

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -3809  
ANSWERED ON - 05/04/2023

**STEPS TAKEN TO PROHIBIT MANUAL SCAVENGING IN THE COUNTRY**

3809. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that manual scavenging continues to be practiced across the country and if so, the reaction of Government thereto;
- (b) whether the funds for “Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers” were slashed due to under-utilization;
- (c) the funds allocated in last five years;
- (d) the number of deaths of manual scavengers reported during the said period while cleaning septic tanks and sewers, State-wise; and
- (e) the details of cases filed in this regard, conviction achieved, action taken against the guilty and compensation paid to the families of the victims during the said period, State-wise?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)

- (a) There is no report of people currently engaged in manual scavenging in the country. Manual Scavenging is a banned activity under the “Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (MS Act, 2013)” throughout the country.
- (b) & (c) ‘Self Employment Scheme for the Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS)’ is a Central Sector Scheme implemented through National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC). The scheme is demand driven based on the number of manual scavengers identified by the States/UTs and the proposals for their rehabilitation received.

The details of Funds allocated and funds released to NSKFDC during the last five years are as under:-

(Rs. In Crore)

Year	Funds allocated	Funds released
2017-18	5.00	5.00
2018-19	85.76	85.76
2019-20	99.93	84.80
2020-21	30.00	16.60
2021-22	43.31	39.00

(d) & (e) There is no report of death due to manual scavenging. However, 308 persons have died due to accidents while undertaking hazardous cleaning of sewer and septic tanks during the last five years and family members of 273 persons have received compensation during the said period. Details are given at Annexure.

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Annexure

Annexure referred in reply to parts (d) and (e) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3809 for answer on 05.04.2023 regarding Steps taken to prohibit manual scavenging in the country.

**Details of death of persons in sewers and septic tanks during the last five years  
(2018 to 2022)**

S. No.	State/UTs	Total No. of death	Full comp paid	Part. Comp.	FIR lodged under MS Act, 2013 or PoA Act*
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	11	0	12
2.	Chhattisgarh	1	1	0	1
3.	Delhi	33	28	2	31
4.	Dadra Nagar & Haveli	3	3	0	3
5.	Gujarat	23	21	0	13
6.	Haryana	40	28	6	28
7.	Jharkhand	3	3	0	0
8.	Karnataka	23	23	0	20
9.	Maharashtra	38	17	9	30
10.	Madhya Pradesh	4	4	0	3
11.	Odisha	2	2	0	0
12.	Punjab	7	6	1	3
13.	Rajasthan	7	6	0	7
14.	Tamil Nadu	52	46	3	44
15.	Telangana	7	6	0	4
16.	Uttar Pradesh	46	29	11	25
17.	Uttarakhand	1	1	0	1
18.	West Bengal	6	5	1	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>308</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>225</b>

\* The cases filed in this regard are at different stages and have not come to the logical conclusion.

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