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HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

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RURAL URBAN TRANSITION POLICY (RUTP) 2023- (Revised)

Chapter I — Background on Odisha's urbanization trajectory

Introduction

Odisha is experiencing a steady shift from a predominantly rural economy toward a more urbanized demographic and economic structure. Currently, only **17 percent** of the state's population resides in urban areas, but this figure is projected to increase significantly over the coming decades as industrialization, service-sector growth, and migration accelerate. Recognizing this trend, the Government of Odisha has articulated its long-term development strategies and roadmap through **Vision 2036 and Vision 2047**, which identify urbanization as a central driver of inclusive and sustainable growth.

India's urban transition is unfolding at an unprecedented pace, with the urban population projected to rise from 31 percent in 2011 to nearly 50 percent by 2047, making urbanization a key driver of economic growth, infrastructure development, and social transformation. This rapid shift demands policies that balance inclusivity, sustainability, and resilience, as unplanned expansion often leads to infrastructure stress, inequities, and governance challenges. On the other side Odisha reflects this national trend in its own trajectory, where only 17 percent of the population is currently urbanized, the state aims to reach this figure to 40 percent by 2036. Peri-urban areas, which represent transitional spaces between rural and urban systems, are particularly important during this process. They are emerging as hotspots of population growth and economic activity but often lack the institutional capacity and infrastructure of established urban centers. Guided by Vision 2036, Odisha aims to anticipate these changes and proactively manage the rural-urban transition to ensure orderly growth and improved quality of life for its citizens.

The proposed policy seeks to address existing gaps in governance and planning by establishing a structured framework for managing urbanization in peri-urban areas. It emphasizes a systematic approach that anticipates growth, ensures timely provision of infrastructure and services, and creates institutional mechanisms to guide the orderly transition of these emerging settlements into well-governed urban centers.

Need for a Rural–Urban Transition Policy

The formulation of a structured Rural–Urban Transition Policy is imperative to guide and manage Odisha’s evolving spatial and economic landscape. The policy must address the multidimensional challenges arising from rapid urbanization, peri-urban growth, financing gaps, and the imperative of inclusive and sustainable development.

- 1. Strengthening Urban Governance amidst Rapid Expansion:** The unprecedented pace of urban growth is exerting significant pressure on Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to provide adequate infrastructure and services. In the absence of a coordinated policy framework, urban areas face risks of unplanned sprawl, proliferation of informal settlements, and declining service quality. A clearly articulated transition policy is essential to ensure that urban expansion is systematically managed, efficient, and sustainable.
- 2. Integrating Peri-Urban Areas through Cohesive Governance:** Peri-urban zones often experience administrative overlaps between rural and urban jurisdictions, leading to fragmented planning, service delivery gaps, and governance ambiguities. A dedicated policy will facilitate institutional coordination, define governance responsibilities, and enable the seamless integration of peri-urban areas into formal urban systems through spatial and regulatory alignment.
- 3. Mobilizing Sustainable and Innovative Financing Mechanisms:** The scale of infrastructure investment required for urban transformation cannot be met through traditional public funding alone. The policy should promote diversified and innovative financing instruments such as the convergence of Central and State schemes, municipal bonds, public–private partnerships (PPPs), and access to external and multilateral funding sources to ensure fiscal sustainability and financial resilience.
- 4. Ensuring Social Inclusion and Equity in Urban Transformation:** The transition from rural to urban systems must prioritize inclusivity and equity. The policy should ensure that low-income households, migrant workers, and other vulnerable groups benefit equitably from urban development through improved access to housing,

livelihoods, and essential services, thereby preventing social exclusion and spatial inequality.

- 5. Embedding Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resilience:** Urban expansion must be aligned with environmental sustainability and climate resilience objectives. The policy should promote green infrastructure, resource efficiency, and low-carbon development pathways to safeguard natural ecosystems, reduce vulnerability to climate risks, and foster sustainable urban growth.

