

Government of India
Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4532
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22-03-2018

Open Defecation

4532. SHRI HARISH MEENA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is facing difficulties in achieving its target of open defecation free India and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make rapid progress in those States that are still not completely open defecation free; and
- (c) the time-frame fixed for the purpose?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION
(SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI)

- (a) No, Madam.
- (b) A number of measures have been taken/are being taken to make all the States in the country Open Defecation Free (ODF) such as:-
 - Focus is being given on community based collective behavior change by massive campaigning at the national and States level.
 - Focus is also on creation of complete ODF villages, rather than only on construction of individual toilets.
 - Given the vast socio-economic-cultural diversity of India, and also from the point of view of promoting innovations, the programme provides flexibility to the States to choose the strategy best suited to them in its implementation.
 - Greater emphasis is being given on capacity building, especially in community approaches and programme management, by imparting training to the States and selected organizations called Key Resource Centres (KRCs), involving District Collectors to provide leadership to the programme at the district level.
 - The programme is being run as a *janandolan* with cooperation of all sections of the society including the 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. A national Committee under the chairmanship of Prof. R.A. Mashelkar has been constituted to examine all the new technologies from the point of view of safety and feasibility.
 - Centrally Sponsored Schemes are being prioritised in ODF villages.
 - Zila Swachhata Preraksha have been engaged for support of districts.
- (c) Under SBM(G), the target for achieving ODF India is by 2nd October, 2019.