

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1391  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2022**

**MANUAL SCAVENGING**

**1391. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:  
DR. VISHNU PRASAD M.K.:  
SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI:**

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

- (a) the definition of a manual scavenger, the number of manual scavengers and those who have been identified for rehabilitation during the last three years in the country, State-wise,
- (b) the details of deaths reported, if any, in the country during the last three years and current year due to manual scavenging despite legal ban of all forms of manual scavenging under the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, State-wise and the total amount spent for rehabilitation of manual scavengers after the enactment of this act;
- (c) whether the Government has disbursed any compensation to those who died doing sewerage cleaning work since 1993 as per the 2014 - Hon'ble Supreme Court order to award of a compensation of Rs.10 lakh each for the families of manual scavenger and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the amount out of Rs. 100 crore dedicated for rehabilitation that have been spent for the current year; and
- (e) whether there has been any case registered against the employers of Manual Scavengers in India and if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): As per Section 2 (1) (g) of the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, (MS Act 2013), the definition of manual scavenger is as follows:-

“Manual Scavenger” means a person engaged or employed by an individual or a local authority or a public or private agency, for manually cleaning, carrying, disposing of, or otherwise handling in any manner, human excreta in an insanitary latrine or in an open drain or pit into which the human excreta from insanitary latrines is disposed of, or on a railway track or in such other spaces or premises, as the Central Government or a State Government may notify, before the excreta fully decomposes in such manner as may be prescribed, and the expression “manual scavenging” shall be construed accordingly.”

Two surveys have been conducted in the year 2013 and 2018 to identify the manual scavengers. During these surveys 58,098 eligible manual scavengers were identified. State-wise details are given at **Annexure-I**.

(b): No death has been reported due to engaging in Manual Scavenging (which is lifting of human excreta from insanitary latrines as defined in Section 2(1) (g) of the MS Act, 2013). However, 188 persons have died due to accidents while undertaking hazardous cleaning of sewer and septic tanks during the last three years and current year. Year-wise and state-wise details are given at **Annexure-II**.

An amount of Rs. 266.16 crore has been spent by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment under the Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers since 2013-14.

(c): In accordance with the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Judgment dated 27.03.2014 in Civil Writ Petition No. 583 of 2003, compensation of Rs. 10 lakh each is paid by the State Governments to the families of those who have died while cleaning sewers/septic tanks from the year 1993 onwards. National Commission for Safai Karamcharis and Department of Social Justice have ensured such compensation payments. State wise details are given at **Annexure-III**.

(d): During the current financial year 2022-23, under the Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS), there is an allocation of Rs. 70.00 crore. However, so far no fund has been released during 2022-23 to the National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC).

(e): The cases filed in this regard are at different stages and have not come to the logical conclusion.

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**Annexure-I**

Annexure-I referred in reply to part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1391 for 26.07.2022 regarding Manual Scavenging.

**State-wise Number of Manual Scavengers Identified**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>No. of manual scavengers identified</b>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1793
2.	Assam	3921
3.	Bihar	131
4.	Chhattisgarh	3
5.	Gujarat	105
6.	Jharkhand	192
7.	Karnataka	2927
8.	Kerala	518
9.	Madhya Pradesh	510
10.	Maharashtra	6325
11.	Odisha	230
12.	Punjab	231
13.	Rajasthan	2673
14.	Tamilnadu	398
15.	Uttar Pradesh	32473
16.	Uttarakhand	4988
17.	West Bengal	680
	<b>Total</b>	<b>58098</b>

Annexure-II referred in reply to part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1391 for 26.07.2022 regarding Manual Scavenging.

**Year-wise and State-wise details of death of persons during last three years and current year due to hazardous cleaning of sewers and septic tanks**

S. No.	Name of State/UT	2019	2020	2021	2022
		Total No. of death	Total No. of death	Total No. of death	Total No. of death
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	0	0	0
2.	Bihar	0	0	0	0
3.	Chhatisgarh	0	0	0	0
4.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0
5.	Delhi	10	4	4	2
6.	Gujarat	14	0	5	0
7.	Haryana	14	0	5	2
8.	Karnataka	7	2	5	0
9.	Kerala	0	0	0	0
10.	Maharashtra	15	4	0	4
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1	0	3	0
12.	Odisha	0	0	2	0
13.	Punjab	3	0	1	0
14.	Rajasthan	5	0	0	0
15.	Tamil Nadu	13	9	5	5
16.	Telangana	0	0	2	0
17.	Uttar Pradesh	26	0	0	4
18.	West Bengal	6	0	4	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>17</b>

Annexure-III referred in reply to part (c) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1391 for 26.07.2022 regarding Manual Scavenging.

**Details of death of persons in sewers and septic tanks during the years 1993 to till date (As on 30.06.2022)**

S No	Name of State/UT	Total Number of sewer death	Status of payment of compensation in terms of Supreme Court Judgment dated 27.03.2014	
			10 Lac	Less than 10 Lac
1	Andhra Pradesh	23	13	4
2	Bihar	2	2	0
3	Chhatisgarh	1	1	0
4	Chandigarh	3	3	0
5	Delhi	99	72	15
6	Goa	6	0	6
7	Gujarat	136	83	23
8	Haryana	81	63	12
9	Karnataka	84	84	0
10	Kerala	13	13	0
11	Maharashtra	41	16	6
12	Madhya Pradesh	16	16	0
13	Odisha	2	2	0
14	Puducherry	9	8	0
15	Punjab	40	34	4
16	Rajasthan	38	28	5
17	Tamil Nadu	218	207	1
18	Telangana	18	15	2
19	Tripura	2	0	2
20	Uttarakhand	4	2	2
21	Uttar Pradesh	105	60	30
22	West Bengal	25	20	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>966</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>113</b>

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-5-