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

(a) whether the Union Government has any data regarding the total number of street vendors in the country and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether all the State Governments have successfully formulated and implemented rules under the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014 and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the benefits accrued to street vendors after the implementation of the Act;

(d) whether still many street vendors in different parts of the country face harassment from officials of local agencies;

(e) if so, whether the Government has formulated any strategy to help the States in this regard; and

(f) the other steps taken/ being taken by the Government to protect the rights of street vendors in the country?
The Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014 is implemented by the respective States/Union Territories by framing of Rules and Schemes. As per provision of the Act, the Town Vending Committee shall, within such period and in such manner as may be specified in the scheme, conduct a survey of all existing street vendors, within the area under its jurisdiction, and subsequent survey shall be carried out at least once in every five years.

The Act aims at protecting the rights of urban street vendors and to regulate street vending activities and for matters connected therewith or incidental therein. The Act has been adopted by all States/UTs, except for the State of Jammu & Kashmir to which it has not been extended, and the State of Meghalaya which has its own Meghalaya Street Vendors Act, 2014. Rules under the Act have been notified by 33 States/UTs. Meghalaya has notified Rules under Meghalaya Street Vendors Act, 2014. Further, Telangana has drafted the Rules.

The Act also contains provisions relating to prevention of harassment, by police and other authorities, of street vendors who carry on street vending activities in accordance with the terms and conditions of their certificate of vending. Further, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs issues advisory to the States/UTs, from time to time, to follow the provisions laid down in the Act including on the issues relating to eviction and relocation of street vendors and putting in place a ‘Dispute Redressal Mechanism’ in accordance with the provisions of the Act for addressing grievances of Street Vendors.

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