

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1159  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2024**

**ABOLITION OF MANUAL SCAVENGING**

**1159 SHRI S VENKATESAN:**

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

- (a) whether there is any bill pending with the Ministry for complete mechanization of sewerage cleaning and abolition of manual scavenging and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether there were reports that The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation (Amendment) Bill, 2020 aiming at complete mechanisation was sent for Cabinet approval, if so, the details thereof and the present position thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a): At present, there is no Bill proposed for complete mechanization of sewerage cleaning and abolition of manual scavenging.
- (b): There was a proposal to amend “the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013” with aim to formalize the institutional set-up for safe cleaning practices. In view of a Scheme viz. National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) formulated jointly by Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs and Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, it was decided not to amend the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013.

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