

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2385
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.12.2024**

ERADICATION OF MANUAL SCAVENGING

2385.SHRI RAJA RAM SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps towards eradication of manual scavenging as per the order of the Supreme Court dated 20 October 2023 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 324 of 2020, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the effective steps taken by the Government to ensure compliance by the Union Government with the said directions?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): As per the “Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (MS Act, 2013)” manual scavenging is a banned activity in the country with effect from 6.12.2013.

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 20.10.2023 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 324/2020 in the case of Dr. Balram Singh Vs. Union of India and others has directed for fresh survey of manual scavengers as per MS Act, 2013 and MS Rules, 2013.

In compliance of the order of the Supreme Court, States/UTs were provided survey guidelines and requested to conduct survey of manual scavengers after Constituting District Level Survey Committees and other Committees.

A mobile application and portal has also been developed to capture the data of Manual Scavengers and insanitary latrines in urban and rural areas, if any.

Out of 766 districts, 249 districts have declared themselves as Manual Scavengers free districts and uploaded the certificate on portal.
