

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3728
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2026**

PROGRESS UNDER SMILE SCHEME

†3728. SHRI ANIL FIROJIYA:

SHRI P C MOHAN:

SHRI JASHUBHAI BHILUBHAI RATHVA:

SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:

SHRI CHAVDA VINOD LAKHAMSHI:

SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:

DR. HEMANT VISHNU SAVARA:

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

- (a) the details of the progress made under the Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE) Scheme including the number of transgender persons and persons engaged in begging rehabilitated under the Scheme during the last three years, State and district-wise, including Karnataka and Bengaluru;
- (b) the details of funds sanctioned, allocated, released and utilised under the Scheme, State and district-wise, including Karnataka and Palghar district in Maharashtra; and
- (c) whether the Government has undertaken any assessment of the effectiveness of rehabilitation, skill development and livelihood interventions under the Scheme, if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B.L.VERMA)

- (a): The details of the progress made under the Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE) Scheme including the number of transgender persons and persons engaged in begging rehabilitated under the Scheme during the last three years, State and district-wise, including Karnataka and Bengaluru is at **Annexure-I**.
- (b): The details of funds sanctioned, allocated, released and utilised under the Scheme, State and district-wise, including Karnataka and Palghar district in Maharashtra is at **Annexure-II**.
- (c): A third-party assessment/evaluation of the SMILE Scheme was conducted by the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR), Hyderabad, during September–October 2025. The major findings and recommendations of the evaluation study have been duly considered and incorporated in the revised Scheme Guidelines for the continuation of the Scheme during the 16th Finance Commission cycle, i.e., from 2026–27 to 2030–31.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3728 FOR REPLY ON 11.08.2026 REGARDING PROGRESS UNDER SMILE SCHEME.

The details of the progress made under the Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE) – **‘Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender Persons’** Scheme during the last three years, State and district-wise, including Karnataka and Bengaluru is as under:

- i. The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Act, 2026 has been enforced with effect from 25.05.2026.
- ii. A National Council for Transgender Persons was set up to advise the Central Government on the formulation of policies and legislation with respect to Transgender persons, monitor and evaluate the impact of policies designed for achieving equality and full participation, review and coordinate the activities of all the Departments of the Government and non-Governmental organisations.
- iii. Memorandum of Understanding with National Health Authority (NHA) for convergence with Ayushman Bharat scheme of NHA has been done for providing health facilities under PMJAY scheme to Transgender persons, including 53 healthcare services for gender reassignment as well as cosmetic treatments. As on date, 147 AB PMJAY TG cards have been issued.
- iv. Department has set up 23 Garima Grehs, shelter homes for destitute transgender persons in 17 States/UTs namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh (2), Maharashtra (3), Manipur, Odisha, Puducherry, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh (3) and West Bengal (2).
- v. National Portal for Transgender Persons has been launched to issue Transgender certificates and ID cards to eligible Transgender persons. Till date, 33,303 ID cards have been issued.
- vi. Transgender Protection Cells (TPCs) have been established at the State level under the Director General of Police to monitor cases of crimes against transgender persons and ensure timely registration, investigation and prosecution of such crimes. So far, 27 TPCs are setup by States/UTs of Andaman & Nicobar, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.
- vii. Transgender Welfare Boards (TWBs) have been established in the States/UTs with the objective of protecting the rights and interests of transgender persons and providing support and facilitating access to Government schemes and welfare measures. As of now 30 (TWB) have been setup by States/UTs of Andaman & Nicobar, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Puducherry, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.
- viii. Department has issued “Equal Opportunities Policy for Transgender Persons” to ensure that the Transgender community has equal access to employment opportunities etc.

