

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2473
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2014
SAFAI KARAMCHARIS
Kachhadia Shri Naranbhai

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the basic criteria of applicant to get Income Tax benefit from Gujarat Safai Karamchari Vikas Nigam (GSKVN);
- (b) whether any other corporation is working for Safai Karamchari in India as a State Channelizing Agency (SCA) of National Safai Karamchari Finance Development Corporation (NSKFDC) which pays income tax and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether NSKFDC is exempted under section 10 (26B) of the IT Act, if so, the details thereof and the reason for not giving the same facility to GSKVN; and
- (d) the reaction of the Government in this matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a): A Scavenger/Safai Karamchari and his dependents duly identified under the National Scheme for Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers (NSLRS)/ Survey/registered co-operative society of Safai Karamcharis/legally constituted association/firm promoted by the target group and also all those who produce a certificate from local Revenue Officer/Local Municipal Officer/ Cantonment Executive Officer/Railway Officer, Head of the Govt. Departments (i.e. Schools, Colleges. Forest, Health, Education, Animal Husbandry having rank not less than Gazetted Officer), Elected Members of Municipal Body/Corporation & Pradhan of Gram Panchayats, are eligible for getting benefit from GSKVN.
- (b): Information, as to whether income is exempted, is not centrally maintained. Assessing Officers concerned determine the payment of Income-tax by corporations working for Safai Karamcharis in India as State Channelising Agencies of NSKFDC depending on the eligibility of the agencies under section 10(26B) of the Income-tax Act, 1961(the 'Act').
- (c)&(d): NSKFDC is claiming exemption u/s 10(26B) of the Act. As per the Department's view, GSKVN is not entitled for exemption u/s 10(26B) of the Act because the said exemption is available only when a body/institution/association is established for promoting the interests of the members of the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes or backward classes whereas GSKVN has been established for promoting the interests of the Safai Kamdars. GSKVN is, however, registered u/s 12AA of the Act and is enjoying tax exemption u/s 11 of the Act.