Will the Minister for HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has initiated Clean Toilets Campaign recently;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government has also organized a two day national capacity building workshop under Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 at Chennai;
(d) if so, the details thereof along with the aims and objective of organizing the said workshop; and
(e) the details of other steps taken/being taken by the Government to achieve safe sanitation defined by clean land, clean water and clean air?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
(SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE)

(a) & (b) : To ensure functionality and sustainability Community Toilets/Public Toilets (CT/PTs), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched a 5-week ‘Clean Toilets Campaign’ on 17th December 2023, beginning from World Toilet Day i.e. 19th November, 2023 till Good Governance Day i.e. 25th December, 2023. The objective of the ‘Clean Toilets Campaign’ are (i) Nationwide Cleanliness drive of CTs/PTs; (ii) Operation & Maintenance Plan of toilets; (iii) Nudging User Behaviour; (iv) Improved Monitoring Mechanism; (v) Grounding of Aspirational Toilets and (vi) ‘Toilet Grading’ by women SHGs.

In addition to cleanliness and maintenance drives in all toilets, the Campaign also has a Challenge element. The Clean Toilets Challenge aims to recognize exceptional public toilets that exemplify cleanliness, accessibility, innovation in design, as well as functionality. Nominations have been called from ULBs, parastatal bodies, as well as private organizations to share their best public and community models. Identification of these toilets models will encourage widespread adoption of the same and improve the overall status of sanitation in the country.
(c) to (d): To achieve safe sanitation and to discuss the planning and implementation strategy of Used Water Management (UWM) in small cities & Safe Sanitation with focus on mechanized desludging and promoting safety to sanitation workers by way of strengthening Mechanized Cleaning of Sewers Septic Tanks, etc., MoHUA organized a two day National Capacity Building Workshop on 23rd - 24th Nov’23 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu in collaboration with Govt. of Tamil Nadu. The workshop was targeted at capacity building of ULB officials and engineers dealing with subject. Representatives of almost all States/UTs participated in the programme.

(e): Sanitation is a State subject and it is the responsibility of State/ULBs to plan, design, execute and operate sanitation projects in the urban areas of the country. However, Govt. of India provides technical, financial and other supports to States/UTs to achieve safe sanitation defined by clean land, clean water and clean air:

(i) Additional Central Assistance (ACA) at varying rates of 25%, 33% and 50% to the States/UTs for different population category of cities for setting up of waste processing facilities such as compost, biomethanation, waste-to-energy, Material Recovery Facility (MRF), Construction & Demolition Waste processing, Mechanical road sweeping, dumpsite remediation, etc. Also ACA is provided for IHHL, Community/Public Toilets, Mechanical desluding vehicles for safe sanitation. Also a new component for Design of faecal sludge treatment plant (FSTP)/ Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) -cum-FSTP is also provided for less than 1 lakh population cities under SBM-U2.0.

(ii) Technical support by way of manuals, advisories, designs, protocols covering all aspects of planning, designing and operation and maintenance of waste management.

(iii) Funds for Capacity Building (CB) are provided to State and cities to create institutional capacity to effectively implement programmatic interventions to achieve mission objectives.

(iv) Funds for IEC is also provided to State and cities to ensure awareness creation alongwith large scale citizen outreach to intensify ‘Jan Andolan’ and institutionalize swachh behavior and related set of actions, towards achieving the vision of Garbage Free cities.

(v) The ‘Swachh Survekshan’ launched by Government has encouraged a spirit of healthy competition between cities to compete for achieving improved cleanliness in cities. In addition, annual certification of ODF, ODF+, ODF++ and Water+ is done to prevent sanitation slippages. Similarly, for assessment of waste management, Star Rating Assessment is also done annually.

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