

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3302  
TO BE ANSWERED ON MARCH 20, 2025**

**URBAN CHALLENGE FUND**

**NO. 3302.            SHRI SELVAGANAPATHI T.M.:**

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up an Urban Challenge Fund of Rupees one lakh crore to implement the proposals for cities as growth hubs, creative redevelopment of cities and water and sanitation facilities and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government also proposes to set up a National Geospatial Mission to develop foundational geospatial infrastructure and data and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether it is a fact that the said mission would facilitate the modernization of land records, urban planning and the design of infrastructure projects; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

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

**(a) To give boost to the Urban Infrastructure sector, in the Budget 2025-26, Government has announced setting up of Urban Challenge Fund of ₹1 lakh crore to implement the proposals for 'Cities as Growth Hubs', 'Creative Redevelopment of Cities' and 'Water and Sanitation'.**

**This fund finances up to 25 per cent of the cost of bankable projects with a stipulation that at least 50 per cent of the cost is funded from bonds, bank loans, and Public Private Partnerships.**

**...2/-**

**(b) to (d) Department of Science & Technology has informed that National Geospatial Mission has been announced in Union Budget 2025-26 with an outlay of ₹100 Crores to develop foundational geospatial infrastructure and data. Digital Elevation Model (DEM) is one of the components for the creation of robust geospatial infrastructure. This is in alignment with the National Geospatial Policy, 2022 which envisages to develop a high-resolution topographical survey & mapping system and a high accuracy DEM.**

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