

(b) Ludhiana has been selected as a Smart City in Round 1 of the Challenge. Amritsar and Jalandhar have participated in Round 2 of the Challenge. If they make the grade, they will be declared as Smart Cities according to Mission Guidelines.

**Extension in tenure of deputation of officials abroad**

†\*123. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of officers who are, presently, on deputation in foreign countries;
- (b) the number of such officers who stayed beyond the stipulated period in foreign countries in the last three years; and
- (c) the main reasons for extending the tenure of deputations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) As per the available information, 291 officers are on deputation on posts/assignments in foreign countries. Five officers, whose approved tenure ended during the last three financial years, have overstayed without the approval of the competent authority.

(c) Extension in deputation of tenure may be allowed to officers to align their tenure with the end of the academic session of their children and/or functional requirement.

**AMRUT scheme in Rajasthan**

†\*124. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme;
- (b) the districts of Rajasthan where this scheme has been launched;
- (c) whether the State Government has submitted a proposal to include Sardar Shaher, Makarana, Barmer, Banswara and Karauli cities of Rajasthan under AMRUT scheme; and
- (d) if so, by when Government would consider the proposal and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M .VENKAIAH NAIDU):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.