

**No. EDN-SE (10) F (13) 03/2024**  
Directorate of School Education  
Himachal Pradesh

**Dated: Shimla-171001 the September, 2025**

To

All the Deputy Director of School Education (Elementary/Higher)  
Himachal Pradesh


**Subject:- Implementation of Supreme Court directives in Dr. Balram Singh Vs Union of India (2023) –regarding the Prohibition of Manual Scavenging and submission of action taken report.**

**Memo,**

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of letter No. 4-6(2)/2012-SOM-Wel-IX-MS Act 16775-16778 dated 8<sup>th</sup> Septemeber, 2025 alongwith its enclosure received from the Directorate for the Empowerment of SCs, OBCs, Minorities & the Specially Abled Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-9 on the subject cited above.

In this context, it is intimated that National Human Rights Commission, Govt.of India vide D.O letter No. R/24/2024 PRPP (RU 3) dated 07.05.2025 has directed all State Government to strictly implement the directives outlined in Dr. Balram Singh vs. Union of India judgement. Now therefore you are directed to examine the matter and disseminate the same amongst all the Heads of Educational Institution working under your jurisdiction and also ensure for implementating following instructions:-


- (1) Ensure wide dissemination of information on the prohibition of manual scavenging and related judicial directives to all stakeholders including local authorities, contractors and the public.
- (2) Organize sensitization programs for officials, sanitation workers and communities on the legal, social and human rights aspects of maual scavenging.
- (3) Establish robust monitoring system to ensure compliance with Supreme Court directives.
- (4) Conduct regular follow-ups to track progress, identify gaps and ensure accountability.

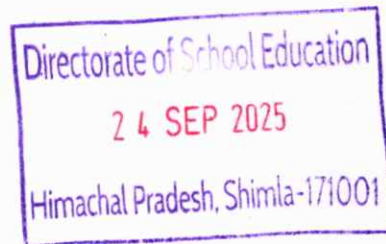
  
Addl. Director School Education  
Himachal Pradesh

Andst.No. Even dated Shimla-171001 the September, 2025

Copy for information and necessary action to:-

1. National Human Rights Commission, Manav Adhikar Bhawan, C-Block, GPO Complex, New Delhi-110023.
2. The Director, Empowerment of SCs, OBCs, Minorities & the Specially Abled Himachal Pradesh, Shimla -09 w.r.t. his /her letter referres above.
- ✓ 3. The Nodal Officer-IT Cell, Directorate of School Education, H.P, Shimla-1 with the remarks to upload the same on Departmental web site.
4. Guard file.

  
Addl. Director School Education  
Himachal Pradesh,



1031 404  
16-9-25

Urgent/Time Bound

File No. 4-6(2)/2012-SOM-Wel-IX-MS Act  
Directorate for the Empowerment of SCs, OBCs, Minorities &  
the Specially Abled Himachal Pradesh Shimla-09

16775-16778

387  
12-9-25

To

1. The Director,  
Urban Development Department,  
Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.
2. The Director,  
Higher Education,  
Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.
3. The Director,  
Elementary Education,  
Shimla Himachal Pradesh.
4. The Engineer-in-Chief,  
Jal Shakti Vibhag, Jal Shakti Bhawan,  
Shimla, Himachal Pradesh-05

Dated:

08 SEP 2025

**Subject:- Implementation of Supreme Court directives in Dr. Balram Singh vs Union of India(2023)- regarding the Prohibition of Manual Scavenging and submission of action taken report.**

Sir/Madam,

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of D.O letter No. R/24/2024/PRPP(RU-3) dated 14.08.2025 received from the Joint Secretary, National Human Rights Commission, Government of India vide which it has been requested to provide the action taken report on the directives issued by Hon'ble Supreme court judgment in *Dr. Balram Singh vs. Union of India (2023 INSC 950)*.

The National Human Rights Commission, in compliance with the Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgment in *Dr. Balram Singh vs. Union of India (2023 INSC 950)*, has conveyed that 14 specific directives have been issued to all States and Union Territories, calling for urgent measures to eliminate this dehumanizing practice (copy of directives enclosed).

