

**Use of substandard materials by CPWD Contractors**

1474. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether substandard materials are used by contractors engaged by CPWD while carrying out upgradation in General Pool and other departmental pools in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has conducted any probe/review of the works done by CPWD contractors during the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has found any shortcoming or corrupt practices in these probe/review;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the names of contractors/officials found guilty in this regard; and

(f) the action taken/being taken by Government against such contractors/officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No. However, regular inspection of upgradation works to check quality aspects is carried out on a continuous basis.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

**Achievement of Smart Cities Mission**

1475. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as per the ambitious Smart Cities Mission statement and guidelines, the duration of the entire Mission would be five years *i.e.* 2015-16 to 2019-20;

(b) whether only 5.2 per cent of the total identified projects under the Mission has been completed in a matter of 2 years utilising a meagre 1.4 per cent of the total envisaged investment of ₹ 1,35,598 crore; and

(c) in what manner Government proposes to complete the rest 94.8 per cent projects utilising the 98.6 per cent of investment during the remaining three years of the Mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) The duration of the Smart Cities Mission is five years i.e. from Financial Year 2015-16 to Financial Year 2019-20. The Mission may be continued thereafter in the light of an evaluation to be done by this Ministry and incorporating the learnings into the Mission.

(b) and (c) Ninety Nine Smart Cities were selected in four Rounds. These cities have planned investment of ₹ 2,03,979 crores. The Smart Cities Mission (SCM) is not business-as-usual Mission and projects have a strong qualitative element. It takes around 15-18 months from the date of selection of a Smart city to call tenders. The progress of implementation depends on the Round of selection. As reported by the cities, 753 projects worth ₹ 24,511.49 crores have been completed or under implementation.

The implementation of the Smart Cities Mission is being done by a city level Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV). Regular monitoring by this Ministry is being done through Video Conference, webinar and meetings at State level alongwith handholding support to speed up preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), calling tenders and implementation on ground.

#### **Launching of liveability index**

1476. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched a Liveability Index to decide the rankings among the major cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof particularly with regard to Assam and North Eastern States;

(c) whether Government has announced some incentives to States which have implemented the urban reforms to the satisfaction of Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has launched a liveability index which will rank the country's 116 major cities, including 10 cities from Assam and North Eastern States, on the basis of the quality of life they offer. The framework includes 79 indicators (57 Core Indicators and 22 Supporting Indicators). These indicators are organised in 15 distinct 'Categories', designed for