- ix. Skill development training to 725 transgender persons has been provided through Institute of Entrepreneurship Development, Lucknow.
- x. The 15 days Entrepreneurship Development Programme has been allotted to National Institute of Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD) to train transgender persons. Till date 150 transgender persons have been trained.
- xi. A dedicated helpline No 14427 has been set up for Transgender persons grievance redressal. During 2025-26, 2374 calls have been received.
- xii. Three National Transgender Employment Melas were organised with the support of Community based organisations (CBOs) and 223 transgender persons got benefited from these Employment Melas.
- xiii. Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has recognized the certificate/identity card issued through National Portal for Transgender Persons as an eligible document for any relevant update in AADHAR card.
- xiv. Employee Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) vide their circular dated 05.01.2026 has included Transgender Identity Certificate/Card as a valid proof of document for effecting change in Name and Gender in the records of EPFO.
- xv. Reserve Bank of India, vide their Master Circular dated 24.03.2025, has included Transgender persons in their "Weaker Section" sub-category of "Priority Sector" lending category opening route of easy credit access for self-employment purposes.
- xvi. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has approved 2172 houses to Transgender persons under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban).
- xvii. Number of transgender persons rehabilitated under the Scheme during the last three years, State-wise, including Karnataka and Bengaluru is:

S. No.	State/UT	Number of transgender persons rehabilitated through Garima Grehs
1	Andhra Pradesh	50
2	Assam	50
3	Bihar	70
4	Chhattisgarh	100
5	Delhi	70
6	Gujarat	51
7	Karnataka	65
8	Madhya Pradesh	16
9	Maharashtra	73
10	Maharashtra	69
11	Maharashtra	69
12	Odisha	81
13	Punjab	50
14	Rajasthan [#]	48
15	Tamil Nadu	44
16	Uttar Pradesh	53
17	West Bengal	39
18	West Bengal	43
	Total	1041

- Centre has stopped functioning since 2024-25

The details of the progress made under the Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE) – ‘**Comprehensive Rehabilitation of Persons engaged in the act of Begging**’ Scheme during the last three years, State and district-wise, including Karnataka and Bengaluru is as under:

Since inception of the scheme (i.e. from 23.10.2023), a total of 10446 individuals have been rescued and rehabilitated under SMILE Beggary scheme, including 139 persons in Karnataka have been rehabilitated so far. The State and district/city-wise details, including Karnataka and Bengaluru* are as under:

S. No.	State/UT	City/District	No. of persons rehabilitated
1	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	638
2		Tirupati	19
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Namsai	99
4	Assam	Hojai/Doboka	221
5		Golaghat	51
6		Guwahati	137
7		Tezpur	157
8	Bihar	Patna	455
9	Chandigarh (UT)	Chandigarh	352
10	Chhattisgarh	Jagdalpur	1
11	Delhi NCT	New Delhi	1
12		Old Delhi	234
13		Karol Bagh	4
14		Dwarka	54
15		Nizamuddin	43
16		Rohini	11
17		Shahdara	25
18	Gujarat	Vadodara	105
19		Panchmahal	175
20		Narmada	95
21		Gir Somanath	78
22	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	1
23	Jammu & Kashmir	Reasi	48
24		Srinagar	462
25	Karnataka	Dharward	51
26		Mysuru	88
27	Kerala	Kochi	42
28		Kozhikode	359
29		Thiruvananthapuram	31
30	Madhya Pradesh	Indore	1290
31		Ujjain	1
32	Maharashtra	Nagpur	1025
33	Mizoram	Lunglei	52
34	Nagaland	Dimapur	22
35	Odisha	Cuttack	74
36		Puri	111
37		Bhubaneswar	103

38	Pudhucherry	Pudhucherry	176
39		Karaikal	2
40	Punjab	Amritsar	21
41	Tamil Nadu	Tirunelveli	187
42		Dindigul/Palani	126
43		Erode	317
44		Kanyakumari	96
45		Coimbatore	294
46		Madurai	594
47		Rameshwaram	35
48		Tiruchendur	19
49	Telangana	Warangal	53
50	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi	219
51		Lucknow	945
52		Ayodhya	483
53		Kushinagar	94
54		Jhansi	47
55		Kanpur	23
Total			10446

* Bengaluru has been selected for implementation of the scheme in March 2026.

