

Government of India
Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1703
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20-12-2018

Observations of CSG on SBM

1703. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken into account the concern raised in the CAG report that due to the non-availability of household water connections, the toilets constructed under SBM could not be used;
- (b) if so, the actions taken to meet this issue;
- (c) whether the Government is of the opinion that the building of toilets alone is not sufficient for the realization of the actual vision of an Open Defecation Free (ODF) country; and
- (d) if so, what feasible actions were taken in this regard for the realization of ODF?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b) The usage of toilets has been shown to consistently be above 90% by independent third party surveys by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), Quality Council of India (QCI) and the Independent Verification Agency (IVA) under the World Bank support project to SBM-G.

The SBM-G promotes the use of the rural pan, which has a steeper slope than the traditional urban pan, and hence requires only 1.5 liters per flush compared to 5 liters per flush for the urban pan. Additionally, the SBM(G) and National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) guidelines also provide for convergence towards implementation of the programmes of sanitation and water, and to maximize the availability of piped water for sanitation purposes. Open Defecation Free (ODF) declared villages are being prioritized for providing Piped Water Supply under NRDWP.

(c) and (d) Sanitation is primarily a behavior change issue, and under the SBM(G), Community Approaches to Sanitation (CAS) are being used by the States to trigger behavior change among communities. Extensive Information, Education and Communication (IEC) is being used to build awareness for sanitation. Interpersonal communication is being carried out through trained sanitation motivators called Swachhagrahis, as well as Nigrani Samities in the villages to ensure that the people build and use toilets.