

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1570
ANSWERED ON-12/03/2025

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES IN THE COUNTRY

1570 DR. AJEET MADHAVRAO GOPCHADE

Will the MINISTER OF **SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any statistical data regarding individuals with intellectual disabilities in the country, if so, the details thereof State-wise and, if not, the reasons for the lack of this information;

(b) details of the number of homeless individuals who have been abandoned by their families, along with the Government's rehabilitation initiatives for these individuals; and

(c) whether Government will collaborate with the State Governments to tackle this significant social issue, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B.L. VERMA)

(a): The information on intellectual disabilities was not collected in Census 2011, as this category of disability was not covered under the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995. However, the disability categories of Mental Retardation and Mental Illness were included in the PwD Act, 1995. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 introduced the category of intellectual disability. The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) relies on Census 2011 for data on the population of persons with disabilities in the country. As per the Census 2011, there are 15,05,964 persons with Mental Retardation and 7,22,880 persons with Mental Illness.

(b) to (c): 'Land' and 'Colonization' are State subjects. All schemes related to housing for poor including homeless are implemented by respective State/UT Governments. However, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) supplements the efforts of State/UT Government by providing Central Assistance under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban (PMAY- U) to provide pucca house with basic amenities to all eligible urban beneficiaries including homeless across the country. There is another scheme 'Scheme of Shelters for Urban Homeless (SUH)' under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) which focuses on providing permanent shelters equipped with basic facilities to the urban homeless. For poorest segments of rural areas, there is Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Rural (PMAY – Rural) being implemented by Ministry of Rural Development.
