

**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation**

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3730  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 8-12-2016

**Utilisation Certificates**

**3730. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH:**

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

- (a) whether the State of Punjab has submitted the utilization certificates for funds released under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of villages declared open defecation-free in Punjab; and
- (d) the steps being taken to make the State open defecation free?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER &  
SANITATION**

**(SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI)**

- (a) - (b) Yes, Madam. Government of Punjab has submitted the Utilisation Certificate for 2015-16 under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin).
- (c) Out of 12571 villages in Punjab, 2433 (19.35%) villages declared themselves as Open Defecation Free (ODF) as on 5.12.2016 as per the information uploaded by the State on the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of SBM(G).
- (d) The State of Punjab has taken several steps to provide access to the balance population and make villages open defecation free. The approach of programme is kept as freedom from open defecation and involvement of people, and not supply-driven toilet construction. Motivators have been engaged to create awareness in villages and trigger behavioural change. A number of trainings have been held to build the capacities of implementing machinery from district level to grass root level. Schools and colleges have also been engaged. A strong IT based monitoring system has been put in place.