

HOMELESSNESS IN INDIA & RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO HELP

Homelessness is a major issue in India, and is growing day by day, which in itself would lead to a very sorry state for the country, since homelessness might well be the violation of human right to adequate housing. Statistics show that India is nearly the second most unequal country in world, since India's population increased exponentially, many cities run out of space to contain the living of such huge population.

Most of the homeless in India live on streets of cities under bridges, or in any place they seek refuge. Some maintain a nomadic lifestyle, where they find food, good area for families and relatives to live in. They face a lot of difficulties due to weather condition, which is very pitiful, as they have to live in extreme conditions like 50°C and rain, snow. Moreover, women are more prone to abuse, and harassment. Even in slums, families have very limited sanitation. Despite, many acts introduced by govt. of India, the situation of homeless only gets worse day by day and this is probably one of the biggest areas of concern, since India is hugely populated.

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Homelessness have migrated towards rural and suburban areas, but the no. of homeless people has not decreased, that is what the study shows. Basic problems that homeless people face are general rejection or discrimination from other people. They are also at an increased risk of suffering violence and abuse. They do not have access to education, so their following generations could also not improve in terms of lifestyle. They have limited or no access to banking services. Mostly, govt. and municipalities target them to move to other place, rather than providing proper home for them. Mainly, a lot of medical problems, including hypothermia or frostbite, and they lack access to treatment of diseases. Even during recent corona virus pandemic, there would have been many deaths that could have gone unnoticed, due to homeless' access to treatment.

So, thinking about the resources available to help them, there has been a three-pronged approach of strategic planning to help the homeless by Govt. of India. While homeless people are known to have a community with one another, providing each other various types of support, people who have much resources are also helping those in need. There are many community organizations and social movements that help homeless people in this cause. Inexpensive boarding houses offer low-quality temporary lodging.

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So, in conclusion, we could say, homelessness is a major issue in India, and there has been a lot of measures by Govt of India to help people who are homeless, yet the situation and problems including health care has been a major problem, and further improving into the acts and resources is needed by Govt, though, supportive housing, and other Govt. initiatives have helped the homeless in India. People should also work towards providing help to homeless to bring in more equality and equanimity in India.