

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1928
TO BE ANSWERED ON DECEMBER 9, 2021**

HAZARD RISK IN URBAN AREAS

NO. 1928. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the hazard risk due to exposed wires and constant digging of multiple trenches in urban areas for repairs;**
- (b) if so, the details of all incidences of fatalities due to electrocution or accidental falling into dug up roads during the last three years;**
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any pilot study for the development of systems like integrated utility ducts that lay all power cables underground;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether the Government proposes to incorporate the laying of integrated underground utility ducts in the list of works under schemes like the Smart Cities Mission and the AMRUT Yojana and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): Since land and urban administration is a State subject, it is the responsibility of States/Union Territories (UTs) to

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Frame appropriate policies and implement mechanisms for development of integrated infrastructure. Government of India through various programmatic interventions assists States/UTs, both technically and financially in their efforts.

Government of India launched the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) on 25 June 2015 for development of 100 cities as Smart Cities. Cities under the Mission have taken several steps to address issues related to hazard risk caused by exposed wires and constant digging of multiple trenches in urban areas. These Cities are implementing 776 Smart Road projects worth ₹ 26,205 crore which include, inter alia, provisions of replacement of overhead wires with underground wiring, creation of utility ducts for common infrastructure to avoid multiple trenching etc.

Besides, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation & Urban Transformation (AMRUT) empowers States to design, prioritize, approve, and implement projects in Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) based on their local priorities. Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) approves State Annual Action Plans (SAAPs) submitted to it by State High Powered Steering Committees (SHPSCs). States may choose to incorporate laying of integrated underground utility ducts in the projects undertaken by them under their SAAPs.
