

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO -202
ANSWERED ON – 11/03/2026

DEATHS DUE TO MANUAL SCAVENGING

202. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA

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

- (a) number of workers who died cleaning sewers and septic tanks during last three years, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) whether compensation has been provided to the families of the individuals who have died, if so, details of compensation provided, year-wise and State-wise;
- (c) details of the current composition of the National Commission of Safai Karamcharis(NCSK); and
- (d) details of the last meeting held by the Commission regarding review of payment of compensation in sewer death cases?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(DR.VIRENDRA KUMAR)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 202 for answer on 11.03.2026 raised by Shri Tiruchi Siva regarding “Deaths due to Manual Scavenging”.

(a) & (b) Some deaths have occurred in States/UTs during hazardous cleaning of sewers and septic tanks due to non-observance of safety precautions as prescribed under the “Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 and “Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Rules, 2013” and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) issued by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

As reported by the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK), State-wise and year-wise details of sanitation workers who lost their lives due to hazardous cleaning of sewer and septic tanks and compensation paid to affected families during the last three years is at **Annexure.**

(c) The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK) presently consists of 2 Members, one of whom is also temporarily holding the charge of Vice-Chairman of the Commission.

(d) The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis periodically reviews cases of deaths that occur during the cleaning of sewers and septic tanks. It obtains reports from the concerned State Governments and Local Bodies regarding the status of compensation payments. In the meetings of the Commission, pending cases are reviewed and States are directed to ensure the early payment of compensation.

The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis had, in its meeting held on 25 March 2025, directed the States to ensure the prompt payment of compensation, along with addressing issues related to the welfare of sanitation workers.

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) and (b) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 202 for answer on 11.03.2026 regarding Deaths due to Manual Scavenging.

State-wise and year-wise details of sanitation workers who lost their lives due to hazardous cleaning of sewer and septic tanks and compensation paid to affected families during last three years:-

S.No	State/UTs	2023			2024			2025		
		Nos of deaths	Full compensation paid	Part compensation paid	Nos of deaths	Full compensation paid	Part compensation paid	Nos of deaths	Full compensation paid	Part compensation paid
1.	Bihar	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.	Delhi	-	-	-	7	2	-	5	3	-
3.	Gujarat	10	10	-	-	-	-	3	3	-
4.	Jharkhand	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Karnataka	3	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
6.	Maharashtra	10	10	-	14	8	4	3	-	-
7.	Rajasthan	10	10	-	7	7	-	6	3	3
8.	Tamil Nadu	9	8	-	6	6	-	6	5	-
9.	Haryana	6	2	1	1	-	-	7	2	-
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2	2	-	3	3	-	1	-	1
11.	Punjab	6	6	-	1	1	-	3	3	-
12.	Telangana	1	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-
13.	Uttar Pradesh	2	-	1	9	3	-	8	2	-
14.	West Bengal	3	3	-	-	-	-	4	3	-
15.	Goa	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
	Total	65	56	2	54	36	4	46	24	4

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