

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 594
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2017**

REHABILITATION OF MANUAL SCAVENGERS

594. SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL:

SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI:

KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:

DR. SWAMI SAKSHIJI MAHARAJ:

SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER:

SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI:

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR:

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

(a) whether despite the most stringent penal provisions in the law against manual scavenging, it continues to be practised in various parts of the country and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(b) whether the Government has reduced funds under “Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers” due to under utilisation, if so, the funds allocated during the last three years and the current year;

(c) the number of cases of death of manual scavengers reported during the said period while cleaning septic tanks and sewers, State-wise;

(d) the details of cases filed in this regard, conviction achieved, action taken against the guilty persons and compensation paid to the families of the victims during the said period, State-wise;

(e) the details of manual scavengers identified and rehabilitation benefits provided to them and their dependents during the above period, State-wise;

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to complete the process of identification of manual scavengers who are still engaged in manual scavenging and for total eradication of manual scavenging in the country including awareness in this regard; and

(g) whether the Indian Railways continues to be the largest employer of manual scavengers?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (f): Yes Madam, manual scavenging is still reported from some parts of the country. Government reviews the implementation of various provisions of “Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act 2013” (MS Act, 2013)

including identification of manual scavengers and their rehabilitation from time to time. In order to eliminate the need for manual scavenging, insanitary latrines are identified and converted into sanitary latrines under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

(b) The budget allocation under “Self Employment Scheme for the Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers” (SRMS) during 2014-15 to 2016-17 is as under:

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Budget Allocation (Rs. in Crore)
1	2014-15	448
2	2015-16	470.19
3	2016-17	10
4	2017-18	5

Keeping in view the corpus of funds available with the National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation, the implementing agency of Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS) the budget allocation for 2016-17 and 2017-18 was reduced. Details of the rehabilitation benefits provided to the identified manual scavengers till date are given in **Annexure-I**.

(c) and (d) Details of deaths in sewers and septic tanks reported by the States and compensation paid are given in **Annexure-II**. In addition, the State Government of Karnataka has reported filing of First Information Reports (FIRs) in 55 cases and the Government of NCT Delhi has reported that concerned officers of Delhi Jal Board and Public Works Department have been placed under suspension and Delhi Police has initiated investigation into the death of persons in sewers/septic tanks that had occurred in NCT Delhi during July, 2017.

(e) Details are given in **Annexure-I**

(f): Reply given against part (a)

(g) :Ministry of Railways have denied engagement of manual scavengers.

Annexure-I

Annexure-I referred in reply to Part (e) of Lok Sabha unstarred Question No. 594 for answer on 19.12.2017 regarding Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers

Number of manual scavengers provided rehabilitation benefits under Self Employment Scheme for the Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers from 2013-14 to 2017-18 (Upto November, 2017)

S.no.	State	No. Of Manual Scavenger s reported on MS Website*	Onetime cash assistance provided @Rs. 40,000/- per beneficiary (Number of beneficiaries)						Training Sanctioned (Number of beneficiaries)					Capital Subsidy sanctioned (Number of beneficiaries)				
			2013- 14	2014 -15	2015 - 2016	2016 - 2017	2017 - 2018	Total	upto 2014 - 2015	2015 - 2016	2016- 2017	2017- 2018	Total	upto 2014- 2015	2015- 2016	2016- 2017	2017- 2018	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	78	0	45	0	8	3	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Assam	154	0	0	0	0	147	147	0	0	0	10	10	0	0	0	0	0
3	Bihar	137	0	0	131	0	0	131	0	91	0	0	91	0	0	0	0	0
4	Chhattisgarh	3	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Karnataka	726	125	18	79	17	211	450	0	0	223	0	223	0	190	0		190
6	Madhya Pradesh	36	0	0	36	0	0	36	0	100	0		100	0	0	0	0	0
7	Odisha	237	0	0	174	47	1	222	0	56	12	0	68	0	83	0	0	83
8	Punjab	91	0	0	87	0	2	89	0	100	246	0	346	0	21	14		35
9	Rajasthan	338	0	0	194	113	26	333	0	98	0	10	108	0	0	0	0	0
	Tamilnadu	363	0	0	170	120	46	336	0	250	0	0	250	0	0	0	0	0
11	Uttar Pradesh	11007	35	1083	7622	1261	623	10624	0	1480	10348	350	12178	0	0	182	151	333
12	Uttarakhand	137	0	0	134	1	0	135	0	116	0	0	116	0	71	0	0	71
13	West Bengal	104	0	95	0	0	0	95	97	0	0	0	97	97	0	0	0	97
Total		13411	163	1241	8627	1567	1059	12657	97	2291	10829	370	13587	97	365	196	151	809

Annexure-II

Annexure-II referred in reply to Parts (c) and (d) of Lok Sabha unstarred Question No. 594 for answer on 19.12.2017 regarding Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers.

Sl. No.	State	Number of cases identified/ reported	Compensation paid	
			Full Compensation of Rs.10 lakh each	Partial compensation
1	Tamil Nadu	144	141	0
2	Punjab	32	32	0
3	Karnataka	59	14	8
4	Haryana	5	3	0
5	Kerala	12	0	2
6	Rajasthan	7	3	2
7	Uttar Pradesh	52	1	35
8	Delhi	12	10	0
	Total	323	204	47