

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 898  
TO BE ANSWERED ON DECEMBER 04, 2025**

**EMPOWERMENT OF URBAN STAFF FOR BETTER CITY  
PLANNING MANAGEMENT**

**NO. 898. SMT. BIJULI KALITA MEDHI:**

**Will the Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs be pleased to state:**

- (a) the manner in which the Government envisions the future of urban staff working in harmony with advanced smart city technologies; and**
- (b) the details of specific programmes aimed at promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women in urban planning roles?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) & (b): Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) is implementing Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), which was launched on 25 June 2015. Smart elements, components and technologies are part of AMRUT projects and this aims to promote sustainable urban development. AMRUT guidelines provides for smart elements such as Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) as part of the water supply and sewerage projects. As reported by States/UTs 258 Water supply projects and 146 Sewerage projects have been implemented with SCADA.**

**Technology Sub-Mission is an important component of AMRUT 2.0 to encourage start-up ideas and private entrepreneurship and commissioning them into the pilot projects. As reported by States/UTs under AMRUT 2.0, 1,415 water supply projects, 246 Sewerage projects are approved with SCADA.**

**MoHUA is supporting States/ Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in capacity building activities through various Schemes of the Ministry such as Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), for improving the capacities of ULB functionaries, elected representatives, etc., which includes all sections of the society including women. Under AMRUT, against the target of 45000 functionaries, 57134 functionaries have already been trained so far.**

**Under AMRUT 2.0, capacity building programs are conducted for all stakeholders including contractors, plumbers, plant operators, students, women and citizens.**

**MoHUA has designated 4 Institutes in different regions as Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Urban Planning and Design, which inter alia impart certified trainings/ certified courses to Civil Servants, State Town Planners, Municipal Officials, practitioners/professionals, young students etc. These centres have been provided endowment funds of ₹ 250 crore each.**

**Besides, MoHUA has also designated 6 institutes as AMRUT Funded Centre of Urban Planning for Capacity Building. The role envisaged for these institutes inter alia include subject specific trainings to Municipal officials/ Town and Country Planning officials, augmenting capacity building of State / Local authorities and hand hold them in urban planning.**

**MoHUA promotes gender sensitive and inclusive urban planning. Under AMRUT 2.0, Ministry has also launched AMRUT Mitra initiative which involves women Self Help Groups (SHGs) in water demand management, water quality testing, water infrastructure operations, and other water sectoral projects. In convergence with NULM, Women SHGs have led tree plantation drives in urban areas through AMRUT Mitra initiative under AMRUT 2.0. Women SHGs have been involved in site identification, plantation of saplings, and maintenance for survivability of plants. So far, 6,094 projects worth ₹377.81 crore have been approved under AMRUT Mitra.**

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