Further National Human Rights Commission, Govt. of India vide D.O letter No. R/24/2024/PRPP(RU 3) dated 07.05.2025 has directed all State Governments to strictly implement the directives outlined in the judgment *Dr. Balram Singh vs. Union of India*. The following measures are to undertaken for implementing these instructions by authorities:-

1. Ensure wide dissemination of information on the prohibition of manual scavenging and related judicial directives to all stakeholders, including local authorities, contractors and the public.
2. Organize sensitization programs for officials, sanitation workers and communities on the legal, social and human rights aspects of manual scavenging.
3. Establish robust monitoring system to ensure compliance with supreme court directives.

Gar. Ms. Rishi  
12/9/25



4. Conduct regular follow-ups to track progress, identify gaps and ensure accountability.

In view of the above, it is requested to provide the Action Taken Report on the 14 directives issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its 2023 judgment, *Dr. Balram Singh vs Union of India (2023 INSC 950)* and also provide Action Taken Report on the recommendations contained in the D.O. letter dated 07.05.2025 within two days positively so that the same may be forwarded to the quarter concerned.

**Encl. as above**

Yours faithfully



Director

Empowerment of SCs, OBCs, Minorities &  
the Specially Abled Himachal Pradesh Shimla.

**Endst. No: As Above**

16779

Dated:-

08 SEP 2025

Shimla-9

Copy forwarded to the Secretary(SJ&E) to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh w.r.t letter No. SJE-B-E004/1/2025 dated 20.08.2025 for information please.



Director

Empowerment of SCs, OBCs, Minorities  
& the Specially Abled Himachal Pradesh.



राष्ट्रीय मानव अधिकार आयोग

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

मानव अधिकार भवन, सी-ब्लॉक, जीपीओ कम्प्लेक्स, आईएनए, नई दिल्ली-110 023  
Manav Adhikar Bhawan, C-Block, GPO Complex, INA, New Delhi-110 023 India  
Ph. No. (O) 011-24651329, 24651332  
E-mail : cr.nhrc@nic.in, Website : www.nhrc.nic.in

F. No. R / 24/ 2024/ PRPP (RU - 3)

Dated: 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2025

27/8/25

Sey (SJE)

Pr. Sey (UD)

To,  
The Chief Secretary  
Government of Himachal Pradesh  
H P Secretariat  
Shimla- 171 002



**Subject:** Implementation of Supreme Court Directives in Dr. Balram Singh vs Union of India (2023) - Regarding the Prohibition of Manual Scavenging and Submission of Action Taken Report

Sir,

The National Human Rights Commission is mandated under the Protection of Human Rights Act, of 1993, to protect and promote the human rights of all the people in the country. In order to fulfill the mandate, the Commission undertakes and promotes research in the field of human rights.

2. The Supreme Court, in its 2023 judgment, "**Dr. Balram Singh v. Union of India (2023 INSC 950)**", issued **14 clear directives** (enclosed herewith as Annexure) to the Union, States, and Union Territories, calling for urgent action to end this dehumanising practice.

3. In continuation to the D.O. letter No. R/24/2024/PRPP(RU-3), enclosed herewith for your reference, and in view of the Supreme Court's further order dated 29th January 2025 imposing a complete ban on manual scavenging and sewer cleaning in six metropolitan cities namely Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Hyderabad, this is a formal reminder to kindly submit the Action Taken Report (ATR) at the earliest.

4. The ATR may include the steps taken to disseminate information about the prohibition of manual scavenging, conduct sensitisation programmes for relevant stakeholders, establish monitoring mechanisms and carry out follow-up actions in compliance with the above-mentioned directives.

5. It is also requested to kindly direct the concerned authorities dealing with the matter to produce the Action Taken Report (ATR) to the Commission **within four weeks** of its perusal. A copy of the same may kindly be mailed to [sro-nhrc@nic.in](mailto:sro-nhrc@nic.in).

