

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1626
TO BE ANSWERED ON DECEMBER 05, 2024**

URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS UNDER SCM & AMRUT

**NO.1626. ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:
 SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:**

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

- (a) the current status of urban infrastructure projects initiated under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) and AMRUT schemes, including the number of projects completed and pending as of November 2024;**
- (b) the key challenges faced in implementing these projects;**
- (c) the measures taken/being taken to address these challenges and ensure timely completion of urban infrastructure initiatives; and**
- (d) whether the Government is taking any steps to integrate sustainability principles into urban development and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI TOKHAN SAHU)**

(a) Under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM), work orders have been issued in 8,066 projects amounting to ₹1,64,669 crore, of which 7,352 projects (i.e. 91% of total projects) amounting to ₹1,47,366 crore have been completed, as per the data provided by 100 Smart Cities. Remaining 714 projects amounting to ₹17,303 crore are currently in implementation stage.

Similarly, in respect of AMRUT, total number of 5,995 projects worth ₹83,374.39 crore have been undertaken. As reported by States/Union Territories (UTs) on AMRUT portal, 5,417 projects have been completed and works worth ₹78,404 crore have been physically completed.

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- (b) Some of the key challenges faced by smart cities include frequent transfer of CEO's, timely release of matching share contribution from State/ UT Governments, new and diverse areas of work, cities had no experience in building Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCC), incubation centers, bicycle sharing schemes, solar power projects, riverfront development etc., utilization of full capacity of ICCCs with integration of all municipal departments and agencies and lack of public consultation during DPR preparation and implementation stage.**

Similarly, challenges faced in implementing projects under AMRUT are of various reasons, such as land acquisition issues, climatic challenges, delay in obtaining requisite clearances/ permissions and shortage of experienced and technically skilled contractors for complex urban infrastructure projects, etc.

- (c) & (d) The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has a multi-level review structure to expedite the progress of projects under the SCM. At State level, Mission implementation is monitored by the State level High Powered Steering Committee (HPSC) chaired by the Chief Secretary. At the National level, implementation is monitored by an Apex Committee headed by Secretary, MoHUA. Nominee Directors of MoHUA on the Boards of Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) monitor progress in respective cities on a regular basis. MoHUA also regularly interacts with the States /Smart Cities through video conferences, review meetings, field visits, regional workshops, Chief Executive Officer's (CEO's) Conference etc. at various levels to assess the performance of the 100 smart cities / ULBs and handhold them enabling them to address various challenges, wherever required.**

Under SCM, sustainability principles have been integrated through its 8,066 multisectoral projects. Accordingly, local needs were identified in cities, since project inception using various citizens engagement tools to improve urban infrastructure including, inter-alia, Water Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH), Smart Mobility (Non-Motorized Transport (NMT), Public Bicycle Sharing (PBS)), Smart Energy, Vibrant Public Spaces, Economic & Social Infrastructure (Incubation & Skilling Centres, Smart Classrooms, & Digital Libraries), Environment improvement (Integrated Solid Waste Management facility) and Integrated Command & Control Centres (ICCC) for effective management of urban services by harnessing the power of digital technology for data-driven governance and last mile service delivery to its citizens.

In addition to the projects undertaken by the cities, SCM has launched several initiatives to promote sustainability of development with citizen engagement including, inter-alia, Nurturing Neighborhoods Challenge, India Cycles for Change (IC4C) Challenge, Streets4People Challenge, Placemaking Marathon, Transport4All (T4A) Challenge, EatSmart Cities Challenge, The Urban Learning Internship Program (TULIP), Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework, City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain (CITIIS) Challenge, Climate Centre for Cities, Climate Smart Cities Alliance, Data Maturity Assessment Framework (DMAF) and ICCM Maturity Assessment Framework (IMAF).

To ensure timely completion and tracking the implementation of AMRUT projects, the progress is periodically reviewed & monitored through regular video conferences/ webinars/ workshops/ site-visits etc. by MoHUA with the States/UTs & their ULBs. There are AMRUT and AMRUT 2.0 portals for tracking the progress of projects provided by the States. The Apex Committee constituted under the ambit of Mission guidelines reviews, monitors & supervises the AMRUT Mission periodically. For assessment and monitoring of work done under AMRUT in the States, there is a provision for setting up Independent Review and Monitoring Agencies (IRMAs) in all the States/UTs. Funds are released to the States/UTs upon satisfactory compliance of IRMA reports.
