GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3694 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2021

BILL ON MANUAL SCAVENGING

3694. SHRI COSME FRANCISCO CAITANO SARDINHA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any poposal to introduce 'The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation (Amendment) Bill, 2020, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefore; and
- (b) the details of technology that would replace the manual scavengers in the cleaning task in wake of above proposal of the Government?

ANSWER

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

- (a): At present, there is no such proposal.
- (b): Manual Scavenging is a prohibited activity with effect from 06.12.2013. The Government is trying to promote mechanical cleaning of sanitation related cleaning activity associated with cleaning of sewers, septic tanks. Manual scavenging associated with manual cleaning of insanitary latrines, which have since been demolished and replaced with sanitary latrines under Swachh Bharat Mission. Such sanitary latrines are either connected to underground or twin pits do not require any manual cleaning.