Yours faithfully,

(Saidingpuui Chhakhuak)  
Joint Secretary

Enclosed: As above

## Annexure

### **Key directives issued pursuant to the judgment delivered in *Dr. Balram Singh vs. Union of India***

1. **Comprehensive National Survey:** The Union, with the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, and Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, will conduct a nationwide survey within three months to identify all manual scavengers, aiming for completion within one year.
2. **Full Rehabilitation:** Ensure complete rehabilitation for manual scavengers and families, providing employment, education, skill training, scholarships for children, and housing for mainstream integration.
3. **Mechanized Sewer Cleaning:** Mandate mechanized sewer cleaning across all departments, agencies, and contractors to eliminate human sewer entry.
4. **Increased Compensation:** Provide ₹30 lakh for sewer deaths, ₹20 lakh for permanent disabilities, and at least ₹10 lakh for other disabilities.
5. **Accountability and Reforms:** Enforce stricter regulations and penalties for non-compliance by contractors and authorities.
6. **Scholarships for Dependents:** Establish scholarships for the education of dependents of sewer victims, whether deceased or disabled.
7. **Training Modules:** Develop training modules for district and state-level agencies on safety protocols and legal obligations under the 2013 Act.
8. **Monitoring Portal:** Launch a portal or dashboard to track sewer deaths, compensation, rehabilitation progress, and policy implementation.
9. **Coordination with Commissions:** Ensure coordination with National Commissions to establish state and district-level committees, avoiding implementation gaps.
10. **NALSA Involvement:** Involve the National Legal Services Authority in policy framing, survey planning, and implementation.
11. **Model Contract:** Devise a model sewer cleaning contract for adoption by States and Union Territories, ensuring compliance with the 2013 Act.
12. **Compensation for Past Victims:** Provide compensation to families of sewer death victims since 1993.
13. **Policy Alignment:** Align all department, agency, and local body policies with Union guidelines.
14. **Phased Eradication:** Frame policies and issue directions to statutory bodies for the phased eradication of manual sewer cleaning.



भारत सरकार

सूचना

Kumar, IRTS  
Secretary



राष्ट्रीय मानव अधिकार आयोग  
मानव अधिकार भवन, सा-ब्लॉक  
जीपीओ कॉम्प्लेक्स, आईएनए, नई दिल्ली-110023 भारत  
NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
Manav Adhikar Bhawan, C-Block  
GPO Complex, INA, New Delhi-110023 India  
Tel. (O) 011-24663217, 24663218

D.O. No. R/24/2024 PRPP (RU/3)

Dated 07<sup>th</sup> May, 2025

**Subject:** Implementation of Supreme Court Directives in *Dr. Balram Singh vs Union of India (2023)* Regarding the Prohibition of Manual Scavenging and Submission of Action Taken Report to the Commission - regarding


Dear Sir,

The National Human Rights Commission is mandated under the Protection of Human Rights Act, of 1993, to protect and promote the human rights of all the people in the country. In order to fulfill the mandate, the Commission undertakes various activities in the field of human rights

2. The Supreme Court, in its 2023 judgment, "*Dr. Balram Singh v. Union of India (2023 INSC 950)*", issued **14 clear directives** (enclosed herewith as Annexure) to the Union, States, and Union Territories, calling for urgent action to end the dehumanizing practice of Manual Scavenging.
3. Further, on 29th January 2025, the Supreme Court ordered a complete ban on manual scavenging and sewer cleaning in the cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, and Hyderabad. The Court directed the Chief Executive Officers of these cities to submit affidavits by 13th February 2025, detailing the cessation of manual scavenging. However, reports indicate that this inhuman practice is still continuing in some parts of the country.
4. The NHRC, reiterates, all State Governments to rigidly implement the directives outlined in *Dr. Balram Singh vs Union of India* judgement. To further this objective, the following measures are recommended for implementation by the concerned authorities:
  - i.) Ensure wide dissemination of information on the prohibition of manual scavenging and related judicial directives to all stakeholders, including local authorities, contractors, and the public;
  - ii.) Organize sensitization programs for officials, sanitation workers, and communities on the legal, social, and human rights aspects of manual scavenging;
  - iii.) Establish robust monitoring systems to ensure compliance with Supreme Court directives; and
  - iv.) Conduct regular follow-ups to track progress, identify gaps, and ensure accountability.
5. It is also requested to kindly direct the concerned authorities dealing with the matter to produce the Action Taken Report (ATR) to the Commission within 8 weeks positively for perusal and consideration of the Commission. A copy of the same may kindly be mailed at [sronhrc@nic.in](mailto:sronhrc@nic.in).

Regards

Yours sincerely,

  
(Samir Kumar)

Enclosed: 'Annexure- Court Directives'

Shri Prabodh Saxena, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Government of Himachal Pradesh  
H P Secretariat, Shimla- 171 002

