

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*147 (7th Position)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28-12-2017

Open Defecation Free Districts

***147. SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA:**

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

(a) the details of Open Defecation Free (ODF) districts and the number of districts that are yet to be declared ODF, State/UTwise;

(b) whether any study is conducted to ascertain the use of the toilets constructed under the Swachh Bharat Mission- Gramin (SBM-G), before a village is declared as ODF and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware of any independent rapid studies by sanitation researchers like Institute of Development Studies, Water Aid and Praxis claiming that several ODF villages have actually not been free from open defecation;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard, State-wise; and

(e) whether any mechanism currently exists for independent verification of claims of ODF areas made by Panchayats and States, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SUSHREE UMA BHARATI)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

**Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.*147 for
28.12.2017**

(a) State/UT-wise, no. of districts declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) districts and the number of districts that are yet to be declared ODF as on 22.12.2017 is at Annexure-1.

(b) As per the Swachh Bharat Mission Gramin guidelines issued by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, a village self-declares itself Open Defecation Free (ODF) through a transparent process at an aam sabha meeting, where citizens of the village come together and affirm that the village has become ODF, and that all households use toilets. The process of verification of this ODF declaration is the next step and happens within 90 days of the declaration.

(c) to (d) Institute of Development Studies and WaterAid undertook a research project to learn from the experiences of districts that had been declared open defecation free. It was done in eight villages in Madhya Pradesh (3), Uttar Pradesh (2) and Rajasthan (3), in districts which had been declared open defecation free (ODF). Since it is based on a very small size of sample and not rigorously conducted, the study cannot be generalized.

Feedback from all quarters is used to improve the programme. Any instance of any lapse brought to the attention of the Ministry is intimated to the state for appropriate action as sanitation is a state subject.

(e) The Ministry has issued Guidelines for Open Defecation Free (ODF) verification dated 3rd September, 2015. The SBM(G) guidelines prescribe that verification be carried out within three months of the declaration. State Governments are conducting ODF verification using different processes, but all verifications are through a third party - inter-block teams, district teams, inter-departmental teams, hired third party agencies etc. The Ministry also carries out 3rd Party verification by Ministry for ODF villages.

Statement referred in part (a) of the reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.147 due for reply on 28-12-2017

State/UT-wise, No. of ODF districts and districts yet to be declared ODF as on 22.12.2017			
State/UT	Total Districts	ODF declared district	Districts yet to be declared ODF
A & N Islands	3	0	3
Andhra Pradesh	13	4	9
Arunachal Pradesh	20	9	11
Assam	27	3	24
Bihar	38	0	38
Chandigarh	1	1	0
Chhattisgarh	27	20	7
D & N Haveli	1	0	1
Daman & Diu	2	2	0
Goa	2	0	2
Gujarat	33	33	0
Haryana	22	22	0
Himachal Pradesh	12	12	0
Jammu & Kashmir	22	3	19
Jharkhand	24	3	21
Karnataka	30	15	15
Kerala	14	14	0
Madhya Pradesh	51	13	38
Maharashtra	34	15	19
Manipur	9	0	9
Meghalaya	11	3	8
Mizoram	8	5	3
Nagaland	11	4	7
Odisha	30	1	29
Puducherry	2	0	2
Punjab	22	12	10
Rajasthan	33	18	15
Sikkim	4	4	0
Tamil Nadu	31	6	25
Telangana	30	9	21
Tripura	8	0	8
Uttar Pradesh	75	6	69
Uttarakhand	13	13	0
West Bengal	22	10	12
	685	260	425