

Rating of cities by JCCD

2534. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of recent survey in urban governance affecting public service and quality of life undertaken by Janaagrah Centre for Citizenship and Democracy (JCCD);

(b) whether the score of Indian cities based upon the survey ranges from 2.1 to 4.4 whereas London and New York scores 9.3 to 9.8 on the same parameters;

(c) if so, the Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) the remedial measures Government proposes to initiate to address the flaws pointed out in the prevailing municipal governance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (RAOINDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the Annual Survey of India City Systems, 2016 brought out by Janaagrah Centre for Citizenship and Democracy, a Non-Government organisation based in Bengaluru.

(c) and (d) The Government is seized of the various issues facing the urban sector in the country and is addressing them through policy and programme initiatives.

Participation of Japan in developing smart cities

†2535. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Japan proposes to participate in developing smart cities in the country;

(b) if so, whether it would also be a partner in developing Smart Cities in Gujarat; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (RAOINDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Government of Japan/Japanese Agencies have indicated their interest for cooperation in developing Smart Cities. Based on their interest, names of Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh and Surat in Gujarat have been suggested for possible tie up with City of Osaka in Japan.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.