

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5212  
ANSWERED ON:05.04.2017  
Development of Small Towns  
Pathak Smt. Riti

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

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is taking steps for development of small cities/towns so as to check migration of population to big cities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the criteria for classification of big and small cities?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) & (b): Migration is a natural phenomenon related to social and economic development. Population pressure on land, increased opportunities for work, education and a variety of other reasons contribute to migration of population to big cities. Development of cities/towns is a State Subject. Government of India supports the efforts of State Governments by providing technical and financial assistance to States under various schemes & programmes. The Smart City Mission aims to cover 100 cities in the country for improving infrastructure and services including smart solutions and area based development. Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), covering 500 cities of the country having population more than 1 lakh and other identified categories, provides financial assistance to Mission cities for water supply, liquid waste management, development of city parks and non motorized transport. The Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) covers all urban local bodies of the country and provides financial assistance for construction of individual household toilets, community and public toilets and for scientific management of solid waste.

Schemes of Ministry of Rural Development like Mahatama Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) offered assured wage employment to prevent any distress migration.

The Office of Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India, Ministry of Home Affairs categorises the urban centres as follows:

City: Towns with population of 1,00,000 and above are categorized as cities.

Million Plus Cities/ Metropolitan cities: Urban Agglomerations (Uas)/Towns which have a population of one million or above each are known as Million Plus Cities.

Mega Cities: Cities with more than 10 million persons are known as Mega Cities.

Size Class Classification based on population is as follows:

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Class I: 100,000 and more

Class II: 50,000 to 99,999

Class III: 20,000 to 49,999

Class IV: 10,000 to 19,999

Class V: 5,000 to 9,999

Class VI: Less than 5,000

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