Approach for Odisha’s Rural-Urban Transition Policy

Establish a Clear Policy and Institutional Framework

The first step is to define a comprehensive statewide rural-urban transition policy, rooted in Vision 2036 & 2047. It should outline principles of inclusivity, sustainability, and resilience while setting measurable urbanization targets. A dedicated **Taskforce Cell** shall be created within the Housing and Urban Development Department (HUDD) to coordinate policy implementation, supported by inter-departmental committees to ensure alignment between rural and urban agencies.

Develop a Peri-Urban Growth Monitoring System

Given the importance of peri-urban areas as transitional zones, a robust monitoring mechanism must be established. This involves using satellite imagery, GIS-based mapping, census data, and local surveys to track demographic shifts, land-use changes, and service delivery gaps. Early identification of high-growth clusters will allow for targeted interventions, preventing unplanned sprawl and ensuring infrastructure development keeps pace with demand.

Strengthen Local Governance and Institutional Capacity

Smooth transition requires empowering both Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to manage evolving responsibilities. Capacity building programs should focus on urban planning, financial management, digital governance, and service delivery. Special transition guidelines for peri-urban areas can clarify jurisdictional overlaps.

Mobilize Sustainable Financing Mechanisms

Urbanization on the scale envisioned—rising from 17% to 40% urban population by 2036—requires substantial financial resources. Odisha must diversify financing beyond state budgets by adopting public–private partnerships (PPPs), municipal bonds, pooled financing facilities, and external donor assistance. A State Urban Infrastructure Development Fund shall be created to channel resources toward priority projects,

particularly in sanitation, water supply, transport, and housing. Financial incentives for green and climate-resilient projects will also attract private participation.

Integrate Inclusive and Climate-Resilient Planning

To ensure equity and sustainability, urban planning must integrate both social inclusion and climate resilience. Policies should guarantee affordable housing, access to healthcare, education, and livelihoods for migrant workers, low-income households, and vulnerable groups. At the same time, Odisha's planning codes should embed green building standards, sustainable mobility systems, renewable energy integration, and climate-resilient infrastructure. This dual focus will ensure that urban growth is not only economically viable but also environmentally sound and socially just.

Chapter II — Odisha's Proposal for Systematic Urbanisation of Peri-Urban Areas

1. Goal of the Policy

Odisha Government proposes to initiate a policy with the goal of providing a systematic response for peri-urban areas which are at present governed by Gram Panchayats, to be absorbed or re-defined as 'urban areas' without any abrupt change and in a manner that empowers all related stakeholders. For this purpose, the Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUDD), Government of Odisha is proposing this policy to support the development of peri-urban areas through a comprehensive plan that seeks to provide urban level of services and infrastructure during the transition phase to these selected areas in a systematic manner.

This future-looking and aspirational policy is tied to Odisha Government's objective of transforming the lives of more than 7 million people across its 115 towns and cities. The government has consistently worked towards improving urban infrastructure and services, livelihoods and participatory governance through various schemes and missions such as — the PMAY(U), Adarsh Colonies development, and MSBY, GARIMA and SUJAL (Drink from Tap) schemes for improvement of drinking water and sanitation facilities as well as building safe and inclusive public spaces.

Underlying all the development works and schemes, the Odisha Government has consistently followed the principle of equitable growth for all. In line with this foundational principle, the vision of this proposed aspirational policy is to follow a decentralized model of "giving basic services to everyone and leaving no one behind". Through this policy, the Government seeks to transcend rural-urban demarcations, and ensure that every person in the identified areas have access to urban services and infrastructure — with such systems flowing like a water foundation, by cross-cutting boundaries. Based on this approach, it is the vision of the government to upgrade infrastructure and civic services (on

saturation basis) of all identified areas in an equitable manner, with focus on right to city level services and infrastructure for all persons despite their location of residence.

What is a Peri-Urban Area?

Peri-Urban spaces are zones in between or in transition between the notified city spaces and rural spaces. They have three key characteristics:

- i. They are in between the urbanized built up area and the rural landscape and in most cases are experiencing changes in their land use from one dominant form of use to another
- ii. They are prone to governance transitions with established institutions being taken over by new actors which in certain cases causes informal decision-making processes and development
- iii. There exists a two-way flow of commuters/migrants to the city, as well as goods, capital and information being exchanged in both directions.

