F. No. 44 (1)/PF-S/2022-23 (CAPEX) Government of India Ministry of Finance Department of Expenditure (Public Finance - States Division)

North Block, New Delhi. Dated : the 6th April, 2022.

To,

The Chief Secretary, All State Governments, (As per list attached)

Subject: Guidelines on the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment for 2022-23.

Sir/ Madam,

Capital expenditure has a high multiplier effect, enhances the future productive capacity of the economy, and results in a higher rate of economic growth. Therefore, despite the adverse financial position of the Central Government, it was decided to launch a "Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Expenditure" in the financial year 2020-21. Under the scheme, financial assistance was provided to the State Governments in the form of 50-year interest free loan. An amount not exceeding Rs.12,000 crore was earmarked for the Scheme for the financial year 2020-21, and a sum of Rs.11,830.29 crore was released to the States. The Scheme was continued in the year 2021-22 with an allocation of Rs.15,000 crore.

2. In view of the positive response to the Scheme and considering the requests of the State Governments, the Government of India has decided to launch a redesigned and expanded Scheme for the year 2022-23. The Scheme has been named as **"Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2022-23"**. An amount of Rs.1 lakh crore has been allocated for the Scheme. Under the Scheme, financial assistance will be provided to the State Governments in the form of 50-year interest free loan for capital investment projects. The loan provided under the Scheme will be over and above the normal borrowing ceiling allowed to the States for the financial year 2022-23.

3. The Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2022-23 has Seven Parts:

(i) Part-I: An amount of Rs.80,000 crore is earmarked for this Part of the Scheme. This amount has been allocated amongst States in proportion to their share of central taxes & duties as per the award of the 15th Finance Commission. State-wise allocation is given in Annexure-1. Under this Part of the Scheme, States are required to submit capital works proposed to be taken up by them in 2022-23 in the format given in Annexure-2 to the Department of Expenditure (DoE) for approval and release of funds. Projects which are in the PM Gati Shakti Master Plan shall receive priority, wherever appropriate.

- (ii) Part-II (PM Gati Shakti related Expenditure): Part-II of the Scheme is aimed at facilitating PM Gati Shakti related investment in the States. An amount of Rs.5,000 crore is earmarked for Part-II of the Scheme. Additional amount from savings under other Parts of the Scheme may also be reallocated to this Part of the Scheme based on response of the States and utilization of funds. Guidelines for this Part of the Scheme including institutional arrangements to be put in place, guiding principles for selection of projects and suggestive list of eligible categories of projects are given in Annexure-3. States will submit projects proposed to be taken up under this Part of the Scheme to the Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. DPIIT will scrutinize the proposals received from the State Governments and will recommend State-wise list of projects to the DoE for approval and release of funds under this Part of the Scheme.
- (iii) Part-III (PMGSY): An amount of Rs.4,000 crore is earmarked for this Part of the Scheme. This amount is meant for supplemental funding for priority segments of PM Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) including support for the States' share. Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) will identify the priority segments in not more than one fifth of the total number of blocks in the country for providing funds under this Part of the Scheme. The funds may also be given to States under this Part for providing State's share of PMGSY projects in priority blocks. Details of priority segments and guidelines for formulation and submission of project proposals under this Part of the scheme will be issued by the MoRD. States will submit proposals to MoRD which will examine the proposals received from the States and after scrutiny of the same, will recommend the State-wise details of projects identified for funding under the Scheme to DoE. MoRD will also recommend to DoE the release of funds to States for providing State's share for PMGSY projects in the priority blocks.
- (iv) Part-IV (Incentives for Digitization): An amount of Rs.2,000 crore is earmarked for this Part of the Scheme. Under this Part, States will be provided incentive, if they meet the following conditions/reforms:
 - a. Mandatory adoption of Digilocker for all citizen centric services for delivery of certificates and documents.
 - b. Publishing APIs of all online service on API Setu.
 - c. Publish all non personal data on **data.gov.in** as per the provisions of National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy, 2012.
 - d. Promotion of Digital Payments and Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) for all welfare schemes.
 - e. Integrating all online service with UMANG platform.
 - f. Use of Aadhaar for subsidy related schemes.

Eligibility of States to receive incentive will be determined by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and communicated to DoE.

