

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 449
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.11.2024

GROWTH HUBS PROGRAMME

449 SHRI KESINENI SIVANATH:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is working on the City regions as Growth Hubs Programme;
- (b) if so, the details of the cities and regions in the State of Andhra Pradesh that have been selected for the said programme;
- (c) the details of the study conducted along with the progress made in these studies for the regions in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) whether any plan has been prepared to achieve economic targets under the program for the regions of Andhra Pradesh;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether the Government will be utilising this study to make investment decisions in the region of Andhra Pradesh; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

- (a) to (e) NITI Aayog, in 2023, conceived of the Growth Hubs initiative to undertake the development of cities as engines of growth. The approach was to identify city regions going beyond urban boundaries and develop an economic plan based on three key components (i) Economic and Investment plan; (ii) Quality of Life; and (iii) Inclusivity and Sustainability plan. To develop the process template four pilot sites were selected, viz. Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), Varanasi, Surat and Vishakhapatnam which were positioned as the centres of the economic region. In each Economic Region, specific economic plans have been developed on the basis of a 5-stage

process, viz. (i) As-is-diagnostic, (ii) SWOT, Endowments & Capability analysis, (iii) Economic Visioning, (iv) Selection of key economic growth drivers and (v) Implementation Framework. The project report presents specific interventions by way of key projects and policy prescriptions. The initiative is a state-led programme where NITI Aayog closely works with respective State Governments and knowledge partners. In case of Andhra Pradesh, the Visakhapatnam Economic Region (VER) has been selected for the said programme, which includes seven other districts, viz. Anakapalle, Vizianagarm, Srikakulam, Parvathipuram Manyam, Alluri Sitharama Raju, Kakinada and East Godavari for preparation of the economic plan.

(f) & (g) The economic plan for VER will *inter-alia* include projects for implementation.