For the purpose of the following policy, Census Towns and adjoining rural areas to existing Municipalities, Municipal Corporations, and Notified Area Councils would be considered under the broader eligibility framework of peri-urban areas.

2. Rationale

As per Census 2011, Odisha's urban growth has been led to a significant extent by its census towns (37.9 percent). While Census 2011 notes that there are 115 Census Towns, a further 46 Census towns with 0.24 million population has been estimated for 2021. The growth of such areas with characteristics of urban but being governed by village Panchayats, shows the dichotomy of transformation. This policy is also in line with the Ministry of Housing & Urban Government, Government of India's request to State Governments to take steps towards converting Census Towns to Statutory Urban Local Bodies to promote planned urban development,

A flexible policy that would enable the growth of such areas into full-fledged towns and cities, is therefore imperative. Such a policy would also have the benefit of not having to follow a rigid master plan. The challenges of following a master-plan-based approach include:

- i. Since master plans are locked for a period of 20-25 years, it fails to predict the dynamic nature of human settlements.
- ii. It is a theoretical concept based on conventional principles that are largely disconnected from the changing socio-economic conditions of urban areas
- iii. Lack of coordination with economic plans exists since most master plans do not consider location specific sectoral outlays and economic growth potential

- iv. The edges of urban boundaries are not included in the planning process, which not only causes concern for rural-urban linkages but also leads to unplanned growth (such as the Lai-Dora or Abadi lands of Delhi)
- v. The master plans are not congruent with the resources of Local Authorities and therefore suffer from financial budgeting challenges
- vi. Master plans do not explicitly include economically weaker sections in planning — for instance, slum areas are mostly deprived of essential services and right to land in such planning systems
- vii. There exists a mismatch between the land earmarked for development and the realistic growth opportunities from such areas
- viii. The master planning approach has potential for the misalignment of roles and responsibilities of governing bodies, particularly for peri-urban, urban villages and adjoining rural areas

Hence, this policy seeks to circumvent the above challenges by supporting the peri-urban areas and working with the communities and local governance structures, before they transition to full-fledged towns and cities.

3. Objectives

The larger objectives envisaged under this policy are:

1. Aiding in the systematic transformation of peri-urban areas from being governed by rural local bodies to urban bodies
2. Bridging the existing divides between the peri-urban area and proposed urban area (either Notified Area Council/Municipality/Municipal Corporation) with respect to gaps in infrastructure, facilities, and services
3. Strengthening governance mechanisms to enable peri-urban areas to transform into urban areas with minimal financial and administrative hassles

4. Principles of the Policy

The principles around this policy would focus on:

- 1. Enabling supportive governance mechanisms to facilitate the shift of rural to urban areas**
 - i. The identified peri-urban areas would be absorbed into adjoining urban local body or transitioned to an independent ULB.
 - ii. The definitional change will only take place when the existing political council term ends.

- iii. Urban level of services and infrastructure would be provided to such peri urban areas (at present governed by Gram Panchayats) in a phased manner during the transition period

2. Systematic provision of high-quality urban infrastructure and services to peri-urban areas

- i. The State Government would start providing services and infrastructural support even before the peri-urban or rural area formally transitions to an 'urban' area
- ii. HUDD would liaison with the defined rural or peri-urban areas to understand and plug the existing gaps
- iii. In cases where the Special Planning, Development Authorities and Regional Improvement Trusts are in charge for specific rural areas, they would be hand-held for the provision of urban level of services. HUDD would finance this support and hand-holding for such areas

3. Definition of standard of services and support for peri-urban areas

- i. Since there does not exist a standard of what kind of services should be provided to the peri-urban areas, such standards would be defined to fit the need of particular areas
- ii. Support would be given to the local political and bureaucratic administration, to help them in the transition process.

4. Financing and revenue collection from peri-urban areas in a phased manner

- i. Even before the designated area would be re-defined as urban, the State Government would support the transition through budgetary allocations such services and infrastructure suitable to existing quality and standards as required in urban areas can be provided
- ii. Taxes and user charges (including property taxes) would be levied from individuals residing in such areas, incrementally (for instance - implementation of such charges in year 1 could be 30%, followed by increase to 60%, 80%, and 100% in the corresponding years - tentative, to be finalized by the State Government) such that when the area transitions into a definitionally urban area, the residents are not faced with financial shock.