Maximum amount available to a State under this Part of the Scheme will be Rs 200 Crore on "First Come First Served Basis". States will be free to decide the projects of capital investment to be taken up from the incentive amount admissible to them under this Part. The list of projects proposed to be undertaken from incentive fund under this Part of the Scheme, in prescribed format (Annexure-2) may be sent by the State along with their proposal under Part-I of the Scheme. Simultaneously, States will approach MeitY with supporting documents for determination of their eligibility for incentives. On receipt of recommendation from MeitY, DoE will process the projects under this Part for granting approval and release of funds.

- (v) Part-V (Optical Fibre Cable): An amount of Rs.3,000 crore is earmarked for this Part of the Scheme. This amount will be available to States for capital projects on Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) network. Maximum amount of incentive available to a State under this Part of the Scheme is Rs.300 crore on "First Come First Served Basis". Funds will be provided to States under this Part of the Scheme subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:
 - a. Right of Way (RoW) policy/Rules of the State are aligned with the Central Government RoW Policy/Rules
 - b. On boarding of the State on the National RoW portal
 - c. State has no RoW applications pending from TSPs and ISPs beyond 60 days on the date of submission of request for providing funds under this Part of the Scheme.

Eligibility for capital projects on OFC network under this Part the Scheme is as under:

- a. Concerned State Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) (which should be a State Public Sector Unit) should have an appropriate Telecom License/Registration (ISP or IP-1) from the Central Government or the State SPV has a valid Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) under the Bharatnet State- led Model.
- b. There is no duplication of the existing Bharatnet project in setting up OFC network. Existing OFC network of Telecom Licensees/Infrastructure Providers/BBNL should be utilized by the State/UT Government, wherever available/feasible.
- c. Funds can be used to extend Bharatnet to Villages from the GPs covered as at present for Last Mile Connectivity (LMC) on the OFC to Government Institutions (like School, Health Centre, Anganwadi, Police Station, Krishi Vikash Kendra, Post Office, ration Shop etc.) from Bharat Net network.

States will submit projects proposed to be taken up under this Part of the Scheme to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications, Government of India. DoT will examine the eligibility of the State and scrutinize the proposals received from the State Governments and will recommend Statewise list of projects to DoE for approval and release of funds under this Part of the Scheme.

(vi) Part-VI (Urban Reforms): An amount of Rs.6,000 crore is earmarked for this Part of the Scheme. This amount will be available to States as incentive for undertaking reforms related to Building Byelaws, Town Planning Schemes, Transit Oriented Development, and Transferable Development Rights. Guidelines for this Part of the Scheme are given in Annexure-4.

Eligibility of States to receive incentive under this Part of the Scheme will be determined by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and communicated to DoE. Incentive will be provided on "First Come First Served Basis". States will be free to decide the projects of capital investment to be taken up from the incentive amount admissible to them under this Part. The list of projects proposed to be undertaken from incentive fund under this Part of the Scheme, in prescribed format (Annexure-2) may be sent by the State along with their proposal under Part-I of the Scheme. Simultaneously, States will approach MoHUA with supporting documents for determination of their eligibility for incentive amount. On receipt of recommendation from MoHUA, DoE will process the projects under this Part for granting approval and release of funds.

(vii) Part-VII (Disinvestment and Monetization): This Part of the Scheme aims at providing incentives to State Governments for privatization/disinvestment of the State Public Sector Enterprises (SPSEs) and monetization/recycling of assets. Under this Part, States will be provided additional funds as 50-year interest free loan over and above their allocation/incentives under other Parts of the Scheme. An amount of Rs.5,000 crore is allocated for this Part of the Scheme. Guidelines for this Part of the Scheme are in Annexure-5.

4. **Mandatory conditions:** In order to avail benefits of any Part of the Scheme, in addition to the conditions prescribed under various Parts of the Scheme, a State is required to meet the following mandatory conditions:

- (i) Full compliance with the official name of all Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) [correct translation to local language is permissible] and any guidelines/instructions issued by the Government of India regarding branding of CSSs, in all Schemes of all Ministries.
- (ii) Full compliance of DoE's instructions F.No.1 (13) PFMS/FCD/2020 dated 23.03.2021 regarding the new procedure for release of funds under CSSs.

5. Funds provided to the States under the Scheme by the Government of India shall be used for new and ongoing capital projects, for long term benefit to the State. The funds may also be used for settling pending bills in ongoing capital projects.

