

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO - 185
ANSWERED ON – 05/08/2026**

MANUAL SCAVENGING REHABILITATION

185. SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR

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

- (a) the number of persons identified, rehabilitated and compensated under the Manual Scavengers Rehabilitation Scheme during 2023-2026, State-wise;
- (b) the number of sewer and septic tank deaths reported during the same period; and
- (c) the action taken against agencies violating the law?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(DR.VIRENDRA KUMAR)

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

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 185 for answer on 05.08.2026 raised by Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar regarding “Manual Scavenging Rehabilitation”.

(a) As per the “Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013”, a fresh survey has been conducted in all districts of the country during the year 2024-25 in which no manual scavenger has been found. However, 58,098 manual scavengers have been identified during two surveys conducted in 2013 and 2018. State/ UT-wise number of identified manual scavengers is at **Annexure-I**. One Time Cash Assistance of Rs. 40,000/ each has been provided to all the identified manual scavengers. State/UT-wise number of manual scavengers and their dependents provided with Skill Development Training and Capital Subsidy to take up alternate self employment projects under “Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers” which subsequently subsumed in the National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) scheme, launched in July, 2023, from 2023-24 to 2025-26 is at **Annexure-II**.

(b) As reported by National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK), 182 sanitation workers have lost their life due to hazardous cleaning of sewer and septic tanks during 01.01.2023 to 30.06.2026.

(c) Sanitation is a State subject under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. No data regarding agencies violating the law is maintained centrally. However, as reported by the NCSK, 123 FIRs have been lodged during 01.01.2023 to 30.06.2026.

Annexure-I

Annexure-I referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 185 for answer on 05.08.2026 regarding 'Manual Scavenging Rehabilitation'.

State/UT-wise number of the manual scavengers identified in the surveys conducted in 2013 and 2018 is as under:-

S. No.	State	Number of identified manual scavengers
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1793
2.	Assam	3921
3.	Bihar	131
4.	Chhatisgarh	3
5.	Gujarat	105
6.	Jharkhand	192
7.	Karnataka	2927
8.	Kerala	518
9.	Madhya Pradesh	510
10.	Maharashtra	6325
11.	Odisha	230
12.	Punjab	231
13.	Rajasthan	2673
14.	Tamil Nadu	398
15.	Uttar Pradesh	32473
16.	Uttarakhand	4988
17.	West Bengal	680
	Grand Total	58098

Annexure-II

Annexure-II referred to in reply to part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 185 for answer on 05.08.2026 regarding 'Manual Scavenging Rehabilitation'.

State/UT-wise number of manual scavengers and their dependents provided with Skill Development Training and Capital Subsidy to take up alternate self employment projects under Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers which subsequently subsumed in the National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) scheme, from 2023-24 to 2025-26 is as under:-

S. No.	State /UT	Number of manual scavengers provided with skill development training	Number of manual scavengers provided with capital subsidy
1	Assam	-	9
2	Karnataka	317	148
3	Kerala	12	-
4	Maharashtra	266	62
5	Rajasthan	742	46
6	Uttar Pradesh	3289	196
7	Uttarakhand	990	22
8	West Bengal	16	-
Total		5632	483