5. Peri-Urban Areas Defined

The identification of peri-urban areas is a critical step in the transition process. The following categories areas will be considered peri-urban areas for purpose of this policy.

a. Development Authority Jurisdictions

All areas falling under the jurisdiction of notified Development Authorities will be recognized as peri-urban, given their inclusion in regulated land-use and spatial planning frameworks.

b. Town Planning Areas beyond ULB Limits

Settlements situated within Town Planning zones but outside statutory ULB boundaries will be included to ensure continuity of planned growth.

c. All settlements notified as Census Towns by the Census of India.

d. Newly Notified/ proposed NACs, additional areas included in existing ULBs. In such cases, they can be financially assisted under RUTP upto 3 years of formation / inclusion.

e. District Collector's Recommendations

District Collectors may recommend specific areas to be declared as peri-urban areas based on the following parameters:

- i. Population of each of the villages/Census Towns under consideration as per the last census report.
 - o They may include adjoining area of ULBs acquired urban characteristics and other such areas developed elsewhere.
- ii. Density of population therein of the proposed area as per last Census.
- iii. Percentage of workforce engaged in non-agricultural activities
- iv. Economic importance
 - o Information on presence of Business centers/Industries/Tourist Spots within the proposed area, in detail
 - o Information on presence of commercial growth centers like wholesale depots, retail markets, daily markets etc., in detail
 - o Presence of other economic clusters in the proposed area
- v. Availability of public services as:
 - o All weather communication /High Schools /Colleges /Hospitals or Dispensary /Police Station /Sub-register's Office /Banks / Public Transport.
- vi. The DC's recommendations will be sent to the state level Advisory Committee for approval. The Advisory Committee will examine if such area meets such criteria and decide its eligibility for transition within 6 months.

6. Institutional Framework of the Urbanisation Policy

The implementation of the proposed policy is to be governed by the State level Steering Committee at the apex level, whose role is to advice SUDA and

relevant DUDA/DAs regarding their roles and responsibilities to monitor and supervise the overall implementation of the policy.

In terms of implementation, a '**hub** and **spoke**' governance approach will be used with the state level "**hub**" managing the overall implementation, and notifying "**spokes**" (as and when new peri-urban/rural areas are identified within the ambit of this policy) for implementation of the ground-level work.

The State Urban Development Agency (SUDA) will take on the role of the project management "**hub**" at the state level. This body will not only discharge both urban and rural governance functions in peri-urban/rural areas but also act as a systems converter by ensuring smooth conversion of the identified areas into urban areas. As and when, new peri-urban/rural areas are notified under this policy to be considered for the transition process, the relevant District Urban Development Agency (DUDA) or Development Authorities (DA) will be considered as the "**spoke**" for monitoring and implementation of the identified works at the ground-level. Given the extent of this proposed policy, SUDA and DUDA are to be reinforced with techno-managerial resources by allocating the implementation to certain regular officials on deputation and through procurement via open market/outsourcing. To guide and monitor the implementation, DUDAs/DAs are to be created within the ambit of SUDA and the relevant DUDA/DAs with engagement of key stakeholders from all relevant departments/agencies such as water supply, energy, roads etc.

6.1. Steering Committee

- i. Steering Committee is to be Chaired by the Addl. Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary of H& UD Department..
- ii. Other members of the Steering Committee include:
Principal Secretary/Commissioner-*cum*-Secretary of the Departments of Panchayati Raj & Drinking Water, Finance, Revenue & Disaster Management, Rural Development, Works & Other relevant Department. Chairperson may invite any representative from other domain experts from time to time.
- iii. The Director, Municipal Administration, Housing & Urban Development Department is to act as the Member Secretary-*cum*-Convenor for this body.

