

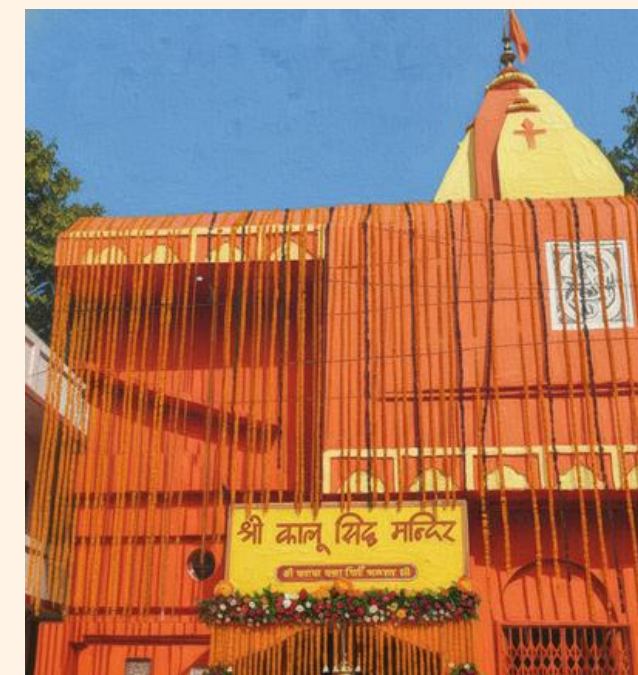
**SMILE**

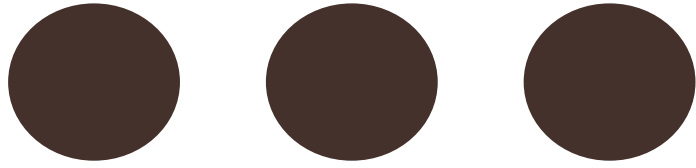
**(Support for Marginalized Individual for Livelihood and Enterprise)**

# **INTERDEPARTMENTAL CONVERGENCE FOR SMILE (BEGGARY)**

Chaired by Additional Secretary, Social Welfare  
(State Nodal Officer for Smile (Beggary),  
Uttarakhand

05-02-2026





# CONCEPTUAL OVERVIEW OF SMILE

- A flagship scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (GoI).
- **Paradigm Shift:** Moving from a Punitive Approach (Arrest/Detention) to a Rehabilitative Approach (Care/Empowerment).
- **Objective:** To provide a permanent exit from the street life through intervention covering identification, shelter, medical care, education, skill upgradation and economic self-reliance.

**MANDATE & CONTEXT**



# THE LEGAL LANDSCAPE IN UTTARAKHAND

## Uttarakhand Prohibition of Begging Act (Adopted UP Act, 1975)

Historically, begging has been handled as a criminal offense under this Act, focusing on the removal of persons from public places to 'Certified Institutions'.



## Judicial Standpoint

The Hon'ble Supreme Court and High Courts have repeatedly emphasized that begging is often a result of poverty, not choice. Therefore, the enforcement must respect Article 21 (Right to Life and Dignity).

## SMILE vs. Existing Acts

While the State Act provides the power to intervene, SMILE provides the Financial and Structural framework to ensure that once rescued, an individual is not just 'warehoused' but is skilled and reintegrated into society.

# Priority Sites & Targeted Survey Activities

Name of Site	Nodal Officer	Phase	Status
Chandika Devi Mandir, Haridwar	Shri Abhijeet Singh, Suptdt., Rajkiya Pramanit Bhikshuk Greh, Haridwar	I	Survey is being carried out, 18 persons found out till date
Trayambakeshwar Manzil Mandir, Jonk Swargashram, Pauri Garhwal	Shri Deepak Sharma, Executive Officer, Jonk Swargashram	I	Survey is being carried out, no person engaged in act of begging found out
Tapkeshwar Mandir, Dehradun	Shri Dipankar Ghildiyal, DSWO, Dehradun	II	Survey is being carried out, 20 persons surveyed
Kalu Siddh Mandir, Haldwani	Shri Paritosh Verma, Municipal Commissioner, Haldwani	II	Survey is being carried out, 4 person found indulged in act of begging

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (Nodal Ministry for SMILE Beggary) has selected 4 pilot sites for eradication of beggary. And as per orders of Secretary, Social Welfare, Uttarakhand, Uttarakhand Bahuuddeshiya Vitt Evam Vikas Nigam has been selected implementing agency for the project SMILE in Uttarakhand.

# Phase-wise Implementation Strategy (The Operational Roadmap)

## Phase 1: Survey & Identification

Identification of persons engaged in act of begging in the four pilot sites



## Phase 3: Holistic Rehabilitation & Skill Development

Enrollment of able-bodied individuals into vocational training programs (e.g. local crafts, or maintenance services)



## Phase 2: Mobilization & Standardized Rescue Protocols

- Transition to rehabilitation centers/ shelter homes
- On-site preliminary health screening by the Health Department to identify contagious diseases or emergency medical needs.



## Phase 4: Social Reintegration

Systematic efforts to reunite abandoned individuals with their families or into mainstream society.



# Departmental Roles

## Urban Local Bodies / Municipal Corporations

- On-ground support for rescue and relocation to designated shelter homes.
- Local coordination and civic facilitation



## Police & Health

- Police : Assistance in rescue operations and handling law and order. Preventing organized/forced begging syndicates and assisting in family tracing.
- Health: Mandatory medical screening and mental health assessments. Issuance of fitness/disability certificates and de-addiction referral



## WCD, Education & Skill

- WCD : Specialized handling of women and children; linkage with Child Care Institutions (CCI) and JJ Act compliance.
- Education : Immediate enrollment of rescued children into formal schooling.
- Skill Development / Labour: Skill profiling, enrollment in state/central schemes, and placement support



## District-Level Mechanism

- District Leadership: DM/Collector to head the District-level Task Force.
- Constitution of District-level Task Force / Committee
- Inter-departmental coordination at district level
- Monthly review



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Floor is open for discussion.

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