

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4537

TO BE ANSWERED ON MARCH 29, 2017

ACCESS TO TOILETS

No. 4537 SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the percentage of the population who have access to toilets;

(b) whether the Government has taken note of percentage of the population who resort to open defecation in spite of having access to toilets;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has identified the reasons for open defecation in areas where toilets have been built; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) to (c): According to Census 2011, 81.4% of urban population of India has access to toilets. The remaining 6% of the population uses public/community toilet and 12.6% depends on open defecation.

(d) & (e): The main reason for open defecation is lack of awareness regarding the health and environmental consequences of open

defecation, cultural or habitual preference for going to the toilet in the open, perception about water requirement especially for maintaining a clean toilet when water is scarce etc. Under Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban), one of the objectives of the Mission is to provide individual household toilets, community and public toilets in urban areas. A key strategy under SBM (U) is behaviour change to ensure that open defecation is eradicated through educating public regarding the consequences of Open Defecation. IEC and public awareness is a component under SBM (U) for which 15% of the total Central allocation is earmarked to undertake massive public awareness campaigns on sanitation and environmental hygiene.