6.2 Powers of the Steering Committee

The Steering Committee has the following powers to carry out its responsibilities:

- i. Ratification of annual budget for the implementation of the policy
- ii. Ratification of the implementation strategies, selection frameworks pertaining to the selected peri-urban areas.

- iii. Ratification of amendments to laws and regulations pertaining to the implementation of this proposed policy
- iv. Final approval of the selected peri-urban areas to be considered under the policy
- v. Sanctioning of the officials and additional staff required under the Task Forces at SUDA, DUDA, DAs and clerical staff in the selected areas
- vi. The Chairperson may invite representatives from any other department on special invite as deemed proper
- vii. The Chairperson shall constitute the Advisory Committee and invite experts/academicians/civil society organisations/community organisations on special invite as deemed proper

6.3 Advisory Committee

An Advisory Committee will also be constituted at the State Level which will be responsible for implementation, supervision of the policy as well as recommending body on strategies, changes in the policy etc.

- i. Advisory Committee is to be Chaired by the Director, Municipal Administration, H& UD Department.
- ii. Other members of the Advisory Committee include:
Director, Panchayati Raj, Representative of Revenue & Disaster Management/ Works/ RD Department/ other relevant departments. Chairperson may include urban planners, urbanization and urban governance experts, academicians, finance and infrastructure professionals as well as other relevant persons, as and when the Government deems it necessary in the committee.
- iii. Secretary-cum-Project Director, SUDA is to act as the Member Secretary-cum-Convenor for this body.

6.4 Responsibilities of the Advisory Committee

The following responsibilities will be carried out by the Advisory Committee:

- i. Take necessary direction for the identification of annual targets with respect to the implementation of the policy and ensure that it is in alignment with the overall goal of the State Government.
- ii. Recommend implementation strategies, ratify action plans, reports, master plans, selection frameworks pertaining to the selected peri-urban areas
- iii. Conduct quarterly review meetings to understand the progress of the implementation vis a vis the defined targets

- iv. Provide recommendations to the implementation agencies on their strategies and work plans
- v. Timely monitoring and ensuring the quality of the implementation
- vi. Identifying and monitoring risks to effective implementation of the policy
- vii. Examine recommendation of Collector on proposals under para-5(e) and place the same before High Power Committee for approval.
- viii. Recommend necessary changes to implementation strategies, as the projects develop.

6.5. Hub State Urban Development Agency (SUDA)

- i. SUDA is the nodal implementation body for this proposed policy
- ii. The Secretary-cum-Project Director, SUDA will act as the bridge between the Steering Committee and SUDA.
- iii. On an ongoing basis, SUDA will report to the Steering Committee regarding the implementation progress of the defined targets under the policy
- iv. A Project management Unit is to be constituted within SUDA to manage the administrative processes and coordinate with the notified DUDAs/DAs to ensure and track progress of the implementation targets.

6.6 Spokes - District Urban Development Agency/Development Authority

- i. The DUDAs and DAs are to be supported by District Task Force to effectively implement the policy at ground-level. The following members can be included in the District Task Force, but not restricted to:
 - o Project Director-DUDA
 - o Block Development Officers
 - o Members from Planning Department
 - o Members from Engineering Department
 - o Members from Panchayati Raj & Rural Development
 - o Representatives (senior members) of parastatal agencies such as rural development, road agencies, water supply etc.
 - o Water Corporation of Odisha (WATCO) General Manager of Division/Sub-division
 - o Executive Officers of the adjoining ULBs of the selected areas Panchayati Raj institution (PRI) Secretaries.
 - o Elected representatives from the local bodies, including Sarpanch of the rural area, Mayor and Councillors of adjoining urban areas, and Zillah Parishad member.

