

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -3163
ANSWERED ON – 20/08/2025

NATIONAL ACTION FOR MECHANISED SANITATION ECOSYSTEM (NAMASTE) SCHEME

3163. # DR. BHIM SINGH
SHRI SANJAY KUMAR JHA

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

(a) whether the National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) scheme meant to provide dignity to sewer and septic tank workers, which was supposed to be implemented from 2023-24 has been approved;

(b) if so, the details of the implementation and progress made under the scheme;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in approval;

(d) whether responsible sanitation authorities and emergency sanitation response units have been established across the country as per the NAMASTE Scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) scheme is a Central Sector Scheme for the welfare of Sewer and Septic Tank Workers (SSWs). NAMASTE scheme has been launched in July, 2023. Waste Pickers have been added as a target group under the scheme in June, 2024.

Progress made under NAMASTE scheme are as under:-

(i) 84,902 Sewer and Septic Tank Workers (SSWs) have been validated.

(ii) 45,871 PPE kits for SSWs & 354 Safety Devices Kit for Emergency Response Sanitation Units have been issued to States/UTs.

(iii) 54,140 beneficiaries have been covered under Ayushman Bharat –PMJAY and State health scheme.

(iv) Capital Subsidy of Rs. 20.36 Crore released to 707 sanitation workers and their dependents for sanitation related projects.

(v) 1089 workshops have been conducted on Prevention of Hazardous Cleaning of Sewer and Septic Tanks.

Further, 37,980 waste pickers have been validated in various Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) across the country.

(d) & (e) 568 Responsible Sanitation Authorities (RSAs) and 642 Emergency Response Sanitation Units (ERSUs) have been constituted across the country.
