

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:64
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2013
SANITATION IN SCHOOLS
Jindal Shri Naveen

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

- (a) whether full-time sweepers for toilets have not been provided in Government schools that lead to unhygienic condition in the toilets after their limited duty hours;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has any plan to utilize labour under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) for providing full-time sweeper services in schools; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI BHARAT SINH SOLANKI)

(a) Sanitation is a State subject. Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation administers the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) and provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs to accelerate sanitation coverage in rural areas. Under the NBA Programme there is provision for construction of toilets in Government schools. Ministry of Human Resources Development which administers the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), has intimated that a maintenance grant of Rs. 5000 per annum per school for schools with upto 3 classrooms, and Rs. 10000 per annum per school to schools with more than 3 classrooms is provided for annual maintenance and repair of existing school buildings and other facilities to upkeep the infrastructure in good condition.

(b) and (c) As per information provided by the Ministry of Rural Development, under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), the works to be taken up have to be of capital nature creating durable assets. Since providing full time sweeper services in the schools does not create any asset nor is it in accordance with the objectives of provisions of the MGNREGS Act, it is not possible to utilise labour under MGNREGS for providing full time sweeper services in schools.