

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6681
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2015
OPEN DEFECATION
M. Smt. Vasanthi;Singh Shri Abhishek

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

- (a) whether the United Nations has recently issued a call to all the countries including India to take action on sanitation conditions including elimination of open defecation by 2025;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to encourage those villages which have got the toilets constructed at their own without its assistance so as to get rid of the problem of open defecation by awarding them on the lines of Nirmal Gram Puraskar, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether any survey is being conducted by the Government to identify such villages and if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

- (a) Yes. The UN Deputy Secretary General called renewed commitment from national and local governments to end open defecation by 2025 with concrete plans and measurable milestones.
- (b) The Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) has been launched on 2nd October, 2014, which aims at attaining Swachh Bharat by 2nd October 2019. Under this programme, the following steps have been taken under SBM(G) across the country:-
 - # Provision of incentives for the construction of Individual household latrine (IHHL) has been raised to Rs.12000 for all Below poverty Line (BPL) households and to identified Above Poverty Line (APL) households (all SCs /STs, small and marginal farmers, landless labourers with homestead, physically handicapped and women-headed households).
 - # The partial funding of incentive from MGNREGS has been stopped. The entire assistance now being provided under one programme.
 - # Emphasis is laid on community based collective behaviour change in villages so that demand for freedom from Open Defecation is generated.
 - # Partnerships of various stakeholders working on rural sanitation including Multilateral organisations, Civil Society Organisations, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Institutions etc. is being promoted.
- (c) Sanitation is a State subject and the States can formulate appropriate policies in this regard. The SBM(G) guideline provide necessary flexibility to the States. The guidelines also provide for convergence with other development programmes to encourage villages free from open defecation. The scheme of Nirmal Gram Puraskar is also being considered for revision.
- (d) No.