Technological interventions in lieu of manual scavenging

1077. SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of rural households in the country where at least one member is engaged in manual scavenging;
- (b) the number of dry latrines that have been constructed under Government schemes which still require manual cleaning;
- (c) the number and the details of lives that have been lost due to manual scavenging during the last three years; and

(d) the details of initiatives and technological interventions adopted in lieu of manual scavenging?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE): (a) Socio-Economic and Caste Census-2011 has also captured data of number of households & having manual scavengers in rural areas. As per data uploaded on website http://secc.gov.in 1,68,066 persons declared themselves as manual scavengers in rural areas.

- (b) There is no Government scheme for construction of dry latrines.
- (c) and (d) Manual scavenging is prohibited under "Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (MS Act, 2013)" from the date coming into force of the Act *i.e.* 06.12.2013. There have been no reports of deaths due to manual scavenging during the last three years. However, some States have reported death of persons while cleaning septic tanks and sewers and details of the same and the compensation paid to the families of the victims are given in the Statement (*See* below). In order to prevent recurrence of such deaths all the States and Union Territories have been advised to ensure:
 - (i) only mechanized cleaning of septic tanks and sewers by municipalities/ municipal Corporations.
 - (ii) that when manual cleaning is unavoidable, the municipalities and other agencies including contractors who employ the workers comply with the provisions of "Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Rules, 2013 (MS Rules, 2013) regarding safety equipment, devices and precautions.
 - (iii) to ensure that the worker has insurance policy for ₹ 10 lakhs, the premium for such policy be paid by the employer.
 - (iv) in the unfortunate event of death of worker while cleaning septic tank/sewer, to ensure payment of compensation of ₹ 10 lakh to the family members of worker as per Supreme Court Judgment dated 27.03.2014 in CWP No. 583/ 2003.

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Statement Details of cases reported by States regarding death of persons while cleaning septic tanks/sewers and compensation paid

[26 July, 2018]

Sl. No. State		Cases of death	Compensation paid	
		of persons while cleaning septic tanks/sewers reported by States	Full Compensation of ₹10 lakh each	Partial compensation
1.	Tamil Nadu	144	141	0
2.	Telangana	2	2	0
3.	Punjab	32	32	0
4.	Karnataka	62	16	8
5.	Haryana	5	3	0
6.	Kerala	12	0	2
7.	Rajasthan	7	3	2
8.	Uttar Pradesh	52	1	35
9.	Delhi	15	12	0
	Total	331	210	47

Launching of campaign against drugabuse in Punjab

1078. DR T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that Punjab is facing the challenge of drug abuse amongst millions of youth;
- (b) if so, whether Government has initiated any community project to tackle drug menace and to launch campaign against drug abuse in the State;
- (c) whether the National Centre for Drug Abuse and Prevention would be directed to visit that State for providing training to the staff for counseling and rehabilitation of drug addicts in the State; and