

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2149
TO BE ANSWERED ON FEBRUARY 12, 2026**

ULBS EQUIPPED WITH MECHANISED CLEANING EQUIPMENTS

**NO. 2149. THIRU DR. S JAGATHRATCHAKAN:
SMT. KANIMOZHI KARUNANIDHI:**

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and municipalities equipped with mechanised sewer and septic tank cleaning equipments as of March 2025, State-wise;**
- (b) the number of ULBs that have fully eliminated manual entry into sewers and septic tanks along with the certification or verification status thereof;**
- (c) the number of inspections conducted under the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and Their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 during the last five years and the details of the violations detected in this regard; and**
- (d) whether the Government has issued any Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) or technical guidelines mandating the use of mechanical devices for cleaning sewer lines and septic tanks and if so, the details thereof including the year of issue?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI TOKHAN SAHU)**

(a) & (b) : Sanitation is a state subject, all State/UTs have been advised to procure or lease necessary equipment to achieve 100% mechanization of sewer and septic tank cleaning. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has identified required machinery and equipment for 100% mechanized sewer and septic tank maintenance operation and facilitated listing this equipment on the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) portal to facilitate easy procurement by States and ULBs.

MoHUA launched a SafaiMitra Surakshit Shehar protocol for all ULBs. Based on the protocol, a ULB can be declared as SafaiMitra Surakshit if it attains at least 'adequate' status in each of the domains - institutional domain, manpower domain, and equipment domains as prescribed in the protocol. Currently, more than 3,489 ULBs have declared themselves SafaiMitra Surakshit Shehar.

As per the information received from Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE), NAMASTE (National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem) scheme provides for upfront Capital Subsidy to Sanitation Workers and Private Sanitation Service Operators (PSSOs) for procurement and deployment of mechanised sanitation equipment. Further, under Swachhta Udyami Yojana (SUY), loan and upfront capital subsidy is provided for procurement of mechanized cleaning equipments/ vehicles. Details of the direct loans and upfront capital subsidy provided till March, 2025 under SUV is at Annexure.

(c) : MoSJE has informed that data of Inspections conducted by States/UTs under the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and Their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 is not maintained centrally.

(d) : With the objective of eradication of hazardous entry into sewers and septic tanks, and sustaining elimination of manual scavenging, through mechanization of sewer and septic tank cleaning operations, a new component i.e. Used Water management (UWM) has been included under Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban (SBM-U) 2.0.

MoHUA has issued an advisory on Emergency Response Sanitation Unit (ERSU) to institutionalize safety practices and put in place frameworks to mitigate the dangers of manual cleaning of sewer in 2019. MoHUA has also issued SOP containing procedure to be followed during mechanical and manual cleaning of sewer and septic tanks in November, 2018.

Further, MoHUA has issued Model Empanelment and Contract documents in June, 2025 to guide Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in engaging Private Sanitation Service Operators (PSSOs). This framework aims to establish clear legal and operational guidelines for delivering safe, mechanized services in compliance with the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation (PEMSR) Act, 2013.

Statement referred to the reply of the part (a) & (b) of the Lok Sabha unstarred Question No. 2149 for 12.02.2026 regarding “ULBS Equipped with Mechanised Cleaning Equipments”

State-Wise Progress under SUY as on March 2025

(₹ in lakhs)

State/SCA/C A	Capital Subsidy to beneficiaries			Loans to ULBs by NSKFDC		
	No. of ULBs	No. of Units	Capital Subsidy released	No. of ULBs	Loan amount Released by NSKFDC	No. Of Equipments / Units
A & N Islands	1	8	38.19	0	0.00	0
Andhra Pradesh	28	239	2886.52	0	0.00	0
Bihar	1	1	4.61	1	534.06	21
Gujarat	1	11	81.32	0	0.00	0
Haryana	1	6	20.78	1	6.12	1
Jharkhand	1	7	27.09	0	0.00	0
Madhya Pradesh	3	119	507.68	15	2601.36	131
Maharashtra	1	2	7.90	2	36.08	5
Odisha	2	9	62.43	0	0.00	0
Rajasthan	6	5	20.60	0	0.00	0
Tamil Nadu	2	9	158.84	0	0.00	0
Telangana	6	23	191.78	7	231.05	76
Uttar Pradesh	2	57	217.87	1	35.46	4
Puducherry	0	0	0.00	1	289.34	6
Uttarakhand	0	0	0.00	1	550.47	56
Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0.00	1	22.83	2
Grand Total	55	496	4225.61	30	4306.77	302