

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3595
TO BE ANSWERED ON APRIL, 03, 2023
OPEN DEFECATION IN THE COUNTRY

NO. 3595. MS. DOLA SEN:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is cognizant of the fact that 19 per cent of Indian households do not use any toilet facility according to the NFHS survey 2019-21;
- (b) whether Government has undertaken initiatives to address the issue of open defecation in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government is collaborating with concerned stakeholders, including civil society organizations, to tackle the issue; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE)

(a) to (c) : The National Family Health Survey (NFHS) 2019-21, in its key indicator no. 9 gives percentage of population living in households that use an improved sanitation facility, which is not shared with any other household at 81.5%.

Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban (SBM – U) was launched on 2nd October, 2014 with one of the objectives being to make the urban areas Open Defecation Free (ODF). Under SBM, the Target Group for construction of household units of toilets were (i) 80% of urban households engaging in open defecation; (ii) All households with insanitary latrines; (iii) All households with single-pit latrines. The remaining 20% of households practicing open defecation were to be catered by community toilets. Under SBM-U, construction of Individual Household Latrine (IHHL) and Community Toilet/Public Toilets (CT/PTs) are admissible components for financial assistance to States/UTs. This has been achieved with the construction of 66.98 lakh Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs) units and construction of 6.52 lakh Community Toilet/Public Toilet (CT/PT) seats under the Mission.

These efforts are further supplemented under 3rd party ODF certification which is taken up annually.

(d) & (e) : Under SBM-U 2.0, launched on 1st October, 2021 the efforts for sustaining sanitation have continued. Sanitation being a state subject, financial assistance for improved sanitation to augment the efforts of States/Union Territories (UTs), is provided under SBM-U 2.0. The efforts are in collaboration with private sector, civil society, Non-governmental Organization (NGOs) and technical institutions etc.
