

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION**

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.335 (15th Position)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.01.2019

Bio-toilets in Village Panchayats

***335. SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up bio-toilets in a large number of village panchayats in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise;
- (c) whether it is proposed to extend the scheme throughout the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which all the village panchayats are likely to be covered under the scheme?

ANSWER

**MINISTER FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SUSHREE UMA BHARATI)**

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

Statement referred to in the reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.335 due for reply on 03.01.2019.

(a) to (e) Sanitation is a State subject. However, the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, as the coordinating Ministry for Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, facilitates States in accelerating rural sanitation coverage through technical and financial support.

States are encouraged to adopt local toilet technology options as per local context. The SBM(G) guidelines provide flexibility to the States/UTs to choose appropriate toilet technology for safe disposal of human excreta including bio-toilets. For most parts of the country, the Ministry encourages use of the twin pit toilet technology, a low cost and effective technology, in which human feces is converted to manure in less than 1-2 years and is safe to use.

The Swachh Bharat Mission was launched in October 2014 with an aim to achieve Open Defecation Free (ODF) status for the entire country by October 2019, as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150th birth anniversary. As on date, 5,40,000 villages are ODF and the Mission is on track for an ODF India before October 2019.