

**Rehabilitation of sweepers**

†1525. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Draft Rules Formulated under The Prohibition of Employment As Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, by the Ministry have no provision for rehabilitation of sweepers;

(b) whether Railways has maximum number of sweepers for whom no provision has been made under these rules; and

(c) whether no provision has been made for downtrodden Muslims and Dalit Christians engaged therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : (a) and (b) “The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013” deals with manual scavengers and not sweepers. Therefore, the “Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Rules, 2013”, notified by the Government on 12.12.2013 provide only for the rehabilitation of the manual scavengers in accordance with Section 13 of the above Act.

(c) Rule 11(22) of the “Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Rules, 2013”, *inter alia*, provide that there shall be no restriction regarding the caste or religion or income or gender for being identified as manual scavenger.

**Law with respect to scheduled caste sub-plan**

1526. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is thinking to make law with respect to the Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : (a) Final decision in the matter has not been taken by the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Steps to address problem of alcoholism**

1527. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that women from every State and every community, Dalits Adivasis, minorities and so on suffer due to the prevalence of alcoholism which eats its way into precious family income and leads to domestic violence; and

(b) if so, how Government proposes to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the ill-effects of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) abuse on the individual, the family, the workplace and society at large and recognizes it as a psycho-social-medical problem.

This Ministry has been implementing a “Central Sector Scheme of Assistance for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse” by providing financial assistance to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Panchayati Raj Institutions, Urban Local Bodies etc. for running and maintenance of Integrated Rehabilitation Centers for Addicts (IRCAs). This Ministry also undertakes various programmes to create awareness and educate people about the ill effects of alcoholism and drug abuse as stated below:

- (i) National Awards for outstanding services in the field of prevention of alcoholism and substance (drug) abuse are being conferred on 26th June every year, starting from 26th June, 2013 to the Individuals and Institutions to encourage them and recognize their efforts in preventing alcoholism and drug abuse. Further 26th June being the International Day against Drug Abuse, various rallies, painting competitions, campaigns, workshop, seminars etc. are organized at the national as well as at the State level.