

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:840

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2013

OPEN DEFECATION .

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**Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether more than fifty per cent of rural population in the country lack toilet facilities and defecate in open;
- (b) if so, the details and percentage thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has set any target to eliminate the practice of open defecation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time frame fixed for the said purpose; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken/being taken by the Government to eliminate the practice of open defecation in rural areas of the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI)

- (a) and (b) As per census 2011, 67.33% of rural households are not having access to latrines. State/UT-wise details is at Annexure-1.
- (c) and (d) Yes Madam. Under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan(NBA), Govt. of India has set the target to make country open defecation free by the year 2022..
- (e) Government of India has designed a paradigm shift in Total Sanitation Campaign(TSC) which is now called the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA), in the XIIth Five Year Plan. The objective of NBA is to achieve sustainable behavior change with provision of sanitary facilities in entire communities in a phased, saturation mode with "Nirmal Grams' as outcomes. NBA goal is to achieve 100% access to sanitation for all rural households by 2022.

Under NBA, following steps have been taken :

# A shift from motivating individual household toilet construction to covering whole communities in a Gram Panchayat saturation mode for holistic sanitation outcomes.

# The scope of providing incentives for individual household latrine units has been widened to cover all APL households, who belong to SCs, STs, small and marginal farmers, landless labourers with homesteads, physically challenged and women headed households along-with all BPL households. Financial incentive for construction of toilets has been raised for all eligible beneficiaries to Rs. 4600/- from the earlier amount of Rs 3200/- under NBA. In addition upto Rs. 4500/- can be spent under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme for construction of the toilet. Along-with beneficiary contribution of Rs. 900/-, the total unit cost of toilet is now Rs. 10000/- (Rs. 10500/- for Hilly and difficult areas)

# More emphasis on Information Education Communication (IEC).with earmarked 15% of the total outlay of district projects for IEC activities. With a view to give thrust to a new approach towards IEC, the Ministry has launched a Communication and Advocacy Strategy (2012-2017).

# Conjoint approach with National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) to ensure water availability for sanitation in Gram Panchayats. Focused convergence of rural sanitation with associated Ministries including Health, School Education, Women and Child Development with NBA.