6. Project with capital outlay of less than Rs.5 crore (Rs.2 crore for North Eastern States) and repair and maintenance projects irrespective of capital outlay will not be considered under the Scheme.

7. It is not mandatory for the States to submit proposals under all seven Parts of the Scheme together. States may submit proposals separately for each Part of the Scheme.

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8. States (if they wish) may submit projects of a higher value than the funds allocated, indicating their preference/priority.

9. States may also use not more than 5% of the funds allocated under Part-I of the Scheme for contributing State's share for Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) projects. Such proposals may be included in the State's request under Part-I of the Scheme.

10. The Government of India reserves the right to reject any project which, in its opinion, does not have sufficient economic merit in terms of short-term stimulus combined with long-term benefits to the economy.

11. Funds not used by a State within a reasonable time may be reallocated to other States by the Government of India. In case of unavoidable changes in specific projects for which expenditure is sanctioned, State Government shall seek the approval of the Government of India for the change. Funds will not be released against un-approved changes and may be deducted from subsequent instalments / tax devolution, if already released.

12. Expenditure by the States of the funds provided under the Scheme for purposes other than for which the funds were sanctioned, will result in the deduction of the amounts by the Government of India from the devolution of taxes/duties due to the State in subsequent periods. Application of the State for funds under the Scheme will constitute its consent for such deduction in respect of ineligible expenditure.

13. The projects posed by the State Governments may either be executed by Departments of the State or by PSUs or other agencies of the State Governments which are fully under the administrative control of the State Government.

14. The amount released by the Government of India shall be released by the State Government to the Implementing Agencies/Single Nodal Agencies of the State within 10 working days. Delay beyond this period will make the State liable to pay interest to the Government of India on the amount released as per the weighted rate of interest on Open Market Borrowings (i.e. 10 year G-Sec.) for the previous year. State will submit a fund transfer certificate in the proforma given in **Annexure-6** showing dates of receipt and transfer of funds.

15. The State Government shall ensure that there is no duplication in funding of the projects approved under the Scheme either with the funds provided by the Government of India or the State Government.

16. Under Part-I of the Scheme, funds for approved projects will be released by the Department of Expenditure in two installments. The 1st installment of 50% of the amount approved will be released on approval of the list of projects submitted by the State. Remaining 50% will be released as the 2nd installment on submission of Utilization Certificate in Form 12-B of the GFR, 2017, duly signed by the State Finance Secretary, of at least 75% of the amount released in the 1st installment. In case of remaining Parts, funds will be released in one instalment.

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17. The Utilization Certificate for the amount utilized upto 31.03.2022, in the Form 12-B of the GFRs, 2017 for the amount initially released as the 1st installment in 2021-22, and the 2nd installment in 2021-22 under Part-I to Part-III and Additional Allocations under the Scheme, as the case may be, duly signed by the Finance Secretary of State Government will be provided by the State Government failing which equivalent amount will be deducted from the 1st installment of funds released to the State under the Scheme for "Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment, 2022-23".

18. It is a condition of the Scheme that all amounts allocated under Part-I to Part-VII of the Scheme shall be spent on eligible expenditure before 31.03.2023. For this purpose, release of funds to intermediate agencies without actual payments to the final recipient (parking of funds) will not be treated as expenditure.

19. Decision of the DoE regarding eligibility for any component shall be final.

20. States shall extend necessary support to the NITI Aayog or any other agency entrusted by the Government of India with monitoring and evaluation of projects funded under the Scheme as needed.

This issues with the approval of Finance Minister.

Yours faithfully

(Deependra Kumar) Director (PF-S) Tel: 011-23094904

Encl : As above.

State wise allocation under Part-I of the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment, 2022-23

S. No.	State	Devolution (%)	Amount Allocated (Rs. in crore)	
1	Andhra Pradesh	4.047	3,238	
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1.757	1,406	
3	Assam	3.128	2,502	
4	Bihar	10.058	8,046	
5	Chhattisgarh	3.407	2,726	
6	Goa	0.386	309	
7	Gujarat	3.478	2,782	
8	Haryana	1.093	874	
9	Himachal Pradesh	0.83	664	
10	Jharkhand	3.307	2,646	
11	Karnataka	3.647	2,918	
12	Kerala	1.925	1,540	
13	Madhya Pradesh	7.85	6,280	
14	Maharashtra	6.317	5,054	
15	Manipur	0.716	573	
16	Meghalaya	0.767	614	
17	Mizoram	0.5	400	
18	Nagaland	0.569	455	
19	Odisha	4.528	3,622	
20	Punjab	1.807	1,446	
21	Rajasthan	6.026	4,821	
22	Sikkim	0.388	310	
23	Tamil Nadu	4.079	3,263	
24	Telangana	2.102	1,682	
25	Tripura	0.708	566	
26	Uttar Pradesh	17.939	14,351	
27	Uttarakhand	1.118	894	
28	West Bengal	7.523	6,018	
	Total	100.00	80,000	

