

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1670
ANSWERED ON 15/12/2025**

LACK OF UPDATED DATA ON URBAN HOMELESS POPULATION

1670. SHRI S NIRANJAN REDDY:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that the data currently used for estimating the urban homeless population is largely based on the 2011 Census, despite significant changes in urbanisation patterns, migration and housing distress since then;
- (b) whether Government proposes to undertake a fresh, comprehensive nationwide survey to ascertain the accurate number and distribution of urban homeless persons;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the timeline within which such a survey is expected to be initiated and completed?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): As per 7th Schedule of the Constitution of India, Land & Colonisation are State subjects. Therefore, primary responsibility lies with the States/Union Territories (UTs) for rehabilitation of homeless persons. Government of India supplements the efforts of State Governments/UTs through programs and schematic interventions. Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs implemented 'Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)'. Shelters for Urban Homeless (SUH) was a component under DAY-NULM. Operational guidelines of SUH provisioned for systematic third-party surveys in cities / towns by the urban local bodies for identification of urban homeless for assessment of need for shelters. As reported by States / UTs, a total of 2,44,329 urban homeless were identified. DAY-NULM ended on 30.09.2024