7. Implementation Strategy

7.1. Creation of Platforms for ULBs

The SUDA and relevant DUDAs/DAs will carry out certain duties in the short and long term in order to develop a 'city-systems' focused platform model, with the aim of improving the quality of life of the residents. The platforms will focus on:

- i. **Urban Planning and Design:** SUDA will assist the identified peri-urban areas in designing spaces that is mindful of the needs of different demographics through inclusive, mindful design. This would be done by assisting ULBs in developing robust area based and GIS master plans and in cases where master plans already exist, seeking to amend them to suit changed needs. The infrastructure that is to be developed in areas would also be in line with urban standards and would keep inclusive needs in mind.
- ii. The identified peri-urban areas would be absorbed into adjoining urban local body or transitioned to an independent ULB, following procedures as laid down under Odisha Municipality Act 1950, on satisfactory improvement in infrastructures and services.
- iii. **Urban Capacities and Resources: Before handing over the defined area to ULBs, care would be taken to strengthen governance capacities and enhance resources through training and process improvements.** This would involve seeing to that the proposed ULBs have adequate staff to function in a self-sufficient manner. This will be done through convergence with Panchayati Raj & Drinking Water Department to ensuring smooth transition.
- iv. **Empowered and legitimate political representation:** SUDA would also aid the defined peri-urban areas in ensuring that there is scope for citizen participation in the defined area. Indirectly, this is aimed to empower elected representatives with sufficient resources and tools to impact local governance.
- v. **Transparency:** SUDA and DUDAs will work towards ensuring transparency and accountability in all the works carried out in the identified peri-urban areas. This will involve constant monitoring and evaluation, third party evaluation and stringent accountability measures to ensure that the work happens in a time-bound manner and leads to overall transformation.

7.2. Powers and Responsibilities of the SUDA, DUDAs and DAs

7.2.1 Powers of SUDA, DUDAs, DAs

SUDA, DUDAs, DAs has the following powers to carry out its responsibilities:

- i. Hire consultants/executive agencies/professionals to discharge the responsibilities, by issuing tenders and following the H&UD Department protocols.
- ii. SUDA has the power to review, along with the Expert/Advisory Group, reports and plans being sent by the DUDAs/DAs concerning the selected areas
- iii. Propose amendments to laws and regulations pertaining to infrastructure development, revenue mobilization, land acquisition, staffing and other relevant issues for the selected peri-urban areas
- iv. Authority to recommend restriction of fund flow in case the DUDAs/DAs are not able to meet the targets without any valid explanation.

7.2.2 Responsibilities of SUDA, DUDAs, DAs

The following responsibilities will be carried out by SUDA, DUDAs, DAs:

a. Data Collection and Planning

- i. The DUDAs/DAs would take up enumeration of households, property tax assessment, provision of solid waste and Septage management, drinking water, street lighting, road drain, and other civic infrastructure. The mapping would be carried out as per the provisions of the relevant Municipal Acts.
- ii. They should also carry out special indexing exercises and baseline surveys, in order to analyse the gaps and create implementation plans.
- iii. SUDA and District Task Force Team will provide feedback and/or ratify the data collection processes for the gap assessment to be undertaken by the DUDAs/DAs for the selected areas.
- iv. SUDA will provide feedback on the master plan to be developed by the DUDAs/DAs. The body will also initiate the processes to approve or amend the master plan for the proposed areas.
- v. Area based GIS master planning to be carried out by the respective DUDAs/DAs for land use/zoning — for areas with no master plan. If master plans already exist for the identified area, then the DUDAs/DAs would suggest changes, post which it will be amended by SUDA, if approved.

b. Development of the Area Integrated Action Plan

- i. SUDA and Task Force Team will deliberate, and provide feedback for the **Peri-Urban Area Integrated Action Plans (PAIAPs)** to be developed by the DUDAs/DAs for each of the selected areas.
- ii. This PAIAP will delineate a five year horizon over which the identified rural area will be transitioned to urban. The Transition Plan will include: (i) provision of

such services and utilities and at such levels as notified by the HUDD/state at the commencement of this policy. (ii) the shift from RLB to a ULB (iii) phasing in of all taxes collected by the ULB.

