

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:339
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011
SHELTERS FOR HOMELESS
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Tamil Nadu has the highest number of urban homeless in India;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether there are any Government run shelters for the homeless in the cities;
- (d) If so, the details thereof; and
- (e) If not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA)

- (a): As per the Census 2001 data available the State of Tamil Nadu does not have the highest number of urban homeless in India . It has 57,128 urban houseless population.
- (b): The details as per Census 2001 are annexed.
- (c) to (e): Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation does not maintain data of night shelters in various states and cities.

'Housing' and 'colonization' being State subjects, the primary responsibility of providing shelter lies with the State Governments. Central government however, provides financial assistance to States through various schemes. It is currently supporting states to provide shelter, tenure security and basic amenities to slum dwellers, under Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), create affordable housing stock through the 'Affordable Housing in Partnership' Scheme and reduce cost of home loans with 5% interest subsidy under Interest Subsidy Scheme for Housing the Urban Poor (ISHUP) Scheme.

Earlier, from 1988-89, the Ministry provided financial support to states to create shelter for the houseless under the scheme for 'Night Shelter for Urban Shelterless'. Cumulatively, under the erstwhile scheme of Night Shelter for the Urban Footpath Dwellers, 97 schemes seeking inter alia 17341 beds, 15603 toilet seats, 2015 baths and 2102 urinals were sanctioned covering 15 States/Union Territories. The scheme was transferred to the state sector in 2005-06, and financial assistance from the Center was discontinued.