

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.736
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2023**

MANUAL SCAVENGERS

736. SHRI P RAVINDHRANATH:

SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI:

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

- (a) the details of persons engaged in manual scavenging in the country;
- (b) whether any case has been registered against the employers of Manual Scavenging in the country and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the steps taken or being taken by the Government for allocation of funds towards rehabilitation and improvement in educational and economic status of manual scavengers followed by the enactment of "Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act-2013", during the last three financial years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (d) whether any review has been conducted by the Union Government to ensure the utilization of such funds during the said period and if so, the details and outcomes thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): There is no report of people currently engaged in manual scavenging in the country.

Manual scavenging as defined under Section 2 (1) (g) of the "Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (MS Act, 2013)" is prohibited with effect from 6.12.2013. No person or agency can engage or employ any person for manual scavenging from that date.

(b): No report has been received from the State/UT Governments about any case registered against the employers.

(c): The following rehabilitation benefits have been provided under Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS):-

- a. One-time Cash Assistance of Rs. 40,000/- per family has been provided to all identified and eligible 58098 manual scavengers.
- b. Capital Subsidy upto Rs. 5,00,000/- has been provided to 2313 identified manual scavengers and their dependents to take up alternate self employment projects.
- c. Skill Development Training has been provided to 22294 identified manual scavengers and their dependents with stipend @ Rs. 3,000/- per month during the training period. The successfully trained candidates are also provided Government recognized training certificates and assistance for sustainable employments.
- d. Health Insurance under Ayushman Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) to the families of all the identified manual scavengers.

SRMS is Central Sector scheme and there is no state-wise allocation of funds. The details of Funds allocated for rehabilitation of manual scavengers during the last three years and current year under “National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem” (NAMASTE) scheme are as under:-

(Rs. In Crore)

Year	Funds allocated
2020-21	30.00
2021-22	43.31
2022-23	70
2023-24	97.41

(d): Evaluation study carried out in 2019-2020 regarding implementation of Self Employment Scheme for the Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS) has reported successful implementation of the Scheme.
