

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 884  
TO BE ANSWERED ON JULY 24, 2025**

**PROTECTION OF URBAN HOMELESS UNDER SHELTER FOR  
URBAN HOMELESS SCHEME**

**NO. 884. SASIKANTH SENTHIL:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has recorded any deaths of homeless individuals due to cold waves during the last five years across the country including New Delhi and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the steps taken under the Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH) component of the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) to protect urban homeless individuals from cold-related hazards including hypothermia and the number of shelters currently operational across various States;**
- (c) whether the Government is considering introducing alternative identity documentation mechanisms for urban homeless individuals to address challenges arising from their transient and undocumented status and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) the total number of shelter homes equipped to cater to the needs of women with disabilities across the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu; and**
- (e) the nature of support facilities available in such shelters for women with disabilities?**

**ANSWER**

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

- (a): The data on deaths due to cold waves is not maintained by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. As informed by Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB), which functions under the control of Government of NCT of Delhi, no deaths have been recorded in any shelter of DUSIB.**

**(b): It is the primary responsibility of Government of the States/ Union Territories to provide shelters for the urban homeless. However, in order to supplement their efforts, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs administered Scheme for Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH) under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), through respective States/UTs. It focused on providing permanent shelters equipped with basic facilities to the urban homeless. The mission was in existence till September 2024. Also, this Ministry issues advisory to select States / UTs regarding winter action plan to accommodate urban homeless before harsh conditions of winter set in. It includes arrangement of temporary shelters, conduct of mobilization drives to mobilize homeless persons to the shelters etc.**

**A total of 1,995 shelters for urban homeless were made operational across the country under DAY-NULM till 30.09.2024.**

**(c): No such proposal is under consideration.**

**(d)&(e): SUH operational guidelines provisioned shelters to cater the most vulnerable groups within the homeless population such as (a) single women and their dependent minor children, (b) aged, (c) infirm, (d) disabled, (e) mentally challenged etc. States (including Tamil Nadu) / ULBs may consider setting up separate shelters to cater the special needs such as men shelter, women shelter, family shelter and special shelter. As reported by Government of Tamil Nadu, 19 special shelters are operational exclusively for women. Details regarding facilities provided at the shelters are at 'Annexure'.**

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d)&(e) OF LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 884 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2025**

**FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED AT THE SHELTERS**

- a) Well-ventilated rooms.**
- b) Water arrangements (Potable drinking water and other needs) and sanitation.**
- c) Adequate bathing & toilet facilities.**
- d) Standard lighting for shelter.**
- e) Adequate fire protection measures, as per the norms.**
- f) First aid kit.**
- g) Pest and vector (mosquito) control.**
- h) Regular cleaning of blankets, mattresses and sheets, and maintenance of other services.**
- i) Common kitchen/cooking space, necessary utensils for cooking and serving, cooking gas connections etc.**
- j) Child care facilities for children by linking the shelter to the nearest Anganwadi Centres.**
- k) Facilitation for convergence with other services/entitlements.**
- l) Personal lockers for personal storage space.**
- m) Common recreation space.**