

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3606
ANSWERED ON 3.04.2023.

Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA)

3606 Shri Parimal Nathwani:

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) to ensure the sanitation facilities particularly in rural, tribal and hilly areas of the country, if so, the details and outcome thereof; and
- (b) whether the generation of sewage is increasing in many States, if so, the details thereof during the current five-year plan period, State-wise and reasons therefor, and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) The 'Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan' (NBA) was restructured in 2014 and Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) [SBM(G)] was launched with effect from 2nd October, 2014 with the aim to make the country Open Defecation Free (ODF) by 2nd October, 2019, the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, by providing access to toilets to all the rural households in the country including tribal and hilly areas. As reported by the States/UTs on the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS), more than 10 crore individual household latrines were constructed under the programme across the country and, as a result, all the villages/districts of the country including tribal and hilly areas had declared themselves as ODF by 2nd October, 2019.

Having achieved the ODF status, Phase-II of SBM(G) has been launched with effect from 1st April, 2020 for a period of five years, with the objectives to sustain the ODF status and to make arrangements for solid and liquid waste management in all the villages, i.e. to convert the villages from ODF to ODF Plus, by 2024-25. As per the data reported by the States/UTs on the IMIS of SBM(G) as on 31.3.2023, 1,48,515 villages have been covered with solid waste management arrangements and 1,89,419 villages have been covered with liquid waste management arrangements.

(b) Sewage mainly pertains to urban areas. Sanitation in urban areas is administered by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). As per the information received from MoHUA, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme was launched in June 2015 in 500 cities across the country to provide basic infrastructure of water supply, sewerage & septage management, storm water drainage, non-motorized urban transport and green space & parks. To address management of waste water generated in Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), State/UTs can take up projects under the component of Sewerage/Septage Management which may improve the waste management in their cities. In sewerage and septage component under AMRUT, ULBs/State may take up projects related to decentralised, networked underground sewerage systems, including augmentation of existing sewerage systems and sewage treatment plants; rehabilitation of old sewerage system and treatment plants; recycling of water for beneficial purposes and reuse of wastewater; Faecal Sludge Management - cleaning, transportation and treatment in a cost-effective manner; and mechanical and biological cleaning of sewers and septic tanks and recovery of operational cost in full.

Sewerage and Septage Management sector is one of the Mission's component under AMRUT. Against the total plan size of ₹77,640 crore, ₹32,456 crore (42%) has been allocated under this sector. So far, 859 projects have been grounded worth ₹ 34,155 crore including 542 completed projects worth ₹ 13,404 crore. Through these projects and in convergence with other programmes, 104 lakh sewer connections/ households coverage under Septage management have been provided so far. Further, STPs capacity of 2,840 MLD have been created, and another 3,468 MLD capacity STP creation is in progress. Taking it forward, AMRUT 2.0 has been launched on 1st October, 2021 covering all the statutory towns of the country to ensure universal coverage of water supply and make cities 'water secure'. It targets to ensure universal coverage of sewerage & septage management in 500 AMRUT cities. The Mission period is for 5 years (i.e., from 2021-22 to 2025-26). So far, 447 Sewerage & septage management projects worth ₹37,636 crore (including O&M cost) of 20 States have been approved. Through these projects, 33.42 lakh new sewer connections are planned to be provided and STPs capacity of 2,794 MLD have been proposed.

MoUHA has further informed that under Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) 2.0 launched on 1st October, 2021 across all the States, a new component 'Used Water Management

(UWM)' is included in the scheme for waste water management for ULBs with population less than 1 lakh. The objective of UWM component is:

- Holistic Sanitation, with end-to-end solutions (from discharge, containment, evacuation, transportation to safe disposal of all effluents from toilets)
- Treatment of wastewater before discharge into water bodies, and maximum reuse of treated wastewater
- Eradication of hazardous entry into sewers and septic tanks, and sustaining elimination of manual scavenging.

Under UWM component, Central Financial Assistance is provided to all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for taking up following activities:

- setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)/STP-cum-Faecal Sludge Treatment plants (FSTP); for used water treatment.
- laying Interception and Diversion (I&D) structures including provision of pumping stations and pumping main/gravity main upto STP;
- procuring adequate numbers of septic tank desludging equipment;
- deploying Digital (IT enabled) tools for real time monitoring of efficiency parameters during the operational phase of STPs and allied equipment.

Further, under Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen), for disposal of human excreta, use of safe and eco-friendly onsite sanitation technologies such as twin leach pit toilets is encouraged for most parts of the country. Under this technology, human faeces automatically become manure in 1-2 years and thereafter it can be safely removed and used in agriculture. In case of septic tank and single leach pit toilets, it is advised to retrofit them by converting the single pits to twin pits and connecting septic tank with soak pits. For treatment of faecal sludge from the septic tanks and single pit toilets, SBM(G) Phase-II guidelines provide for mechanical emptying of the pits and transportation of faecal sludge to nearby STP/Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) in urban/rural areas. State Governments can also set up FSTPs at district/block levels or for cluster of villages as per feasibility and viability. For this purpose, financial assistance at the rate of Rs.230 per capita has been made available under SBM(G) Phase-II.
