

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.2353
TO BE ANSWERED ON MARCH 05, 2020**

SMART CITIES IN ANDHRA PRADESH

No.2353. SHRI MARGANI BHARAT:

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

- (a) whether it is true that four cities in Andhra Pradesh are identified under Smart Cities Mission;**
- (b) if so, whether it is also true that Kakinada and Visakhapatnam were identified in the first phase and Tirupati got added in the second and Vijayawada was added in the third phase of the mission;**
- (c) whether it is true that some cities have been identified under fast track and if so, the reasons behind the fact that not even a single city has been brought under fast track in Andhra Pradesh; and**
- (d) whether the Government is considering of declaring Rajahmundry also as a Smart City and make Kakinada and Rajahmundry as twin cities which will push economic activity and also help in fulfilling the goals set under Act East Policy of the Government; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

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ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes, Sir. In the State of Andhra Pradesh, four cities have been selected to be developed as Smart Cities, viz. Amaravati, Kakinada, Tirupati and Visakhapatnam.**
- (b) Kakinada and Visakhapatnam were selected in Round-1 of city challenge process in January, 2016, Tirupati in Round-2 in September, 2016 and Amravati in Round-3 in June, 2017. Vijayawada was not proposed to be developed as Smart City by the State Government.**
- (c) The First Round of the Smart City Challenge was held in 2015 and the top 20 cities belonging to 12 States, including Andhra Pradesh, were selected. In order to spread the message of urban transformation in all parts of the country and to provide an opportunity to all the States/Union Territories (UTs), a special Fast-Track Round was provided to 23 States/UTs to upgrade their proposals whose cities were not selected in the first list of 20 cities. Thus, the highest scoring cities in each of these 23 States/UTs were advised to submit their upgraded proposals. The ranking of these cities was arrived at through a rigorous process of evaluation by a panel of experts and the selection of 13 cities was done on merit. As 2 cities of Andhra Pradesh were already selected in Round-1, the State of Andhra Pradesh was not included in Fast-Track Round.**
- (d) & (e) There is no such proposal under consideration of this Ministry.**

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