

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1715
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.12.2018**

ACTIVITIES FOR MANUAL SCAVENGERS UNDER NSKFDC

**1715. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN:
DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that over 20,500 people have been identified to be involved in manual scavenging in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has planned various activities in this regard through the National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC); and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)**

(a) and (b): Section 5 of the "Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013" (MS Act, 2013) provides for causing a survey to identify manual scavengers by the Chief Executive Officers of Municipalities in urban areas and Gram Panchayats in rural areas, if there are reasons to believe that some persons are engaged or employed as manual scavengers under their jurisdiction. 13 States have reported identification of 14,043 manual scavengers since 06.12.2013 the date of coming into force of MS Act, 2013 upto 24.12.2018. In addition, a National Survey has also been undertaken at the behest of NITI Aayog by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in 163 districts of 17 States where a large number of insanitary latrines had been converted into sanitary latrines under Swachh Bharat Mission implemented by Ministries of Housing and Urban Affairs and Drinking Water and Sanitation. Under this survey 25,015 manual scavengers have been identified upto 23.12.2018. Thus a total of 39,058 manual scavengers have been identified since 06.12.2013 upto 24.12.2018. State-wise details are at **Annexure**.

(c) and (d): The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS) through National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) under which the identified manual scavengers are provided the following benefits:

(i) Onetime cash assistance of Rs.40,000/- .

(ii) Skill Development Training with Stipend of Rs.3,000/- per month.

(iii) Capital subsidy upto Rs. 3,25,000/-to those who have availed bank loans for self employment projects.

The Number of beneficiaries who have been provided the above Rehabilitation benefits upto 23.12.2018 are as under:

(i) Onetime cash assistance to 25,944.

(ii) Skill Development Training to 13,587.

(iii) Capital Subsidy to 955 beneficiaries who have availed bank loans for self employment projects.

National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) in coordination with Skill Council for Green Jobs organizes training of 35 hours duration on usage of mechanized sanitation equipment, precautions for hazards cleaning, life skills and income generation activities to sanitation workers employed contractually or on ad hoc basis by municipalities. It also organizes health camps for sanitation workers.

NSKFDC also organizes sensitization workshops in municipalities for engineers, sanitary inspectors, sanitary workers and contractors on safe cleaning of sewers and septic tanks and also create awareness about the provisions of the MS Act, 2013 and "Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Rules, 2013" (MS Rules, 2013) regarding employer's obligations to provide safety gear/equipment and ensure safety precautions.

Annexure

Annexure referred in reply to Parts (a) and (b) of Rajya Sabha unstarred Question No. 1715 for answer on 27.12.2018 regarding activities for manual scavenges under NSKFDC.

State-wise details of Manual Scavengers as on 24.12.2018.

Sl. No.	States	Number of manual scavengers identified under MS Act, 2013	Number of manual scavengers reported identified by States under National Survey	Total Number of Manual Scavengers in both surveys
1	Andhra Pradesh	78	1721	1799
2	Assam	154	542	696
3	Bihar	137	Not covered under National Survey	137
4	Chhattisgarh	3	Not covered under National Survey	3
5	Gujarat	Not reported	108	108
6	Jharkhand	Not reported	201	201
7	Karnataka	732	1744	2476
8	Kerala	Not reported	600	600
9	Madhya Pradesh	36	1447	1483
10	Maharashtra	Not reported	5638	5638
11	Odisha	237	Not covered under National Survey	237
12	Punjab	91	142	233
13	Rajasthan	338	2590	2928
14	Tamilnadu	363	62	425
15	Uttar Pradesh	11633	7052	18685
16	Uttarakhand	137	2531	2668
17	West Bengal	104	637	741
	Total	14,043	25,015	39,058