

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:678
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2015
AVAILABILITY OF WATER IN TOILETS
Bhabhor Shri Jasvantsinh Sumanbhai

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to connect Swachh Bharat Abhiyan with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has issued any instructions/ guidelines to State Governments in this regard, particularly to make availability of water in toilets in each girls educational institution on priority; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. As a part of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, the State Governments have been requested to identify the Gram Panchayats which have adequate material component under MGNREGA for taking up individual toilets on a saturation basis totally from MGNREGA funds so that the Gram Panchayat as a whole will become 'open defecation free'. Ministry of Rural Development has issued guidelines on 25th November, 2014 & advisory on 19th January, 2015 for operationalising the above. The requirement of toilets in educational institutions is not being addressed under MGNREGA.