

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. *357
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2018**

ERADICATION OF BEGGING

***357. SHRI BHEEMRAO B. PATIL:
SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL:**

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

(a) whether there has been an increase in the number of beggars in the country and if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has any concrete plan for eradication of begging including street begging by women and children in towns and cities which projects an adverse image of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the schemes/programmes launched for rehabilitating the beggars and enabling them to earn livelihood in a dignified manner; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government for prevention of forced/ professional begging in the country?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI THAAWARCHAND GEHLOT)**

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question *357 for answer on 20.03.2018 by Shri Bheemrao B. Patil, Shri Badruddin Ajmal on Eradication of Begging

(a): There is no data available with regard to increase in the number of beggars in the country during the last three years. However, as per information available with Registrar General of India (RGI), there are 4,13,670 beggars, vagrants etc. in the country as per Census 2011. The State-wise details are enclosed at Annexure-I.

(b) & (c): The Ministry of Women and Child Development has informed that they are implementing a Centrally sponsored Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) (now "Child Protection Services") for children in need of care and protection (CNCP). CNCP are defined under section 2(14) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act) respectively. As per Section 2(14)(ii) of JJ Act, a child who is found working in contravention of labour laws for the time being in force or is found begging, or living on the street is included as a "child in need of care and protection". The primary responsibility in execution of the JJ Act lies with the State Governments/UTs. Under ICPS, financial assistance is provided to the State Governments/UT Administrations for, inter-alia, undertaking a situational analysis of children in difficult circumstances, for setting up and maintenance of various types of Child Care Institutions (CCIs). The scheme, provides institutional care through CCIs. As a rehabilitative measures in these CCIs, children are provided age appropriate education either within the institution or outside in a formal education system through convergence with other schemes and programs of the Government or Civil Society. The Scheme also provides for family based non-institutional care through adoption, sponsorship and foster-care.

The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is considering a Scheme for skill development training to the able bodied beggars to facilitate their reintegration in the society.

(d): As per the 7th Schedule of the Constitution of India and under serial no. 9 of State List, the subject matter of "Relief of the disabled and unemployable" comes under the purview of State List. As per information available, as many as 20 States and 2 UTs have either enacted their own Anti Beggary Legislation or adopted the legislation enacted by other States. The details of these States/UTs are at Annexure-II. However, the provisions of these legislations vary from one another and their implementation, including the measures taken for rehabilitation of beggars, are also not uniform.

Annexure-I [As referred in parts (a) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 357 for 20.3.2018]

Total Beggars, Vagrants etc. in India as per Census 2011

ST Code	India/State/UT	Beggars, Vagrants etc.		
		Persons	Males	Females
	INDIA	413670	221673	191997
1	JAMMU & KASHMIR	4134	2550	1584
2	HIMACHAL PRADESH	809	504	305
3	PUNJAB	7939	5197	2742
4	CHANDIGARH	121	87	34
5	UTTARAKHAND	3320	2374	946
6	HARYANA	8682	6504	2178
7	NCT OF DELHI	2187	1343	844
8	RAJASTHAN	25853	15271	10582
9	UTTAR PRADESH	65835	41859	23976
10	BIHAR	29723	14842	14881
11	SIKKIM	68	46	22
12	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	114	59	55
13	NAGALAND	124	65	59
14	MANIPUR	263	117	146
15	MIZORAM	53	33	20
16	TRIPURA	1490	607	883
17	MEGHALAYA	396	172	224
18	ASSAM	22116	7269	14847
19	WEST BENGAL	81244	33086	48158
20	JHARKHAND	10819	5522	5297
21	ODISHA	17965	9981	7984
22	CHHATTISGARH	10198	4995	5203
23	MADHYA PRADESH	28695	17506	11189
24	GUJARAT	13445	8549	4896
25	DAMAN & DIU	22	15	7
26	DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	19	7	12
27	MAHARASHTRA	24307	14020	10287
28	ANDHRA PRADESH	30218	16264	13954
29	KARNATAKA	12270	6436	5834
30	GOA	247	131	116
31	LAKSHADWEEP	2	0	2
32	KERALA	4023	2397	1626
33	TAMIL NADU	6814	3789	3025
34	PUDUCHERRY	99	54	45
35	A & N ISLANDS	56	22	34

Annexure-II [As referred in parts (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 357 for 20.3.2018]

Existing State Anti Beggary Laws

Sl.No.	States/Union	Legislation in Force
	States	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	The Andhra Pradesh Prevention of Beggary Act, 1977
2.	Assam	The Assam Prevention of Beggary Act, 1964
3.	Bihar	The Bihar Prevention of Beggary Act, 1951
4.	Chhattisgarh	Adopted the Madhya Pradesh Bikshavirty Nivaran Adhiniyam, 1973
5.	Goa	The Goa, Daman & Diu Prevention of Beggary Act, 1972
6.	Gujarat	Adopted the Bombay Prevention of Beggary Act, 1959
7.	Haryana	The Haryana Prevention of Beggary Act, 1971
8.	Himachal Pradesh	The Himachal Pradesh Prevention of Beggary Act, 1979
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	The J&K Prevention of Beggary Act, 1960
10.	Jharkhand	Adopted the Bihar Prevention of Beggary Act, 1951
11.	Karnataka	The Karnataka Prevention of Beggary Act, 1975
12.	Kerala	The Madras Prevention of Beggary Act, 1945, the Travancore Prevention of Beggary Act, 1120 and the cochin Vagrancy Act, 1120 are in force in different areas of the State.
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh Bikshavirty Nivaran Adhiniyam, 1973
14.	Maharashtra	The Bombay Prevention of Beggary Act, 1959
15.	Punjab	The Punjab Prevention of Beggary Act, 1971
16.	Sikkim	The Sikkim Prohibition of Beggary Act, 2004
17.	Tamil Nadu	The Madras Prevention of Beggary Act, 1945
18.	Uttar Pradesh	The Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Beggary Act, 1972
19.	Uttarakhand	Adopted the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Beggary Act, 1972
20.	West Bengal	The West Bengal Vagrancy Act, 1943
	Union Territories	
21.	Daman & Diu	The Goa, Daman & Diu Prevention of Beggary Act, 1972
22.	Delhi	Adopted the Bombay Prevention of Beggary Act, 1959