

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4925
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26TH MARCH, 2018**

Sanitation Workers in Schools

†4925. **DR. BHARATIBEN D. SHYAL:**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether full time sanitation workers have not been deployed for toilets in Government schools as a result toilets get soiled after their limited duty hours;
- (b) if so, the reasons for not deploying of regular workers for the work;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to use labourers under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme as full time workers in schools; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)**

(a) and (b) The primary responsibility of maintenance of school toilets lies with the concerned State Government/UT Administration. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has advised all State Governments and UT Administrations to ensure proper maintenance of school toilets to keep them functional and also to take steps to bring about behavioural changes among students and teachers through an intensive awareness campaign so that the school toilets are properly used, and kept neat and clean.

The Ministry of Human Resource Development has instituted Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar (SVP) in 2016 at district, state and national levels to recognise, inspire and celebrate excellence in sanitation and hygiene practices in schools. The SVP aims to promote schools in achieving a Swachhata scale and standard for which a Standing Operating Procedure has been released.

The Ministry has also advised States and UTs to encourage school education authorities for promoting cleanliness and hygiene practices in schools by undertaking various activities including Swachhata Pakhwada, appointment of Student Ambassador, singing Swachhata songs in Bal

Sabha/Children's assembly, celebrating Swachhata Diwas, drawing/painting competitions focusing on Swachhata in each school.

The school maintenance grant/ annual school grant under Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), supports the States/ UT Administration in the maintenance and minor repair of the school infrastructure including toilets. Under SSA programme, there is provision of a school maintenance grant of Rs. 5,000/- per school (upto 3 classrooms) and Rs. 10,000/- per school (with more than 3 classrooms), subject to the condition that the overall eligibility for the district would be Rs. 7,500/- per school. Under RMSA, an amount of Rs. 50,000 per government secondary school is provided as annual school grant.

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has also advised the Panchayati Raj Departments of all States in March, 2016 to include inter alia the provision for rehabilitation/repair of existing toilets and drinking water systems in schools as per the norms and requirements, while preparing Gram Panchayat Development Plans for using Fourteenth Finance Commission Grants.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Rural Development has informed that the objective of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is to enhance livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. There is no provision in the Act to provide full time employment to MGNREGA workers.
