

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1140
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2024**

SAFETY MEASURES FOR LABROURERS

1140. SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that many labourers at construction sites are working without any safety measures and safety equipments;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;**
- (c) whether many sanitary workers are also working without any safety measures such as gloves, masks etc. and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to issue a SOP (Standard Operation Procedure) for the safety measure to these labourers/safai karamcharis/sanitary workers; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the necessary steps taken/being taken by the Government so far to ensure the safety of labourers across the country?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)**

(a) & (b): The Government is committed to protect and promote welfare, social security, safety and health of labourers at construction sites and provisions, in this regard, are made under Building and Other Construction Workers (RE&CS) Act, 1996. Ministry of Labour and Employment from time to time issued directions under the said Act to all States/UTs for appropriate action, thereon.

(c) to (e): The Government (Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment) has notified "Prohibition on Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Rules, 2013 (MS Rules, 2013)" under which it is mandatory for the employer to provide the safety gear, devices and ensure safety precautions. Under these Rules, the

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worker engaged for cleaning sewer or septic tank is also required to be provided life insurance cover for Rs. 10 lakhs for which the premium shall be paid by the employer. Further, the Government [Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)] has also issued a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for cleaning of Sewer/Septic Tank. MoHUA has also issued an advisory for technical and managerial interventions for ensuring safety during Sewer and Septic tank cleaning through Emergency Response Sanitation Unit (ERSU). In addition, a Ready Reckoner for Urban Local Bodies for Ensuring Safety of Sanitation Workers has also been issued by MoHUA.