Annexure-2

[Para 3(i), 3(iv), 3(vi)]

Application format for providing requisite details of the Projects (Summarized)

Letter No:
То,
The Secretary, Expenditure
Ministry of Finance,
Government of India.

Subject: Approval of projects under the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment, 2022-23.

Sir,

With reference to your letter F. No. 44(1)/PF-S/2022-23 (CAPEX) dated, we would like to submit the following projects under the aforesaid scheme.

SI.	Name of the Project	Type of Project	Sector	Location	Whether New or Ongoing	In case of ongoing		Capital				
						Percentage completion	Unpaid bill (if any)	Outlay (Rs. in Crore)	Completion Period	Implementing Agency	Economic Justification (in brief)	Other Details (if any)
1.												
2.												
3.												
			T	otal								

Note: Detailed Project Report (DPR) in respect of each project should be obtained by the State Government and kept in its record.

Yours sincerely

Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary Finance Department, Government of

Date:..../.../

Guidelines on Part-II of the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment, 2022-23 (PM Gati Shakti related investment):

1. Institutional Arrangement/Policy Formulation:

For alignment with PM Gati Shakti framework, States are advised to ensure following institutional arrangement/policy environment

- Updation of required data layers on PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP) including land revenue maps
- ii. Formulation of State Logistics Policy
- iii. Creation of administrative structures i.e. Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS), Network Planning Group and Technical Support Unit.

2. Guiding Principles for Selection of Projects:

States are advised to adopt the following guiding principles for selection of projects:

- i. Impact on logistics efficiency, resilience, sustainability and reliability
- ii. Integrated approach to planning
- iii. Unity for economic clusters
- iv. Critical connectivity projects useful for faster movement of goods

3. Eligible Categories of Projects

Suggestive list of eligible categories of capital investment projects which can be funded from this Part of the scheme is as under:

- i. Development of nodes like ICDs, CFS, warehousing, multimodal or uni modal logistics parks, modern aggregation centres, etc.
- ii. Critical connectivity infrastructure for providing last and first mile connectivity to industrial parks, economic zones.
- iii. Inter-connected infrastructure for attaining multimodal connectivity.
- iv. Development of city logistics plan.
- v. Digital support including data monitoring centres at State level for monitoring freight flows.

- vi. Setting up of PM Gati Shakti data centres.
- vii. Development of new industrial parks including land acquisition.
- viii. Connectivity projects for cargo terminals being developed by M/o Railways.
- ix. Connectivity projects to ensure 24x7 freight flow in the State.

4. Procedure:

States are required to prepare annual action plan which will be appraised by the State Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS). State EGoS will have a nominee from Logistic Division of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India to ensure that projects in annual action plan are in line with the spirit of PM Gati Shakti NMP.

Guidelines on Part-VI of the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment, 2022-23 (Urban Reforms)

Six reforms have been identified for implementation by the States/UTs in the urban areas. While these reforms are individually effective, implementing them in combination creates a synergy. For example, building byelaws can be amended to promote affordable housing in the TOD zones, by using the extra FSI available through the TDR mechanism. Therefore, the States/UTs are highly encouraged to fully implement all the reforms to derive maximum benefit out of it. These reforms are:

- i. Modernizing of Building Bye-Laws
- ii. Adoption of Transferrable Development Rights (TDR)
- iii. Implementation of Town Planning Scheme (TPS) and Local Area Plans (LAP)
- iv. Implementation of Transit Oriented Development
- v. Creation of Sponge Cities
- vi. Removing Taxation for running the buses for public transport

