

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2579
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2021**

SURVEY ON BEGGARS

2579. SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASAR SU:

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted a comprehensive survey on beggars in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has convened a meeting of State representatives and NGOs regarding rehabilitation plan for beggars;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the above proposal is likely to be implemented?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR)**

(a) & (b): No Sir. However, as per Census 2011, there are 4,13,670 beggars and vagrants in the country. The State-wise information is given in **Annexure**.

(c) to (e): A Meeting was held with some of the NGOs/Experts/States working in the field of beggary for Comprehensive rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging on 14.01.2020. After the discussion, Ministry had initiated pilot project on Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging in seven (7) cities namely Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Indore, Lucknow, Nagpur and Patna. These pilots are being implemented with the support of State Governments/UTs/Local Urban Bodies and Voluntary Organizations etc., which provide comprehensive measures including survey and identification, mobilization, rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, awareness generation, counseling, education, skill development and sustainable settlement of persons engaged in begging.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated a scheme "SMILE - Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise", which includes a sub-scheme - 'Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging'. This scheme covers several comprehensive measures including welfare measures for persons who are engaged in the act of begging. The focus of the scheme is extensively on rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counseling, basic documentation, education, skill development, economic linkages and so on.

Annexure referred to in reply to Part (a) and (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2579 to be answered on 14.12.2021 regarding "Survey on Beggars"

S. No.	India/State/UT	Beggars, Vagrants etc.		
		Persons	Males	Females
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
	INDIA	4,13,670	2,21,673	1,91,997
