

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 150**  
**ANSWERED ON 09/12/2024**

**EXPANDING AND ENHANCING THE SMART CITIES MISSION**

**\*150. SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE:**

**Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Government has conducted or proposes to conduct a third-party assessment of the projects undertaken under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM), and if so, the outcomes and timeline for such an assessment;
- (b) the measures proposed to strengthen city planning and governance in cities with low levels of urban development, and the manner in which the next phase of the Mission aims to address these challenges; and
- (c) the manner in which the next phase of the Mission intends to promote growth in suburban areas, satellite towns, and growth centers around larger cities?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c): The Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION No. 150\* (15<sup>th</sup> POSITION) FOR ANSWER ON 09.12.2024  
REGARDING EXPANDING AND ENHANCING THE SMART CITIES MISSION**

- (a) A study was undertaken by 'Niti Aayog' for 'Evaluation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes in Urban Transformation Sector'. As part of the study, Smart Cities Mission (SCM) was evaluated and the report was published in February 2021. The study concluded that the goals defined and approaches adopted by SCM are well aligned to national priorities set for sustainable urban transformation. Further, SCM is unique in its approach to take on inter-sectoral dependencies and to address them collectively. Thus, the performance of the Mission in terms of its relevance is rated to be satisfactory. SCM has spearheaded several innovative and novel approaches in creating and/ or providing infrastructure, citizen centric services which hitherto had little precedence. As on 15.11.2024, 91% of total projects have been completed under SCM.
- (b) & (c) It is pertinent to mention here, that Land' and 'Colonization' are State subjects. Further, as per the 12th Schedule of Indian Constitution (Article 243W), Urban Planning including Town Planning is the responsibility of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)/ Urban Development Authorities. However, Government of India views the high urbanization rate as an opportunity towards aspirations of faster economic development. Government of India supplements these efforts of the States through schematic interventions/ advisories.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has a multi-pronged approach to ensure planned and comprehensive urban development in the country. In all 4,915 statutory town & cities, issues of cleanliness, housing for all, urban poverty and clean drinking water is being addressed with National urban missions like, "Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM)" for sanitation and hygiene, "Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (PMAY)" for housing for all, "Pradhan Mantri SVANidhi Yojna" and "Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojna-National Urban Livelihood Mission (DAY-NULM)" for urban poverty alleviation, and "Atal Mission for Rejuvenation & Urban Transformation (AMRUT)" for supply of drinking water and sanitation services have been rolled out. Thereafter, 100 cities have been selected under the SCM through Area Based Development & Pan City Solution approaches to incorporate technology in better and faster urban management. Further, to address the challenges of urban mobility, Metro Rail Transit System (MRTS) is also operational in various cities.

At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Central Government to expand or enhance the existing SCM.

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