

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3128
TO BE ANSWERED ON MARCH 12, 2020**

DEATH OF SANITATION WORKERS

NO. 3128. SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI :

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of labourers died while working in the sewer line and septic tanks during the last three years;**
- (b) the details of such accidents and deaths, Statewise;**
- (c) the detail of the facilities being provided to the labourers and the parameters being applied during the cleaning of sewer line and septic tanks; and**
- (d) the details of action taken on these types of accidents?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS**

(SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI)

- (a) and (b) : State-wise details of deaths while cleaning sewers and septic tanks during the last three years and current year, as reported by the States and Union Territories (UTs) to National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK), are at Annexure-I.**
- (c) : Facilities provided to the labourers and safety parameters being applied during cleaning of sewer lines and septic tanks are as under :**

- (i). Under the “Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation (PEMS&R) Rules, 2013”, obligation has been imposed on the Employer to provide safety gear and safety devices, cleaning devices towards employees who are engaged in cleaning of sewer or septic tanks. Employer has to ensure that the assigned person has life insurance policy of at least ten lakh Rupees and the premium for which shall be paid by the employer. These Rules are to be complied by all the employers who engage persons for cleaning of sewers and septic tanks.
- (ii). National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) organized 500 workshops in municipalities on safe cleaning of sewers and septic tanks and also create awareness about the provisions of PEMS&R Act and Rules, 2013 regarding employer’s obligations to provide safety gear/equipment and ensure safety precautions.
- (iii). NSKFDC is also implementing a scheme, Swachhta Udyami Yojana under which loan up to Rs. 50 lakh is provided to the municipalities for purchase of equipment/vehicles for mechanized cleaning of sewers and septic tanks.
- (d) : State wise details of action taken on sewer death accidents of sanitation workers since 1993 to 31.01.2020 as reported by States to NCSK are at Annexure-II.

ANNEXURE-I REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) AND (B) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3128 FOR 12.03.2020 REGARDING “DEATH OF SANITATION WORKERS”.

Year-wise and State-wise Sewer deaths during last three years and current year						
Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Number of Sewer Deaths in				
		2016	2017	2018	2019 (up to 06 November 2019)	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	3	2	9	2	16
2	Bihar	0	6	6	0	12
3	Chhatisgarh	0	0	1	0	1
4	Chandigarh	0	3	0	0	3
5	Delhi	1	13	10	6	30
6	Goa	2	0	0	0	2
7	Gujarat	7	7	2	14	30
8	Haryana	0	11	6	14	31
9	Kerala	2	1	0	0	3
10	Karnataka	9	4	1	3	17
11	Madhya Pradesh	2	0	0	0	2
12	Maharashtra	4	4	7	12	27
13	Punjab	2	4	2	3	11
14	Rajasthan	5	6	2	4	17
15	Tamil Nadu	10	7	9	14	40
16	Tripura	2	0	0	0	2
17	Telangana	0	0	2	0	2
18	Uttar Pradesh	1	8	9	9	27
19	West Bengal	0	7	0	2	9
	Grand total=	50	83	66	83	282

ANNEXURE-II REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (D) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3128 FOR 12.03.2020 REGARDING “DEATH OF SANITATION WORKERS”.

State-wise details of action taken on cases of death while cleaning sewers and septic tanks since 1993 up to 31.01.2020 and compensation paid to the families as reported by the States to National Commission of Safai Karamcharis.							
S No	Name of State/UT	Total Number of sewer deaths	Status of payment of compensation in terms of Supreme Court Judgment dated 27.03.2014				
			Rs. 10 Lakh	Less than Rs.10 Lakh	FIR lodged	No Payment/ payment not yet confirmed	Legal heir not traceable
1	Andhra Pradesh	23	12	4	22	7	0
2	Bihar	12	0	6	6	6	0
3	Chhatisgarh	1	1	0	5	0	0
4	Chandigarh	3	3	0	0	0	0
5	Delhi	89	48	25	46	16	0
6	Goa	6	0	6	6	0	0
7	Gujarat	161	55	44	125	32	30
8	Haryana	73	55	12	23	6	0
9	Karnataka	78	77	0	66	0	1
10	Kerala	13	13	0	8	0	0
11	Maharashtra	32	2	0	20	30	0
12	Madhya Pradesh	10	7	0	5	3	0
13	Punjab	36	28	4	4	4	0
14	Rajasthan	41	6	17	25	18	0
15	Tamil Nadu	206	190	1	28	9	6
16	Telangana	6	2	2	5	2	0
17	Tripura	2	0	2	2	0	0
18	Uttrakhand	6	1	2	3	3	0
19	Uttar Pradesh	103	44	35	21	24	0
20	West Bengal	19	14	1	0	4	0
	Total	920	558	161	420	164	37