

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2415
TO BE ANSWERED ON AUGUST 03, 2022
FUNCTIONING OF NURPA

NO. 2415. SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN:

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

- (a) The details and manner in which the proposed National Urban and Regional Planning Authority (NURPA) would function under the leadership of the Prime Minister;**
- (b) The specific measures taken/ being taken to address the shortage of urban planners in tier-2 and tier-3 cities;**
- (c) Whether the Government has allocated or proposes to allocate funds to the States for the recruitment of urban planners and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) The details of the provisions that would be included in the proposed Town and Country Planners Bill;**
- (e) Whether the development of city-regions as economic gateways would attract foreign investment and talent and if so, the details of the parameters for measuring the success;**
- (f) The cities which have been identified for funding under the national economic gateway programme along with the initiatives to integrate the informal economy and emphasize skill-building in the economic gateway programme; and**
- (g) The details of the criteria for selecting cities for funding the rejuvenation of riverfronts?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE)

(a), (d) & (f): No such proposal/ provision is being proposed as of now.

(b) & (c) The shortage of urban planners is being addressed through “The Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2023-24”. Its first reform “Augmentation of Human Resources for Strengthening Urban Planning Ecosystem” mandates provisions to recruit urban planners in States and Cities under the following sub-reforms for incentives:

- **Sanction of post for planners - No. of Planners desirable according to the population of the cities as per Census 2011:**
- **5 urban planners per city (in 4 million plus cities)**
- **3 urban planners per city (in million plus cities with population less than 4 million)**
- **2 urban planners per city (in 1 million to 0.5 million cities)**
- **1 urban planner per city (in below 0.5 million to 0.1 million cities)**
- **1 urban planner per city (in below 0.1 million to 0.05 million cities)**
- **It also mandates the below mentioned sub-reforms for incentives:**
- **Completion of recruitment on at least 50% of vacant posts on regular basis**
- **Additional Planners may be hired on contract basis with specific expertise**
- **States/ ULBs may build strong collaboration with private expertise to engage them at State level or for substantial work at city level**

(e) As per the 12th Schedule of Indian Constitution, Urban Planning including Town Planning is the responsibility of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). The 12th Schedule deals with the provisions that specify the powers, authority, and responsibilities of Municipalities.

(g) “The Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2023-24”, in one of its reforms “Strengthening Natural Ecosystems of Urban Areas through Urban Planning” mentions restoration of cities’ capacity to absorb, infiltrate, store, purify, drain, and manage rainwater and regulate the water cycle as an objective. There are provisions to promote Riverfront Development in States and Cities under its sub-reform, and incentives have been mandated for each riverfront development.
