GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -453
ANSWERED ON – 03/12/2025

COMPREHENSIVE REHABILITATION OF PERSONS ENGAGED IN BEGGING

453. SHRI RAJINDER GUPTA

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE) Scheme for comprehensive rehabilitation of persons engaged in begging has been expanded in 2025;

(b) if so, the coverage statistics and outcomes of the programme so far with State-wise/UT-wise details;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of measures taken to ensure coordinated action among State, local bodies and NGOs in this respect; and

(e) the proposed measures in this respect to make our cities begging-free?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR)

(a)   Yes, Sir. The Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE-B) scheme for comprehensive rehabilitation of persons engaged in begging has been expanded in 2025–26 .

(b) The coverage under SMILE-B has been expanded to include 100 additional cities, taking the total coverage to 181 cities across 32 States/UTs. Since inception of the scheme, a total of 25,698 persons have been identified out of which 7,330 persons have been rehabilitatedState/UT-wise details regarding coverage of scheme and number of persons identified and rehabilitated are enclosed at **Annexure-I** and **Annexure-II.**

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b).

(d) & (e) The Ministry works in coordination for effective implementation of the Scheme through regular consultations and meetings with State/UT Governments, Urban Local Bodies and Implementing Agencies.The Nodal officers for the implementation of the SMILE -B scheme are nominated by the District Administration where the city is located and all efforts are made to bring in convergence with relevant Central and State welfare schemes within a structured system of reporting on identification, mobilisation, and rehabilitation activities. Further, the Ministry has taken measures to strengthen convergence-based rehabilitation, enhance livelihood and skill-development support for persons engaged in begging, improve monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, and intensify IEC and community-mobilisation efforts with the objective of making the cities begging-free.

Annexure referred to in part (b) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 453 for answer on 03.12.2025 regarding "Comprehensive Rehabilitation Of Persons Engaged In Begging"

S.No.	States/UTs	Name of City	Phase
1	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	1
2		Tirupati	2
3		Visakhapatnam	2
4		Guntur	2
5		Kakinada	3
6		Rajahmundry	3
7		Kurnool	3
8		Nellore	3
9	Arunachal Pradesh	Namsai	1
10		Phasighat	3
11	Assam	Hojai/Doboka	2
12		Golaghat	2
13		Guwahati	1
14		Tezpur	1
15		Dibrugarh	3
16		North Lakhimpur	3
17		Silchar	3
18	Bihar	Dharbanga	2
19		Patna	2
20		Bodh Gaya	1
21		Nalanda	1
22		Muzaffarpur	1
23		Purnea	1
24		Bhagalpur	3
25		Munger	3
26		Saran	3
27		Saharsa	3
28	Chandigarh (UT)	Chandigarh	2
29	Chattisgarh	Raipur	2
30		Bilaspur	3
31		Durgapur	3
32		Ambikapur	3
33		Jagdalpur	3
34	Delhi NCT	New Delhi	2
35		Old Delhi	3
36		Karol Bagh	3
37		Dwarka	3
38		Munirka/R.K. Puram	3
39		Nizamuddin	3
40		Rohini	3
41		Shahdara	3
42	Goa	Panaji	2
43		Madgaon	3
44	Gujarat	Vadodara	2
45		Panchmahal	1
46		Narmada	1
47		Gir Somanath	1
48		Ambaji	3
49		Bhuj	3
50		Junagadh	3
51		Patan	3
52		Vadnagar	3
53		Dwarka (Jamnagar)	3
54	Haryana	Sonipat	2
55		Panchkula	1
56		Faridabad	3
57		Kurukshetra	3
58		Gurugram	3

