

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:859  
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012  
DECLARATION OF MEGA CITIES  
Singh Shri Ijyaraj ;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

**Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the criteria followed by the Government for declaration of cities as mega cities;
- (b) whether the Government has received suggestions from various quarters regarding amendment of the said criteria;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the final decision taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the benefits likely to accrue to inhabitants of mega cities after its declaration?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT(SHRI SAUGATA ROY)

(a): Matters relating to Local Government fall under the list of State subjects and Government of India has not fixed any general criteria for conferring mega city status to any city. Cities are classified differently under different schemes. Under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), the major programme of the Ministry, classification followed in the 11th Plan period is given below:-

1. Cities/Urban agglomerations with 4 million plus population (as per 2001 census);
2. Cities/Urban agglomerations with million plus but less than 4 million population (as per 2001 census);
3. Cities/towns/ Urban agglomerations in North Eastern States and Jammu & Kashmir; and
4. Cities/ Urban agglomerations other than those mentioned above.

The erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Infrastructural Development in Mega Cities covered the cities of Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bangalore; however, the scheme stands closed after launching of JNNURM.

(b) to (d): Do not arise