

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3666
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000
SAFAI KARAMCHARI
JAI BHADRA SINGH;NANDIPAKU VENKATASWAMY

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware that the practice of carrying night soil on heads is still continuing in certain States;
- (b) if so, whether the National Commission for Safai Karamchari has submitted any report in this regard recently;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether the State Governments or Union Government have made arrangements for their rehabilitation and alternative employment; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. MANEKA GANDHI)

(a) to (d) The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis, in its latest IVth report, has indicated about existence of manual scavenging in certain parts of the country. Extracts of the report have been sent to the concerned State Government(s) for necessary action.

(e) & (f) The National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents is being implemented since 1992-93 with a view to give financial assistance for training and rehabilitation in alternative occupation of the scavengers. The Scheme is implemented through State Scheduled Castes Development Corporations. Under the scheme assistance is provided for the following:

1. For training 100% Central Assistance,
 - (i) Stipend – upto Rs. 500/- per month per scavenger
 - (ii) Training fees per scavenger – upto Rs. 300/- per month
 - (iii) Honorarium to craftsman – upto Rs. 100/- per month, and
 - (iv) Tool kit allowance – upto Rs. 2000/- per scavenger. The period of training is upto six months;
2. For rehabilitation,
 - (i) the extent of Central subsidy is 50% of the project cost or Rs. 10,000/- whichever is less;
 - (ii) Margin Money Loan is 15% of the project cost which is shared by the Central and State Governments in the ratio of 49:51; and
 - (iii) Balance amount of the project is met through bank loans.