

Delay in implementation of Smart Cities Mission

227. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 8 per cent of the 3,008 projects under Smart Cities Mission has been completed and nearly 2.3 lakh crore rupees have been spent on this project;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the reasons for delay in implementation of the Mission;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many proposed smart cities are facing various challenges, including insufficient funding, delays in creating the Special Purpose Vehicle and lack of interest among different stakeholders; and

(d) if so, Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) A total of 100 cities have been selected for development as Smart Cities. These cities have proposed a total of 5151 projects at an estimated cost of ₹ 2,05,018 crores in ₹ 7,039.61 crores have been completed and 732 projects worth ₹ 28,137.34 crores are under implementation. Further, tendering has started for 436 projects with a cost of ₹ 20,542.01 crores.

The progress of implementation depends on the Round of selection. The 100 cities have been selected over a period of three years starting from the first Round in January 2016 and ending with the fourth round in June 2018. After selection of a city, activities like incorporation of Special Purpose Vehicle 4 (SPV), appointment of Project Management Consultants (PMCs), preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), preparation of Request for Proposals (RFPs) have to be completed before the projects can be grounded. These activities take around 15-18 months from the date of selection of a Smart city.

(c) and (d) Out of 100 Smart cities selected, 95 have already incorporated SPVs. The others are in the process of creating SPVs. No problem related to insufficient funding or lack of interest among various stakeholders has been received from any State/UT. Handholding support is being provided to Smart Cities for resolution of any issues being faced by them in implementation of the Mission.