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3728 FOR REPLY ON 11.08.2026 REGARDING PROGRESS UNDER SMILE SCHEME.

The details of funds sanctioned, allocated, released and utilised by Community Based Organisation/ Non-Government Organisation, under the sub-scheme namely '**Comprehensive rehabilitation for welfare of transgender persons**', State-wise, including Karnataka and Palghar district in Maharashtra, is as under:

(Rs. in Lakhs)					
Sl.No.	State/UT	2021-22	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	5.02	30.71
2.	Assam	0	0	5.02	14.99
3.	Bihar	29.17	29.63	0	27.10
4.	Chhattisgarh	29.17	26.86	9.09	42.83
5.	Delhi	29.17	33.95	30.72	31.44
6.	Gujarat	29.17	24.87	22.68	26.94
7.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	5.02
8.	Karnataka	0	0	5.02	30.71
9.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	5.02*	5.02
10.	Maharashtra	87.51	70.11	56.24	141.48
11.	Manipur	0	0	0	5.02
12.	Odisha	29.17	28.76	26.59	31.41
13.	Punjab	0	0	5.02	28.99
14.	Rajasthan [#]	29.17	30.10	0	31.42
15.	Tamil Nadu	29.17	9.77	0	22.65
16.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	5.02	10.16
17.	West Bengal	58.34	45.88	0	89.43
	Total	350.04	299.93	175.44	575.32

* - Funds has been sanctioned, but not released due to issue of registration under Society Act.

- Centre has stopped functioning since 2024-25

The details of funds sanctioned, allocated, released and utilised under the 'Comprehensive Rehabilitation of Persons engaged in the act of Begging', State-wise, including Karnataka, is as under:

S. No.	State/UT	City/District	Fund Released (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	29.34
2		Tirupati	9.00
3		Visakhapatnam	33.35
4		Guntur	9.00
5		Kakinada	14.61
6		Rajahmundry	14.61
7		Kurnool	14.61
8		Nellore	14.61
9		Rayachoty	38.96
10	Arunachal Pradesh	Namsai	30.83
11		Phasighat	14.61
12	Assam	Hojai/Doboka	43.09
13		Golaghat	43.09
14		Guwahati	29.34
15		Tezpur	33.60
16		North Lakhimpur	14.61
17		Silchar	14.61
18		Biswanath	14.61
19		Chirang	14.61
20	Bihar	Dharbanga	9.00
21		Patna	33.35
22		Bodh Gaya	17.60
23		Nalanda	9.00
24		Muzaffarpur	9.00
25		Purnea	9.00
26		Bhagalpur	14.61
27		Munger	14.61
28		Saran	14.61
29		Saharsa	14.61
30	Chandigarh (UT)	Chandigarh	43.09
31	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	14.61
32		Bilaspur	14.61
33		Durg	14.61
34		Ambikapur	14.61
35		Jagdalpur	38.96
36	Delhi NCT	New Delhi	33.35
37		Old Delhi	38.96
38		Karol Bagh	38.96
39		Dwarka	38.96
40		Munirka	38.96
41		Nizamuddin	38.96
42		Rohini	38.96
43		Shahdara	38.96
44	Gujarat	Vadodara	43.09
45		Panchmahal	24.00
46		Narmada	24.00
47		Gir Somanath	33.74

