

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 443  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2026**

**ERADICATION OF MANUAL SCAVENGING**

**443. DR. D RAVI KUMAR:**

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

- (a) the number of deaths reported while cleaning sewers and septic tanks during the last five years, State-wise;
- (b) the number of cases registered against agencies or officials responsible for employing persons in hazardous manual cleaning and the number of resolution for the grievance;
- (c) whether the Government has evaluated the implementation of mechanised sewer cleaning across States, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure complete eradication of manual scavenging?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a): As reported by the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK), State-wise details of sanitation workers who lost their lives due to hazardous cleaning of sewer and septic tanks from 01.01.2021 to 30.06.2026 is at **Annexure**.
- (b): During last five years, 193 FIRs have been lodged in concerned States/UTs.
- (c): No, Sir.
- (d): As per the provisions of the "Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (MS Act, 2013)", manual scavenging is a banned activity in the country with effect from 6.12.2013. No person or agency can engage or employ any person for manual scavenging after the above date. Any person or agency who engages any person for manual scavenging in violation of the provisions of the MS Act, 2013 is punishable under Section 8 of the above Act, with imprisonment upto 2 years or fine upto Rs. One Lakh or both. No report of the practice of manual scavenging has been received in the recent survey conducted in all Districts.

**Annexure**

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 443 for answer on 21.07.2026 regarding 'Eradication of Manual Scavenging'.**

State-wise details of sanitation workers who lost their lives due to hazardous cleaning of sewer and septic tanks from 01.01.2021 to 30.06.2026 is as under:-

| <b>S. No.</b> | <b>States/UTs</b>      | <b>Number of Death</b> |
|---------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1             | Andhra Pradesh         | 5                      |
| 2             | Bihar                  | 2                      |
| 3             | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 3                      |
| 4             | Delhi                  | 29                     |
| 5             | Goa                    | 1                      |
| 6             | Gujarat                | 27                     |
| 7             | Haryana                | 47                     |
| 8             | Jharkhand              | 1                      |
| 9             | Karnataka              | 12                     |
| 10            | Madhya Pradesh         | 13                     |
| 11            | Maharashtra            | 58                     |
| 12            | Odisha                 | 2                      |
| 13            | Punjab                 | 12                     |
| 14            | Rajasthan              | 23                     |
| 15            | Tamil Nadu             | 38                     |
| 16            | Telangana              | 9                      |
| 17            | Uttar Pradesh          | 37                     |
| 18            | West Bengal            | 13                     |
|               | <b>Total</b>           | <b>332</b>             |

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