59	Himachal Pradesh	Dharamshala	2
60		Shimla	1
61		Chamba	3
62		Manali	3
63	J & K	Reasi	2
64		Srinagar	1
65		Anantnag	3
66		Patnitop	3
67	Jharkhand	Devaghar	2
68		Ranchi	2
69		Girdih	2
70		Jamshedpur	2
71		Bokaro	3
72		Dhanbad	3
73		Hazaribagh	3
74	Karnataka	Dharward	2
75		Vijayapura	2
76		Mysuru	1
77		Belagavi (Belgaum)	3
78		Kalburgi (Gulbarga)	3
79		Mangalore	3
80		Chitradurga	3
81		Davangere	3
82	Kerala	Kochi	2
83		Kozhikode	1
84		Thiruvananthapuram	1
85		Alappuzha	3
86		Kollam	3
87		Kannur	3
88		Thrissur	3
89		Tirur/Malappuram	3
90	Ladakh	Leh	3
91	Madhya Pradesh	Ratlam	2
92		Bhopal	2
93		Jabalpur	2
94		Khajuraho	1
95		Omkareshwar	1
96		Indore	1
97		Ujjain	1
98		Amarkantak	3
99		Chitrakoot	3
100		Orchha	3
101		Maheshwar	3
102		Gwalior	3
103	Maharashtra	Shirdi	2
104		Nagpur	2
105		Pune Pimpri Chinchwad	2
106		Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar	2
107		Nashik	1
108		Kolhapur	3
109		Pune	3
110		Amarawati	3
111		Thane	3
112		Solapur	3
113	Meghalaya	Shillong	3
114	Manipur	Bishnupur	2
115		Imphal West	2
116		Imphal East	3
117	Mizoram	Aizawl	2
118		Lunglei	3
119	Nagaland	Dimapur	2
120		Kohima	3
121	Odisha	Cuttack	1
122		Puri	2
123		Bhubaneswar	2

124		Berhampur	3
125		Rourkela	3
126		Koraput	3
127	Pudhucherry	Pudhucherry	1
128		Karaikal	3
129	Punjab	Amritsar	1
130		Ludhiana	3
131		Jalandhar	3
132		Patiala	3
133	Rajasthan	Mehendipur	2
134		Jaipur	2
135		Sirohi	2
136		Udaipur	1
137		Ajmer	2
138		Alwar	3
139		Bikaner	3
140		Jodhpur	3
141		Bharatpur	3
142		Kota	3
143	Sikkim	Gangtok	3
144	Tamil Nadu	Tirunelveli	2
145		Dindigul/Palani	2
146		Erode	2
147		Kanyakumari	2
148		Coimbatore	2
149		Madurai	1
150		Chidambaram	3
151		Kanchipuram	3
152		Rameshwaram	3
153		Tiruchirappalli	3
154		Tiruchendur	3
155	Telangana	Warangal	1
156		Hyderabad	2
157		Ramagundam	2
158		Karimnagar	3
159		Khammam	3
160		Medak	3
161	Tripura	Agartla	3
162	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi	2
163		Mathura	2
164		Lucknow	2
165		Ayodhya	1
166		Kushinagar	1
167		Agra	3
168		Ghaziabad	3
169		Jhansi	3
170		Kanpur	3
171		Meerut	3
172		Gorakhpur	3
173		Prayagraj	3
174		Noida	3
175	Uttarakhand	Haridwar	2
176		Rishikesh	2
177		Dehradun	3
178		Haldwani	3
179		Pauri Garhwal	3
180	West Bengal	Howrah	3
181		Durgapur	3

Annexure referred to in part (b) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 453 for answer on 03.12.2025 regarding "Comprehensive Rehabilitation Of Persons Engaged In Begging"

States/UTs	No of persons identified	No of persons Rehabilitated
Andhra Pradesh	2413	250
Arunachal Pradesh	140	72
Assam	1674	584
Bihar	499	455
Chandigarh (UT)	499	125
Chattisgarh	0	0
Delhi NCT	0	0
Goa	0	0
Gujarat	835	272
Haryana	0	0
Himachal Pradesh	27	1
J & K	1303	462
Jharkhand	0	0
Karnataka	850	80
Kerala	787	157
Madhya Pradesh	1711	1291
Maharashtra	1601	816
Manipur	0	0
Mizoram	0	0
Nagaland	107	22
Odisha	712	201
Pudhucherry	298	169
Punjab	120	7
Rajasthan	79	0
Tamil Nadu	8303	1240
Telangana	580	20
Uttar Pradesh	3160	1106
Uttarakhand	0	0
Total	**25698**	**7330**

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