

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT  
RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 4291**

ANSWERED ON – 01/04/2026

**IMPLEMENTATION OF MISSION SMILE**

4291. MS. SWATI MALIWAL

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

- (a) the details of surveys conducted under Mission Smile and other schemes during 2023–24 and 2024–25 for identification of persons engaged in begging, State-wise/UT-wise, including the number of areas covered and individuals identified and issued ID cards such as Aadhaar and Ayushman;
- (b) the number of persons mobilised and transferred to shelter homes, State-wise, under Mission Smile and other schemes, along with details of new shelters approved, their present operational status and any upgradation of existing shelters;
- (c) the number of counselling and de-addiction sessions conducted; and
- (d) the number of beneficiaries linked to bank accounts, health services, educational institutions and skill development/livelihood programmes?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B.L.VERMA)

(a) The SMILE (Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise) sub-scheme for the 'Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging' was launched on 12.10.2022, guidelines were approved on 23.10.2023 and the actual implementation began only in January 2024 after receiving the consent of the selected cities. Hence, surveys could not be done during 2023-24. However, State-wise details of areas covered, surveys conducted during 2024-25, number of identified persons engaged in begging along with number of persons issued ID cards, is given at **Annexure**.

(b) to (d) Since inception of the sub-scheme, a total of 31,115 persons have been identified as engaged in the act of begging, out of which 9,855 persons have been rescued, mobilised, transferred to shelter homes and consequently, rehabilitated. Under SMILE-Beggary scheme, existing government shelter homes, including those under DAY-NULM, are utilised to provide food, clothing, hygiene, medical aid, counselling and education.

Counselling was done in respect of all rehabilitated persons, de-addiction sessions have been conducted in respect of 943 persons, 1452 persons have been facilitated in opening of bank account and linked to health services, 2653 children linked to educational institutions or Anganwadi centers/ reunited with their families/ referred to the Child Welfare Committee etc. Apart from this, all eligible persons have received skill development/vocational training.

As per scheme guidelines, up to 4 Shelter Homes are allowed in a district with capacity utilisation between 80-100%. Opening of shelter homes beyond four are decided on a case to case basis with proper justification of the same. District Authorities are to utilize existing Shelter homes from MoHUA or State Government or Local Administration. There is also a provision of rented shelter homes only in case of non-availability of shelter homes.

During 2025-26, a total of 50 new shelter homes have been approved across 23 States/UTs, taking the total number of shelter homes under the sub-scheme to 99 across 34 States/UTs, all of which are operational.

**Annexure referred in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4291 for answer on 01.04.2026 regarding "Implementation of Mission SMILE scheme"**

**State-wise details of cities covered and individuals identified, person mobilized to shelter-home and issued ID cards such as Aadhaar under SMILE Beggary Scheme during 2024-25**

S.No.	States/UT	Name of city	No. of persons identified during survey conducted	No. of persons rehabilitated	No. of person issued ID cards such as Aadhaar
1	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	1867	634	4
2		Tirupati	702	19	0
3		Visakhapatnam	161	0	0
4	Arunachal Pradesh	Namsai	140	99	2
5	Assam	Hojai/Doboka	261	215	2
6		Guwahati	801	96	0
7		Tezpur	554	157	4
8	Bihar	Patna	567	375	0
9	Chandigarh (UT)	Chandigarh	499	352	51
10	Delhi NCT (UT)	New Delhi	733	0	0
11	Gujarat	Vadodara	250	105	2
12		Panchmahal	436	175	0
13		Narmada	155	75	0
14		Gir Somanath	300	78	2
15	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	27	1	0
16	J & K (UT)	Reasi	213	48	0
17		Srinagar	930	462	0
18	Karnataka	Dharward	310	0	0
19		Mysuru	565	88	5

20	Kerala	Kochi	109	42	0
21		Kozhikode	426	105	0
22		Thiruvananthapuram	139	31	0
23	Madhya Pradesh	Khajuraho	50	0	0
24		Indore	1441	1290	28
25		Ujjain	281	1	0
26		Nagpur	1601	1025	1
27	Manipur	Bishnupur	64	0	0
28	Mizoram	Aizawl	16	0	0
29	Nagaland	Dimapur	107	22	0
30	Odisha	Cuttack	300	74	0
31		Puri	245	111	11
32		Bhubaneswar	239	103	10
33	Puducherry (UT)	Puducherry	305	176	0
34	Punjab	Amritsar	128	6	0
35	Rajasthan	Udaipur	79	0	0
36	Tamil Nadu	Tirunelveli	1071	164	10
37		Dindigul/Palani	937	107	5
38		Erode	1876	317	25
39		Kanyakumari	635	88	10
40		Coimbatore	1776	266	10
41		Madurai	1553	594	20
42	Telangana	Warangal	580	53	0
43	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi	718	194	15
44		Lucknow	1276	945	33
45		Ayodhya	1155	483	33
46		Kushinagar	441	94	18
<b>Total</b>			<b>27019</b>	<b>9270</b>	<b>301</b>

\*\*\*\*\*