

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1069
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2022**

REHABILITATION OF BEGGARS AND TRANSGENDERS

1069. SHRI V.K.SREEKANDAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to come up with a new scheme for rehabilitation of persons engaged in begging and for providing support to transgender persons;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the scheme will cover rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counselling, education, skill development and economic linkages; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI A. NARAYANASWAMY)

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated an umbrella scheme “**SMILE - Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise**”, which includes two sub-schemes - ‘Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender Persons’ and ‘Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging’. This umbrella scheme covers several comprehensive measures including welfare measures for both transgender persons and persons who are engaged in the act of begging with focus extensively on rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counseling, education, skill development, economic linkages etc. with the support of State Governments/UTs/Local Urban Bodies, Voluntary Organizations, Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and institutions and others.
