

Government of India
Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1024
TO BE ANSWERED ON **08-02-2018**

ODF States

1024. SHRI R.GOPALAKRISHNAN:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that only a few States have become Open Defecation Free (ODF) in the country and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the details of the steps taken/being taken by the Government to make all the States in the country ODF;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that a number of States have provided fake data to show that their States are ODF; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Union Government to curb such practices?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI)

- (a) Till date, 11 States/UT namely Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Gujarat, Chandigarh, Daman and Diu, Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Meghalaya have been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF).
- (b) The following steps have been taken/being taken by Government to make all the States in the country ODF:-
- Focus on behavior change: Community based collective behavior change has been mentioned as the preferred approach, although the States are free to choose the approach best suited to them. Focus is also on creation of complete open defecation free (ODF) villages, rather than only on construction of individual toilets. This entails triggering the entire village into changing their behavior.
 - The programme provides flexibility to the States in its implementation. This is essential, given the vast socio-economic-cultural diversity of India, and also from the point of view of promoting innovations.
 - There is a greater emphasis on capacity building, especially in community approaches to sanitation and programme management. Therefore, various initiatives are being taken to reach out to all the stakeholders. From the Government of India side, the States and select organizations (called Key Resource Centres) are being trained. These in turn are, carrying out trainings at the sub-State level. The key official at the district level/Collector has been roped in the programme to provide leadership at the district

level. They are being exposed to best practices, both through workshops and exposure visits. More than 530 Collectors from across the country have been trained till date.

- The programme is being run as a *janandolan* with cooperation of all sections of the society including NGOs, Corporates, youth etc. The Panchayats are being actively involved.
- There is an emphasis on streamlining administrative and financial procedures, both to cut down on time, as well as to increase accountability.
- Innovations in technology is being promoted at the National and State levels. There is a National Committee under Prof. R.A.Mashelkar that examines all new technologies from the point of view of safety and feasibility.
- Sanitation is being prioritized amongst the overall development agenda. The Government has taken a decision to prioritize all Centrally Sponsored Schemes in ODF villages. Various other development schemes are being converged with the sanitation outcomes.
- Monitoring and Evaluation has also been strengthened. The online IMIS (Integrated Management Information System) has data up to household level, with provision to capture geo-tagged photographs of toilets. A Swachhtamobile App has also been developed that provides online information on sanitation status up to household level. Citizens can also do ranking of swachhta on the Swachh App.
- ZilaSwachhBharat Preraks are being engaged for support of districts.
- Web portal of SwachhSangrahas been developed for knowledge sharing.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.