

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -2368
ANSWERED ON - 23/03/2022

WELFARE SCHEMES FOR BEGGARS AND TRANSGENDERS

2368 #. SHRI DEEPAK PRAKASH

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

(a) whether Government is rehabilitating and helping transgenders and beggars through some schemes or whether it is considering to bring any new scheme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI A. NARAYANASWAMY)

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched an umbrella scheme **“SMILE - Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise”** on 12.02.2022, 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 SMILE 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.