2. The maximum amount of incentive available under the Scheme to different group of States will be as under:-

Group-I (Rs.1000 crore)		Group-II (Rs.700 crore)	Group-III (Rs.500 crore)	Group-IV (Rs.100 crore)		
	t					
i)	Maharashtra	i) Madhya Pradesh	i) Haryana	i) Tripura		
ii)	Uttar Pradesh	ii) Rajasthan	ii) Odisha	ii) Himachal Pradesh		
iii)	Tamil Nadu	iii) Andhra Pradesh	iii) Chhattisgarh	iii) Manipur		
iv)	Gujarat	iv) Bihar	iv) Kerala	iv) Mizoram		
V)	Karnataka	v) Telangana	v) Jharkhand	v) Nagaland		
vi)	West Bengal	vi) Punjab	vi) Assam	vi) Goa		
			vii) Uttarakhand	vii) Meghalaya		
				viii) Arunachal Pradesh		
				ix) Sikkim		

3. Of the reforms identified above, successful implementation of the first reform, 'Modernising of Building Bye-Laws shall make a State/UT eligible for availing 20% of the maximum amount of incentive. Achievement of each of the remaining five reforms will make State/ UT eligible for availing 15% of the maximum amount of incentive. Implementation of any three out of the five remaining reforms shall make the State eligible to avail 80% of the maximum amount of incentive. Since grants will be released

during 2022-23, reforms have to be implemented by 15th October, 2022 so that the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs can examine the claims and send its recommendations to the Department of Expenditure by 30.11.2022 for approval of the capital projects to be taken up by the State from the incentive amount.

4. Details of the reforms to be undertaken by State to become eligible for incentive are as under:-

i) Modernisation of Building Bye-Laws:

The States / UTs to review and amend their respective Bye-laws to eliminate provisions that restrict development or that are internally inconsistent. The provisions related to FSI, setback, permissible height, ground coverage etc. need to be scrutinized and provisions that irrationally restrict the development of land shall be ironed out. As a result of this, it is expected that the land parcels in the cities shall be more developable and at the city level the overall land use efficiency will improve.

The process of building plan approval shall also be reformed by doing away with unnecessary clearances and NOCs while availing construction permit. The process of building plan approval shall be converted online and all the NOC agencies shall be seamlessly integrated. This will result in a transparent and efficient process of building plan approval.

Provisions related to construction of affordable housing shall also be amended as a Part of the reform. Under this, additional FSI shall be permitted for promotion of affordable housing upto the built-up area of 60 sq m (EWS + LIG). The additional FSI available for construction of affordable housing may be provided with minimum premium/ no premium as against other uses. Byelaws may be amended to particularly densify the transit corridor by granting of additional FSI for construction of affordable housing for example 350 houses per hectare.

Amending the Building Bye- Laws to create additional built-up areas which shall facilitate resource generation to ULBs and UDAs.

Steps to be taken

States/UTs need to amend their Building Bye Laws through notifications to ensure:

- Removing contradictions with respect to margin and ground coverage
- Differential building bye laws for promotion of affordable housing, especially upto 60 sq mts.
- Revenue generation through enhanced FSI
- Implement OBPS by eliminating physical submissions of building plans.
- Reducing NOCs and procedures through BPR defining service level benchmarks

 Clear amendments
- Innovative Provisions for e.g. for in-situ slum redevelopment, heritage conservation, public space making mandatory for 0.1 million cities.
- Any other step deemed progressive by MoHUA.

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ii). Adoption of Transferrable Development Rights (TDR):

The State /UT to adopt a well formulated TDR policy at the State Level in order to provide incentives to areas where development for a particular reason or to provide compensation for contribution of land for public realm of the city. The TDR policy of identifying sending zones and receiving zones, with a clear mechanism at the receiving zone about how to take the additional volume of built up space.

The TDR policy can be applied for Heritage Conservation zones, contribution of private land for public realm, water body conservation and rejuvenation, In-situ slum redevelopment projects, plan for Affordable Housing (RAH) zones or any other innovative outcome. The TDR trading shall be facilitated through an online platform for assigning and trade of TDR.

The State/UT shall mainstream the use of the TDR policy in Urban Planning, and Undertake Capacity Building programmes to use this policy in planning, with assistance. This will lead to conservation of areas with heritage, ecological value etc. and help in redevelopment of slum areas by partnering with private sector. All the million plus cities shall be eligible for framing of TDR policy and receiving of the concomitant share of funds.

