

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3131
TO BE ANSWERED ON AUGUST 07, 2025**

DATA ON URBAN HOMELESSNESS

NO. 3131. SHRI SRIBHARAT MATHUKUMILLI:

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

- (a) whether the Government maintains updated and disaggregated data on the number of homeless individuals in urban areas across the country including those who have migrated from rural regions in search of employment or livelihoods and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether there are any centrally-sponsored schemes or dedicated programmes aimed at addressing homelessness including access to shelter, sanitation and basic services and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether there are any existing functional and adequately funded shelter homes or night shelters in major urban areas and if so, the number of such shelters established under central or State initiatives;**
- (d) whether the Government has assessed the adequacy of these shelters in relation to the estimated homeless population and if any evaluation or audit of these facilities has been conducted and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether the Government proposes to implement a national-level programme to construct and maintain shelter infrastructure in the 50 most populated urban districts across the country, especially in light of rising internal migration and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI TOKHAN SAHU)**

(a):As per 12th Schedule of the Constitution of India, Urban Poverty Alleviation is a subject of Urban Local Bodies. However, as per Census 2011, the total urban houseless population in the country was 9,38,348. The details are at Annexure.

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(b)&(c): Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, (MoHUA) administered SUH component of DAY-NULM, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, through respective States/ UTs. It focussed on providing permanent shelters equipped with basic facilities to the urban homeless. As per SUH guidelines, convergence of various entitlements of social security, food, education and health care systems are provided at the shelters for the urban homeless. The implementation period of DAY-NULM was till 30.09.2024. As reported by States / UTs a total of 1,995 shelters have been made functional across the country under DAY-NULM.

(d) & (e): It is the responsibility of concerned States/UTs/ Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to map the concentration areas of urban homeless. The guidelines of SUH provided for conducting a systematic third-party survey by urban local bodies so as to assess accurately the need for shelters at suitable locations.

Guidelines of SUH provided that for every one lakh urban population, under the scheme, provision should be made for permanent shelters for a minimum of one hundred persons. Depending upon local conditions, each shelter should preferably cater to 50 or more persons. In exceptional situations, shelters with lesser capacity could also be approved.

The operational guidelines of SUH provisioned for States/UTs to undertake independent quality evaluation for quality checks on projects under implementation. It also provisioned quality audit of operational shelters on a quarterly basis, audits by third party external reviewers and organizing social audit of each shelter at least once a year. The Mission ended on 30.09.2024.

(REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3131 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2025)

Houseless Urban Population in India as per Census 2011

S. No.	State/UT	Urban Houseless Population
1	Andhra Pradesh*	75,857
2	Arunachal Pradesh	313
3	Assam	2,527
4	Bihar	12,591
5	Chhattisgarh	6,533
6	Goa	1,693
7	Gujarat	84,822
8	Haryana	23,789
9	Himachal Pradesh	872
10	Jammu & Kashmir	10,848
11	Jharkhand	6,967
12	Karnataka	35,473
13	Kerala	7,761
14	Madhya Pradesh	66,055
15	Maharashtra	1,11,373
16	Manipur	1,331
17	Meghalaya	177
18	Mizoram	104
19	Nagaland	344
20	Odisha	14,053
21	Punjab	18,374
22	Rajasthan	73,236
23	Sikkim	32
24	Tamil Nadu	37,117
25	Tripura	1,352
26	Uttar Pradesh	1,80,929
27	Uttarakhand	5,556
28	West Bengal	1,04,967
29	A & N Islands	65
30	Chandigarh	4,133
31	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	281
32	Daman & Diu	591
33	Delhi	46,724
34	Lakshadweep	0
35	Puducherry	1,508
	Total	9,38,348

Source: Primary Census Abstract: Houseless Population, office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India.

Note: *: Andhra Pradesh means the erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh i.e., the area now comprising the present-day State of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.