

Government of India
Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6359
TO BE ANSWERED ON **05-04-2018**

Policy on Manual Cleaning of Sewers

6359. SHRIMATI MAUSAM NOOR:

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to draft a policy for abolishing manual cleaning of sewers and septic tanks in select areas across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is introducing mechanized sewage cleaning systems in the country in select areas on pilot basis; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI)

(a) to (d) No Madam, Sanitation is a State subject and it is the responsibility of the State for effective implementation of the sanitation facilities in the fields that includes safe disposal and fecal sludge management. Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation only provides financial & technical support to supplement the efforts of the States for achieving a sustainable sanitation outcome, with flexibility to the States/UTs to implement the programme, considering their local conditions. In each State, there already exists a specific Department which deals with sanitation in the State and also there are dedicated agencies/missions at district/block and GP levels for successful implementation and monitoring of the programme.

Under SBM (G), greater emphasis on behaviour change among people and capacity building of the implementing agencies are being given. Massive behaviour change campaigns at National level and in respective States are being run across the country at present. Moreover Twin-leach pit technology is promoted under SBM(G) which in itself is the most environment friendly system wherein fecal matter converts to manure and there is no need to resort to manual/ mechanized sewage cleaning.