

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5463
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2010
SURVEY REPORT ON TOILETS IN HOUSES AND SCHOOLS
Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Sule Supriya

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether only thirty one per cent of rural Indian households and schools are equipped with toilets as per the survey of WHO/UNICEF;
- (b) if so, whether according to these reports this is much lower than the Government's compiled figure of sixty seven per cent;
- (c) whether according to these reports the percentage of households and schools having toilets is the sanitation level and the reports says that these levels are alarmingly low in rural India;
- (d) whether to deal with the problem of huge difference between its figures and those of WHO and UNICEF the centre has decided to conduct a fresh census on the sanitation levels in the country and has asked the States to facilitate factual coverage, which will form the basis of future reports;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government feels that there is a unified and authentic picture of sanitation coverage in India so that appropriate planning is done; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS. AGATHA SANGMA)

(a)to(g): According to the information presented in the WHO/UNICEF report on `Progress on sanitation and drinking water 2010 update` the use of sanitation facilities as a percentage of population was 31% in rural areas of the country. The information presented in the reports includes data from household surveys and censuses completed during the period 2007-2008 only. The data in the report do not reflect the efforts of the international year of sanitation 2008 and beyond which mobilised renewed support to stop the practice of open defecation and to promote the use of toilets. However, with the effective implementation of Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), the rural sanitation coverage has increased to approximately 67% as of November 2010, as reported by the States through online monitoring system maintained by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.