

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3228
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2021**

CHILD BEGGARS

**†3228. SHRIMATI GEETA KORA:
SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA:
SHRI JUGAL KISHORE SHARMA:
SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the incidents of small children begging on many busy roads/ footpaths in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the efforts being made by the Government to improve of the standard of these children; and
- (c) the funds allocated to the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) working for helpless women and children during the last five years, State/Organisation-wise?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)**

- (a): As per Census 2011, the total number of Beggars, Vagrants etc. in India are 4,13,670 and the total number of child Beggars, Vagrants etc. below 15 years of age are 45,296.
- (b): As per entry no. 9 of State List in the 7th Schedule of the Constitution of India, the subject matter of "Relief of the disabled and unemployable" is a State subject. The States are responsible for taking necessary preventive and rehabilitative steps. However, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has identified ten cities namely Ahmadabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Indore, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur and Patna for undertaking pilot project on Comprehensive Rehabilitation of Persons engaged in the act of Begging, which will provide the whole range of services including awareness generation, identification, rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counselling skill development, sustainable settlement and education to children engaged in Begging/ Children of Persons engaged in Begging.
- (c): Ministry of Women and Child Development administers The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act) which is the primary law for children in the country.

As per Section 2 (14) (ii) of the JJ Act, 2015, 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”, among others. As per Section 76 of JJ Act, whoever employs or uses any child for the purpose of begging or causes any child to beg shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine of one lakh rupees. The Act provides a security net of service delivery structures along with measures for institutional and non-institutional care, to ensure comprehensive well being of children in distress situations. Primary responsibility of execution of the Act rests with the States/UTs.

Ministry of Women and Child Development implements a centrally sponsored scheme i.e. Child Protection Services (CPS) under the umbrella Integrated Child Development Services scheme, for supporting the children in difficult circumstances including child beggars and destitute children. Under the scheme, institutional care is provided through Child Care Institutions (CCIs), as a rehabilitative measure. The programmes and activities in CCIs inter-alia include age-appropriate education, access to vocational training, recreation, health care, counseling etc. The scheme supports 24x7 emergency outreach/ helpline service for children in distress conditions. The service is accessible through a dedicated toll free number, 1098 from any where in India.

The scheme inter-alia provided financial assistance for setting up of CCIs to the States/UTs either by themselves or in association with voluntary organisations. The details of fund released to States/UTs under CPS during last five years are **Annexed**.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.3228 for answer on 16.03.2021 regarding 'Child Beggars'.

The details of fund released during last five years (i.e. F.Y., 2015-16 to 2019-20) to the States/UTs under CPS

| Sl. No. | Name of the State/ UT | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 238.58 | 110.74 | 1469.88 | 1870.01 | 1373.53 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 571.68 | 52.29 | 643.71 | 37.63 | 1174.11 |
| 3 | Assam | 597.90 | 413.64 | 2932.68 | 3379.63 | 3363.95 |
| 4 | Bihar | 2687.89 | 2787.92 | 541.56 | 2621.87 | 1405.39 |
| 5 | Chattisgarh | 3955.55 | 527.77 | 3181.97 | 2151.01 | 2098.74 |
| 6 | Goa | 235.25 | 36.83 | 728.53 | 16.03 | 19.63 |
| 7 | Gujarat | 2328.90 | 769.95 | 590.11 | 2251.55 | 2146.27 |
| 8 | Haryana | 496.44 | 0.00 | 1858.22 | 1387.60 | 2217.99 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 604.04 | 2345.48 | 1835.01 | 1342.64 | 1607.40 |
| 10 | Jammu & Kashmir | 113.35 | 43.12 | 807.48 | 2106.94 | 1225.16 |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 369.88 | 840.11 | 1714.57 | 1480.26 | 1845.80 |
| 12 | Karnataka | 1845.24 | 3720.80 | 3272.45 | 4022.56 | 3290.45 |
| 13 | Kerala | 944.39 | 260.50 | 1849.45 | 1263.77 | 1519.74 |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 1116.03 | 2503.88 | 3262.77 | 2959.23 | 3052.72 |
| 15 | Maharashtra | 3138.75 | 2272.33 | 608.15 | 3156.52 | 2449.63 |
| 16 | Manipur | 3082.18 | 241.34 | 1886.33 | 3866.99 | 3102.72 |
| 17 | Meghalaya | 1469.55 | 2060.33 | 1846.60 | 2254.51 | 2241.71 |
| 18 | Mizoram | 2079.44 | 1949.55 | 1917.51 | 2042.28 | 2530.43 |
| 19 | Nagaland | 2257.65 | 1350.37 | 1457.45 | 1787.12 | 2085.95 |
| 20 | Orissa | 3309.07 | 1089.22 | 2599.30 | 4352.44 | 3541.66 |
| 21 | Punjab | 820.81 | 581.67 | 143.24 | 1244.17 | 722.00 |
| 22 | Rajasthan | 3258.92 | 0.00 | 4752.30 | 3584.72 | 3195.88 |
| 23 | Sikkim | 562.00 | 601.18 | 662.76 | 379.25 | 662.51 |
| 24 | Tamil Nadu | 825.04 | 13039.37 | 2013.12 | 7895.14 | 14915.36 |
| 25 | Telangana | 354.88 | 195.64 | 894.82 | 1329.23 | 1726.38 |
| 26 | Tripura | 710.63 | 676.04 | 446.81 | 885.77 | 879.61 |
| 27 | Uttar Pradesh | 2884.18 | 3207.19 | 1830.67 | 7834.39 | 4277.72 |
| 28 | Uttarakhand | 66.88 | 15.54 | 907.57 | 1344.40 | 918.58 |
| 29 | West Bengal | 508.67 | 6763.87 | 5073.56 | 2372.13 | 2815.10 |
| 30 | Andaman & Nicobar Island | 36.03 | 36.88 | 31.66 | 218.85 | 329.62 |
| 31 | Chandigarh | 357.82 | 245.44 | 194.32 | 577.58 | 0.00 |
| 32 | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 58.66 | 177.59 | 24.82 | 11.24 | 193.97 |
| | Daman & Diu | 82.82 | 126.42 | 21.89 | 18.42 | 141.79 |
| 33 | Delhi | 1363.40 | 978.64 | 354.33 | 1007.39 | 972.86 |
| 34 | Lakshadweep | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 35 | Ladakh | - | - | - | - | - |
| 36 | Puducherry | 559.60 | 826.33 | 114.35 | 398.43 | 501.96 |
| Total | | 43892.10 | 50847.97 | 52469.95 | 73451.70 | 74546.32 |