

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.421
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2023**

MANUAL SCAVENGING FREE DISTRICTS

421. SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:

SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE:

SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:

SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:

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

- (a) the total number of districts which have neither declared themselves manual scavenging free nor uploaded any details of existing insanitary latrines and manual scavengers, State-wise;
- (b) the reasons for which a large number of districts are yet to overcome the dangerous and unhygienic practice; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): As per the “Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (MS Act, 2013)” manual scavenging is a prohibited activity in the country with effect from 6.12.2013. All districts have been requested either to declare themselves free from manual scavenging or upload the data of insanitary latrine and manual scavengers associated with it on “Swachhta Abhiyan” Mobile App. As on 29.11.2023, out of 766 districts in the country, 714 districts have reported themselves as manual scavenging-free.
