

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2518
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2022**

REHABILITATION OF MANUAL SCAVENGERS

2518. SHRI UPENDRA SINGH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has the details of the manual scavengers employed by the Railways as of September 2021;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to rehabilitate and resettle the manual scavengers; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a)to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2518 BY SHRI UPENDRA SINGH RAWAT
TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 16.03.2022 REGARDING
REHABILITATION OF MANUAL SCAVENGERS.**

(a) & (b) There are no manual scavengers on Indian Railways. Provisions of Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 have been complied with by Railways and protective gear and devices including mechanized equipment to any person engaged in cleaning in passenger coaches, station area or railway tracks are being provided. With the fitment of bio-toilets in all Broad Gauge coaches, no faecal matter is discharged on tracks. Cleaning of washable aprons at platforms and coach toilets is done using high pressure jets and protective gears are provided to the workers. Thus, there is no manual scavenging on Railways.

(c) & (d) Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has formulated a Central Sector Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS) which provides following benefits to the identified manual scavengers for their rehabilitation:-

- i. One time Cash Assistance of ₹ 40,000/- to one identified manual scavenger in the family.**
- ii. Skill development Training of manual scavengers and their dependants upto two years with stipend @ ₹ 3,000/- per month during the training period.**

- iii. Capital Subsidy upto ₹ 5.00 lakh for those who availed loans for Self Employment Projects including sanitation related projects.**
- iv. Health insurance under Ayushman Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) to the families of all the identified manual scavengers.**

*** * * ***