GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2146
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.03.2023

REHABILITATION OF MANUAL SCAVENGERS

2146. MS. MIMI CHAKRABORTY:

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

(a) whether the budget allocation have been lowered during the last three years for rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers;

(b) if so, the detail of rehabilitation projects taken into account through mechanical de-sludging of sewer systems since 2018-19 and the present scenario of mannual scavengers therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government for 1,054 number of people who died till December 31, 2022 due to hazardous cleaning of sewer and septic tanks and compensation relief to the families?

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

(a): The budget allocation under SRMS during the last three years is as under:-

(Rs. In crore)

Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate
2019-20	110	99.93
2020-21	110	30
2021-22	100	43.31

(b): Under the Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS), the provision of providing capital subsidy to sanitation workers/dependants for sanitation related projects was inserted from the year 2020-21. Accordingly, the number of beneficiaries provided Capital subsidy for mechanical desludging of sewer systems and expenditure incurred since then is given in the table below:-

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	No. of beneficiaries	Expenditure
2020-21	3	9.75
2021-22	461	1678.41
2022-23	141	477.56
TOTAL	605	2165.72

The Government has also released Rs. 87.15 crore of Central Share for procurement of Mechanical desludging vehicles to ULBs with population less than 1 lakh under Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) 2.0.

(c): The Government takes a serious cognizance of the deaths occurring due to hazardous cleaning of sewers and septic tanks. 1035 persons have died due to hazardous cleaning of sewer/ septic tanks since 1993 and family members of 948 have been provided compensation.

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