alia that the Cantonments have often not witnessed the benefits of urbanization to the extent of the neighboring city areas. The Committee recognized the need for development of these areas as a major instrument for their growth and economic well-being, so that they grow in sync with the adjoining municipalities in the areas of housing, resource development, smart municipal solutions etc. aiming towards sustainable infrastructure and services for a better quality of life. The Committee also recommended various steps for development of Cantonment areas.

(e): Several steps have been taken by the Government to increase the speed of development in the cantonment areas including Secunderabad Cantonment. Some of the steps are as given below:

- i.** 15th Central Finance Commission grants: Cantonment Boards have started receiving grants based on the recommendations of the 15th Central Finance Commission from Financial Year 2020-21.
- ii.** Grants for Creation of Capital Assets: Apart from ordinary grant-in-aid, grants for creation of capital assets like under-ground sewerage system, water supply schemes, construction of hospitals and schools etc. are also being provided from 2012-13 to Cantonment Boards for such proposals based on budgetary allocations.
- iii.** Revision of Building Bye-laws of Cantonments: The Ministry/DGDE has engaged an expert agency to conduct a study of six Cantonments and make recommendations on revision of Building Bye-Laws for Cantonments and to suggest a scheme for re-development of Cantonments. The agency has submitted its report.
- iv.** Implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) in Cantonment Boards: Centrally Sponsored Schemes for urban development and rejuvenation have been extended to cantonment areas. Almost all of the CSS are being implemented in most of the cantonments. Some of major Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented in Cantonment Boards are AMURT, Mid-Day Meal, Smart City Mission, Anganwadi Scheme, NUHM (National Urban Health Mission), Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Ujjwala, PM SVANidhi Scheme, Ayushman Bharat etc.
- v.** Preparation of Land Use Plan under section 233 of the Cantonments Act, 2006: Suitable instructions have been issued to Cantonment Boards to prepare Land Use Plan as per section 233 of the Cantonments Act, 2006 incorporating the aspects of identifying the zones keeping in view the URDPFI (Urban and Regional Development Plans Formulation and Implementation) guidelines.
- vi.** Multi-level car parking: Suitable instructions have been issued to Cantonment Boards to take necessary action for framing multi-level car parking schemes. The projects can be undertaken by Boards under self-financing scheme as per availability of funds.
- vii.** Construction of a W.C/toilets: Suitable instructions have been issued to Cantonment Boards to allow/permit construction of a W.C/toilet in existing buildings in absence of any such provision within that tenement to an authorized resident, subject to condition that proper sewerage connection to the said building already exists in the Cantonment.
- viii.** Repairs to the buildings in Cantonment area: Suitable instructions have been issued to Cantonment Boards whereby clarification on 'repairs' has been issued for which separate sanction is not required from the Cantonment Board.