Steps to be taken

- State/City to notify the TDR policy
- Metro system cities and cities with population above 5,00,000 to designate transit corridors – for e.g. 200 mts on either side of transit or area around stations/bus stops.
- Enabling byelaws to be adopted for densification of transit corridors
- Enhanced FAR to be leveraged for resource generation to ULBs which can be ploughed back for infrastructure augmentation as urban infra fund.

iii) <u>Implementation of Town Planning Scheme (TPS) and Local Area Plans</u> (LAP):

The State/UTs shall take up development in greenfield areas for planned urban expansion through TPS and promote urban improvement in brownfield areas by increase in public realm and improvement in infrastructure through the mechanism of Local Area Plan. Both these mechanisms of micro planning require legal amendments in the respective State Town and Country Planning Act and training and capacity building of the officials in planning and implementation of LAP and TPS. Under the reform, not less than 5% land shall be reserved for EWS and social housing.

TPS promotes orderly urban expansion, creates supply of serviced land, improves land markets and generates finance for ULB/DA by creation of land banks. LAP facilitates rejuvenation of the city centres, making areas more liveable, boost economic opportunities and makes urban areas disaster resilient. Preparation of LAP can also be combined with TDR.

• States/UTs to amend their Town and Country Planning Acts to enable the preparation of Town Planning Scheme (TPS) and Local Area Plans (LAP)

 States /UTs to demonstrate the LAP-TPS readiness within 8-9 months, start implementation of one Scheme of TPS/LAP in 25 percent of cities with population above 1 lakh by 15th October, 2022.

iv) Implementation of Transit Oriented Development (ToD):

Under this reform States/UTs shall come up with their respective ToD Policy on the lines of National ToD Policy. The reform will encourage the cities to incorporate provision of ToD in the Master/Development Plans so as to make it legally implementable. Actions under ToD shall include prescribing of enhanced FSI, promotion of mixed land use, rationalising private parking requirements, planning of parks and gardens, integrated planning of NMT infrastructure especially the bicycle track. ToD integrates land use and transport planning to develop compact growth centres within the influence corridor/zone. The planning shall ensure mixed land use along the transit corridor with provision for affordable housing and integrate livelihood with transit through vending zones.

ToD will lead to increased land use efficiency, densification, reduced carbon footprint, promote mixed land use and creation of additional built up space without the need for urban expansion. All the million plus cities shall be eligible for framing of ToD policy.

Steps to be taken

- State/City need to delineate the Transit Corridor/zone.
- State/City to specify the width of the transit corridor
- Transit corridor to be notified and enabling Building Regulations.
- ToD to facilitate densification and affordable housing with improved accessibility and connectivity

v) <u>Creation of Sponge Cities</u>:

There has been increased frequency of extreme flooding events in many areas and a shortage of clean, drinkable water, often in those same places. A Sponge City is one that has the capacity to mainstream urban water management into urban planning policies and designs. The general objectives of the concept entail restoring the city's capacity to absorb, infiltrate, store, purify, drain, and manage rainwater and regulate the water cycle as much as possible to mimic the natural hydrological cycle.

Under this reform, the State/UT is expected to employ appropriate planning, legal, technological frameworks and tools to implement, maintain, and adapt the infrastructure systems to collect, store, and treat and save rainwater. Broadly, the objective of the sub-Scheme is to enable the State Governments to formulate the City Master Plan, Integrated Water Management Plan, along with all other relevant sectoral plans including innovative methods/systems, towards achieving the Sponge City goal of retaining and reusing storm water.

The concept of Sponge City is based on water retention and conservation by using water retention methods such as Green Streets, Bio-swale, Water channelizing to Wetlands and groundwater recharge. The Master Plan for Sponge City is expected to be complemented with a Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) document.

Steps to be taken

- All cities of the State with population above 1,00,000 prepare a holistic water bodies rejuvenation plan.
- Cities to prepare DPR and tender and start work in atleast 20 % of total of water bodies by 15th October, 2022.
- City to prepare, Integrated Water Management Plan to ascertain the status of ground water recharge vis-à-vis ground water extraction.
- Cities to ensure water policy enabling judicious use of ground water and surface water.

vi) Removing Taxation for Running Bus for Public Transport:

The States/UTs are expected to undertake amendments in the respective State acts to exempt the city buses of cities from the payment of Road Tax. These taxes are paid to the State Transport Department and collected by the Road Transport Office (RTO) of the respective district. The exemption of these taxes shall reduce the per annum running cost of these buses and hence make the system more financially viable. The benefits of lower operational cost may also result in lower fares.

