

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3520
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2021**

SCHEMES FOR BEGGARS

3520. SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is exploring/has explored the possibilities of a scheme for persons engaged in the act of begging which would cover identification, rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counselling, education, skill development with the support of State Governments/UTs/Local Urban Bodies and Voluntary Organizations, institutions etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is providing/has provided vocational skills to beggars to enable them to start income generating activities of their own or to be gainfully employed; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI A. NARAYANASWAMY)**

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated a scheme "SMILE - Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise", which includes sub scheme - 'Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging'. The focus of the scheme is on rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counselling, basic documentation, education, skill development, economic linkages of the persons found to be engaged in begging.

Financial targets under this Scheme, for the next five years, are attached in **Annexure**.

(c) & (d): Ministry has released an amount of Rs. 1.50 crore to National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) for conducting skill development programmes for the persons engaged in begging. So far, 514 persons engaged in Begging have been provided skill development training.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3520 for answer on 10.08.2021 regarding 'Schemes for Beggars'

Sl. No.	Year	Funds requirement (Rs. in crore)
1.	2021-22	50.00
2.	2022-23	33.00
3.	2023-24	33.00
4.	2024-25	33.00
5.	2025-26	33.00
	TOTAL	182.00
