

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -780
ANSWERED ON - 08/02/2023

LEGAL STATUS OF SAFAI KARMACHARIS

780. SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P

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

- (a) the legal status of Safai Karmacharis in the country;
- (b) the total number of Safai Karmacharis identified by the National Commission for Safai Karmacharis;
- (c) whether the Commission is planning to submit the latest report of the status of Safai Karmacharis; and
- (d) whether the Ministry is planning to convert the status of the Commission into a Statutory body?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)

(a) Definition of safai karamchari as per National Commission of Safai Karamcharis Act, 1993 is “**Safai Karamchari**” means a person engaged in or employed for, manually carrying human excreta or any sanitation work”. This act has since lapsed in 2004 and there has been considerable changes in the activities/status of safai karamcharis.

Definition of safai karamcharis as per Article of Association of National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation is “**Safai Karamchari**” means a person, including his/her dependents, engaged in or employed for any sanitation work and includes waste pickers, but excludes domestic worker and manual scavengers.

(b) As per mandate of National Commission for Safai Karamcharis identification of safai karamcharis has not to be done by them. Sanitation is a state subject and no central data is maintained in this regard.

(c) Commission submits its Annual Report on status of safai karamaharis and recommends to take necessary action for welfare of safai karamacharis by State and Central Government.

(d) There is no such proposal for converting the Commission into a Statutory body.