Steps to be taken

- Framing of fiscal policies to reduce tax burden on public transport.
- Abolishing/substantial reduction in Stage Carriage Tax for State Public Transport Undertaking.

Reducing the difference in Motor Vehicle Tax rates across States.

Guidelines on Part-VII of the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment, 2022-23 (Disinvestment of SPSEs and Monetization of Assets)

- Incentives to States will be provided under this Part of the Scheme for disinvestment of State Public Sector Enterprises (SPSEs) as well as for monetization/recycling of assets of States and of SPSEs
- 2. For this purpose, SPSE means an organisation where majority ownership and management control are exercised by the State Government or State and Central Governments together and the organisation is subject to audit jurisdiction of the Comptroller and Auditor General.
- 3. Asset monetization/recycling is the sale of an asset, or transfer of an asset with operation and maintenance responsibility for a long term duration, against an upfront payment, to return the capital to invest in new assets or revitalize existing assets.
- 4. Disinvestment of State PSEs: Incentives to States under the Scheme will be available both for disinvestment of minority stakes in SPSEs as well as privatization (strategic sale) of SPSEs.

(a) Disinvestment through minority stake sale in SPSEs:

In case of disinvestment of SPSEs through sale of minority stake, the States will be given additional allocation equivalent to 50% of the amount realized from such sale after 31.03.2022 and by 31.03.2023 and deposited in the Consolidated Fund of the State.

(b) Listing of SPSEs and disinvestment of minority stake through stock exchanges:

In case the State lists the SPSEs after 31.03.2022 and by 31.03.2023 in any of the stock exchanges by offering its shares for sale as per the Regulations issued by Securities and Exchange Board of India in this regard or offers for sale the shares of SPSEs already listed in any of the stock exchanges, the State will be given additional allocation under the Scheme equivalent to 66% of the amount realized from such sale and deposited in the Consolidated Fund of the State.

(c) Privatization (strategic disinvestment) of State PSEs:

Privatization (strategic disinvestment) means sale of more than 50% of the equity in SPSEs along with transfer of management control after 31.03.2022 and by 31.03.2023. The incentive for strategic disinvestment will be higher. In such cases, the State will be given additional allocation under the Scheme equivalent to 100% of the amount realized from privatization and deposited in the Consolidated Fund of the State.

(d) Asset monetization/ recycling:

Monetization of assets unlocks their value, eliminates their holding cost and enables scarce public funds to be deployed to new projects. As an incentive for State Governments to monetize assets, additional allocation equivalent to 50% of the realized value of assets deposited after 31.03.2022 and by 31.03.2023 either in the State Consolidated Fund or in the account of State Public Sector Enterprise(SPSE) owning the assets, will be provided under the scheme. Illustrative list of assets that may be monetized is as under:

- Roads,
- Ports,
- Airports,
- Bus terminals,
- Metro rail assets,
- Desalination plants,
- Other infrastructure assets etc. subject to approval by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.

The amount realized by the State/SPSEs from monetization/recycling of assets under Part 4 (d) should be used by the State/SPSE concerned on capital expenditure only. The expenditure plan and list of projects should also be submitted to the Department of Expenditure along with list of projects to be taken up from incentive fund.

- 5. Other conditions for approval of projects and releases of funds under Part-VII of the Scheme as under:
 - The funds will be provided on "First-come First-served" basis subject to availability of funds.
 - (ii) Incentive to a State will ordinarily be limited to Rs.1,000 crore.

Annexure-6 [Para 14]

Format for Details of Funds Transfer to the Implementing Agencies of the State

- 1. Name of the State:
- 2. Sanction Order No. and Date:
- 3. Date of Receipt of the Funds:
- 4. Transfer of Funds to the Implementing Agencies of the State:

SI. No.	Name of Implementing Agency	Amount Approved	Amount Released	Date of Release	
1.					
2.					
3.				the second s	

5. Nature of Documentary Proof in respect of Transfer of Funds to the Implementing Agencies of the State:

(i) (ii)

(iii)

(....)

Signature: Designation: Seal: (For Principal Secretary, Finance), State Government of.....