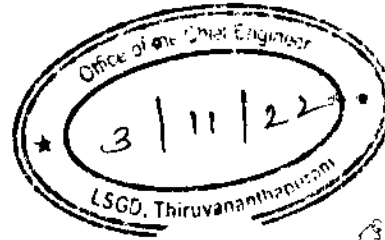


DB5



**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**

Local Self Government (W.M) Department

No.W.M2/124/2022- L.S.G.D - 01-11-2022, Thiruvananthapuram

From  
Additional Chief Secretary to Government

To  
The Principal Director, LSGD.  
Director of Panchayat, Thiruvananthapuram.  
Director of Urban Affairs, Thiruvananthapuram.  
✓ Chief Engineer, LSGD  
Executive Director, Suchitwa Mission

Sir,

Sub: L.S.G.D - Death of Persons while cleaning sewers and septic tanks - reg.

Ref: Letter No. 19016/01/2020-SCD-IV(SRMS) dated 12.08.2022 from Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt.of India.

I am to forward herewith a copy of the letter under reference for strict compliance.

Yours Faithfully,  
SHIBI ABRAHAM  
DEPUTY SECRETARY  
For Additional Chief Secretary to Government.

Approved for Issue,  
Signed by Prasanth C  
Date: 01-11-2022 15:48:23  
Section Officer.

206096/2022/CRU LIDEW

WM2/124/2022-LSGD

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6582097/2022/LSGD(OS)

SJD-C3/52/2022-SJD

6462397/2022/LSGD(OS)  
YOGITA SWAROOP, IES

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S. Economic Adviser

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E-mail : yogita.swaroop@gov.in

20-08-2022



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार  
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय  
पंडित दीनदयाल अंत्योदय भवन,  
सी.जी.ओ. कॉम्प्लेक्स, लोदी रोड, नई दिल्ली-110003  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
PANDIT DEENDAYAL ANTYODAYA BHAWAN,  
C.G.O. COMPLEX, LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI-110003

D.O. No. 19016/01/2020-SCD-IV(SRMS)

Dated: 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you are aware that reports regarding death of persons while cleaning sewers and septic tanks appear in the media on a regular basis. Government of India is seized off the matter and has promulgated the "Prohibition of Employment as Manual scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (MS Act, 2013)", which prohibits engagement of persons for hazardous cleaning under sub Section 7. Section 9 of the said Act specifies the punitive measures to be taken for any contravention of Section 7. Despite all these measures, news of sewer/septic tanks deaths galore in both print and electronic media, thus negating the rehabilitation measures implemented by Government of India. A statement regarding death of persons in sewer/septic tanks in the country since 1993 is enclosed for ready reference.

2. It is a matter of concern that there is no report of any conviction under MS Act, 2013 or SC/ST Act. This aspect requires immediate attention so that both these Acts are implemented in letter and spirit. Both these Acts provide for stringent punitive measures for any violation of these Acts. You will appreciate that convictions through fast track courts will act as a positive deterrent to such cases.

3. I would request you to look into the matter personally so that above provisions are strictly adhered to and necessary action is initiated against the persons responsible for engaging persons for hazardous cleaning of sewers in violation of Section 7 of the MS Act, 2013. The relevant sections of the SC/ST Act may also be applied in accordance to the circumstances in such incidents. The conviction reports alongwith Court orders may also be provide.

With regards

Yours sincerely,

  
(Yogita Swaroop)

To,

The Principal Secretaries of Social Welfare Department of concerned States/UTs.

## A statement regarding death of persons in sewer/septic tanks in the country since 1993

S. No.	Name of State/UT	Total Number of sewer death	FIR lodge under the Section or MS Act, 2013 or PoA Act	Status of Conviction
1	Andhra Pradesh	23	22	
2	Bihar	2	2	
3	Chhatisgarh	1	1	
4	Chandigarh	3	0	
5	Delhi	99	91	
6	Goa	6	6	
7	Gujarat	136	125	
8	Haryana	82	43	
9	Karnataka	84	82	
10	Kerala	13	8	
11	Maharashtra	41	20	
12	Madhya Pradesh	16	11	
13	Odisha	2	0	
14	Puducherry	9	9	
15	Punjab	40	9	
16	Rajasthan	38	32	
17	Tamil Nadu	218	43	
18	Telangana	18	7	
19	Tripura	2	2	
20	Uttrakhand	9	4	
21	Uttar Pradesh	106	26	
22	West Bengal	25	0	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>543</b>	