c. Infrastructure Development

- i. For capital/ infrastructure works the implementation of all components of the projects would be carried out by either Government Agencies or through a Public Private Partnership Model/Community Partnership Model, as is decided by the State Advisory Committee.
- ii. Operations and management (O&M) of all operating assets would be done by SUDA and DUDA till the area becomes a full-fledged ULB. This can also be carried out through a sub-contracting model:
 - o SUDA and DUDA shall nominate or appoint agencies for operations and maintenance during the phase (that is until the area is officially handed over to the identified urban local body) either through conventional contracts or management contracts with private sector operator/community partners or as per the IAAP. This will involve a) O&M of project components by government agencies or private/community partners b) O&M of components such as water supply, sewerage, and solid waste management etc. as a combined utilities management contract with a private/community sector operator
- iii. SUDA and DUDAs will monitor all the implementation works undertaken with respect to infrastructure development in the selected peri-urban areas and ensure that the work has been carried out as per the standards of the adjoining urban areas in which the selected area is to be merged. For this purpose, SUDA can also carry out periodic field assessments for all the selected areas

d. Capacity Building

- i. HUDD would provide feedback and give approval for building or retrofitting physical infrastructure needed for the administrative functioning of the area
- ii. In coordination with the HUDD/Task Force Team, SUDA would develop standardized training modules regarding all the areas of work which the clerical staff posted within the area will have to undertake
- iii. HUDD may propose training if required, that can be undertaken regular trainings for all the master trainers of SUDA/DUDAs/DAs.

e. Revenue Mobilization

- i. HUDD will only notify commencement of the collection of user charges if service coverage in the transitional area meets thresholds set by the HUDD/state at the commencement of the policy.
- ii. HUDD would notify the user charges to be levied as and when the relevant 'urban' infrastructure has been developed. SUDA would send out a notification to HUDD when the newly built/retrofitted infrastructure meets the pre-defined urban quality and standards, as per the adjoining urban areas in which the area is to be merged.

f. Monitoring and Evaluation

A time-bound processes shall be in place to strengthen the M&E mechanism, which means a robust monitoring system has to be enacted for the purpose of this policy:

- i. SUDA/ DUDAs/DAs will act as an oversight and monitoring body for all works undertaken within the selected peri-urban areas
- ii. SUDA will initiate the development of a centralized web-monitoring system in which progress taken up under all the projects within the selected areas are to be tracked. Photographs of all assets at different stages are to be uploaded, which are to be used for tracking the outputs vis a vis the targets set under the PAIAP.
- iii. SUDA/ DUDAs will conduct regular, randomized field visits to the selected areas to check on the on-ground progress of works.
- iv. HUDD can send out questions to respective Project Directors of SUDA and DUDAs, District Collectors, and Vice Chairperson – Development Authorities, in case the work has not been completed and/or not done in a satisfactory manner. In case of no suitable or valid explanation by the DUDAs/DAs, HUDD can recommend pausing the fund flow for future development purposes until a resolution on the matter is achieved.
- v. On an annual basis, SUDA/DUDAs has to place a report to the Steering Committee on the outcomes delivered by the selected peri-urban areas, which are to be measured against the respective targets set under their IAAPs

g. Fund Flow and Release Processes

- i. HUDD will draft a fund flow and release mechanism for all works which are to be implemented by the SUDA/DUDAs/DAs.
- ii. HUDD will be in charge of releasing the requisite amount based on the fulfilment of targets by the SUDA/DUDAs/DAs.

- iii. H&UD Deptt. shall provide critical gap funding for the policy to ensure time bound implementation, over and above available fund through convergence.
- iv. Revenue available with DAS through devolution of stamp duty may also be leveraged for this purpose.

8. Arbitration and Dispute Resolution.

The Development Commissioner, Planning & Convergence Department, Government of Odisha is the Authority to arbitrate grievances and disputes, wherever required. The Commissioner may also nominate an officer of appropriate rank to arbitrate dispute.

9. Grievance Redressal Mechanism.

An appropriate grievance redressal mechanism shall be notified by H&UD Department within three months from approval of revised policy.

- 10. Amenability:** Since the peri urban landscape is quite dynamic in nature due to the constant push for urbanisation, the policy can be amended from time to time depending on the demand for establishment of new cities and economic regions like the one that is envisaged by the recently launched Report Book for Bhubaneswar-Cuttack-Puri and Paradeep Economic Region (BCPPER) with the help of NITI Aayog.

By Order of the Governor
USHA PADHEE
Additional Chief Secretary to Government