48		Ambaji	14.61
49		Bhuj	14.61
50		Junagadh	14.61
51		Patan	14.61
52		Vadnagar	14.61
53		Dwarka (Jamnagar)	14.61
54	Haryana	Sonipat	9.00
55		Panchkula	17.60
56		Faridabad	14.61
57		Kurukshetra	14.61
58		Gurugram	14.61
59	Himachal Pradesh	Dharamshala	9.00
60		Shimla	24.00
61		Chamba	14.61
62		Manali	14.61
63	Jammu and Kashmir	Reasi	9.00
64		Srinagar	41.95
65		Anantnag	14.61
66		Patnitop	14.61
67		Budgam	14.61
68	Jharkhand	Deoghar	9.00
69		Ranchi	33.35
70		Girdih	9.00
71		Jamshedpur	9.00
72		Dhanbad	14.61
73		Hazaribagh	14.61
74	Karnataka	Dharward	33.35
75		Vijayapura	9.00
76		Mysuru	29.34
77		Belagavi (Belgaum)	38.96
78		Kalburgi (Gulbarga)	38.96
79		Mangalore	38.96
80		Chitradurga	38.96
81		Davangere	38.96
82		Bangalore	38.96
83	Kerala	Kochi	33.35
84		Kozhikode	70.75
85		Thiruvananthapuram	33.74
86		Alappuzha	14.61
87		Kollam	14.61
88		Kannur	14.61
89		Thrissur	14.61
90		Tirur/Malappuram	14.61
91	Ladakh	Leh	14.61
92	Madhya Pradesh	Ratlam	9.00
93		Bhopal	9.00
94		Jabalpur	9.00
95		Khajuraho	17.60
96		Omkareshwar	17.60
97		Indore	33.74
98		Ujjain	17.60
99		Amarkantak	14.61
100		Chitrakoot	14.61
101		Orchha	14.61
102	Maharashtra	Shirdi	9.00

103		Nagpur	33.35
104		Pune Pimpri Chinchwad	9.00
105		Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar	9.00
106		Nashik	17.60
107		Kolhapur	14.61
108		Amarawati	14.61
109		Jalgaon	14.61
110	Meghalaya	Shillong	14.61
111	Manipur	Bishnupur	33.35
112		Imphal West	38.96
113		Imphal East	14.61
114	Mizoram	Aizawl	33.35
115		Lunglei	38.96
116	Nagaland	Dimapur	43.09
117		Kohima	14.61
118	Odisha	Cuttack	36.75
119		Puri	33.35
120		Bhubaneswar	33.35
121		Berhampur	14.61
122		Koraput	14.61
123		Angul	14.61
124	Puducherry	Puducherry	51.69
125		Karaikal	38.96
126	Punjab	Amritsar	17.60
127		Ludhiana	14.61
128		Jalandhar	14.61
129		Patiala	14.61
130	Rajasthan	Mehandipur	9.00
131		Jaipur	9.00
132		Sirohi	9.00
133		Udaipur	17.60
134		Ajmer	14.61
135		Alwar	14.61
136		Bikaner	14.61
137		Jodhpur	14.61
138		Bharatpur	14.61
139		Kota	14.61
140	Sikkim	Gangtok	38.82
141	Tamil Nadu	Tirunelveli	33.35
142		Dindigul/Palani	43.09
143		Erode	43.09
144		Kanyakumari	43.09
145		Coimbatore	43.09
146		Madurai	96.54
147		Kanchipuram	38.96
148		Rameshwaram	48.70
149		Tiruchirappalli	14.61
150		Tiruchendur	48.70
151		Tirrupur	14.61
152	Telangana	Warangal	41.95
153		Hyderabad	9.00
154		Ramagundam	9.00
155		Karimnagar	14.61
156	Tripura	Agartla	14.61
157	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi	33.35

158		Mathura	9.00
159		Lucknow	33.35
160		Ayodhya	17.60
161		Kushinagar	17.60
162		Agra	14.61
163		Ghaziabad	14.61
164		Jhansi	38.96
165		Kanpur	14.61
166		Meerut	14.61
167		Gorakhpur	14.61
168		Prayagraj	14.61
169		Noida	14.61
170		Auraiya	14.61
171		Sambhal	14.61
172		Haridwar	33.35
173	Uttarakhand	Trayambakeshwar Mandir, Pauri	9.00
174		Dehradun	14.61
175		Haldwani	14.61
176		Pauri Garhwal	14.61
177	West Bengal	Howrah	14.61
Total			4003.75

* Palghar district in Maharashtra has not been covered under the Scheme
