

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.136
ANSWERED ON 13.02.2025

ODF UNDER SWACHH BHARAT MISSION GRAMEEN: PHASE-II

***136. Shri Sanjay Dina Patil:**
Prof. Varsha Eknath Gaikwad:

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the criteria for declaring a village Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus under SBM-G Phase-II has been defined and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the details of the total number of villages declared ODF under Swachh Bharat Mission - Grameen: Phase-II in the State of Maharashtra have been reported and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to involve Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in the implementation of SBM-G Phase-II and if so, the specific roles assigned to them;

(d) whether the measures have been taken to ensure the sustainability of Open Defecation Free status in rural areas under SBM-G Phase-II and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any technology is being used to improve the implementation of SBM-G Phase-II;

(f) if so, the details thereof along with the technologies adopted for monitoring, waste management and awareness generation;

(g) whether any independent evaluations of the scheme have been conducted; and

(h) if so, the findings of such evaluations and steps taken to address the shortcomings, if any?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI
(SHRI C R PATIL)

(a) to (h) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement referred to in the reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.136 due for
reply on 13.02.2025**

(a) : The specific criteria and process being used to declare a village as Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus in SBM-G Phase-II are as under:-

An ODF Plus village is defined as a village which sustains its Open Defecation Free (ODF) Status, ensures solid and liquid waste management and is visually clean. There are 3 progressive stages of ODF Plus villages:

- **ODF Plus Aspiring:** A Village which is sustaining its ODF status and has arrangements for Solid Waste Management OR Liquid Waste Management.
- **ODF Plus Rising:** A village which is sustaining its ODF status and has arrangements for BOTH Solid Waste Management and Liquid Waste Management.
- **ODF Plus Model:** A village which is sustaining its ODF status and has arrangements for both Solid Waste Management and Liquid Waste Management; observes visual cleanliness, i.e., minimal litter, minimal stagnant wastewater, no plastic waste dump in public places; and displays ODF Plus Information, Education & Communication (IEC) messages.

A village that has met all the ODF Plus criteria will self-declare themselves ODF Plus at a Gram Sabha meeting. The District must ensure mandatory third-party verification of a village, within 90 days of ODF Plus declaration for the first time. The mandatory third party verification will be undertaken for ODF Plus (Model) villages only. However, supervisory verification may be done for the ODF Plus villages across all the three categories (Aspiring/Rising/Model) by the officers responsible in chain of command at Block/District/State levels.

(b) : Total 37,583 villages have been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus (Aspiring-8,574, Rising-196, Model-28,813) in Maharashtra as on 10.2.2025.

(c) : As per Guidelines of Phase-II of SBM-G, Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) have a catalytic role in the implementation of SBM (G) in the rural areas. They can be considered for active involvement in the Information Education and Communication activities including in triggering leading to demand generation, in capacity building, assistance in construction and ensuring sustained use of sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion.

(d) : Sanitation is State subject, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation provides Financial & technical support to States. Phase II of Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) [SBM(G)] is being implemented during the period from 2020-21 to 2025-26, with the focus on Open Defecation Free (ODF) sustainability and to cover all the villages with solid and liquid waste management i.e. converting the villages from ODF to ODF Plus (Model). Realising that the task of constructing toilets is a continuous process and not a one time activity, as there are continuously new emerging households, migrant households etc. which will require Toilets, construction of new Individual House Hold Latrines (IHHLs) continues to be the first charge on SBM(G) funds under Phase-II of SBM(G) and states are advised continuously to plan for the left out toilets and address this gap on priority. State has prepared Operation & Maintenance (O & M) Policy.

(e) & (f) : A web based Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) has been put in place for capturing the progress of IHHLs, CSCs and SLWM activities taken up by the districts, blocks, GPs under SBM(G), through a Mobile App. All the household and community level assets constructed under the programme are geo-tagged through two Mobile Apps – (i) SBM for IHHL geotagging and (ii) SBM 2.0 for CSCs and SLWM assets reporting. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) plays pivotal role fostering behavioural change and advancing the mission's objectives. Anchored in the spirit of Jan Andolan (people's movement), the approach transcended conventional boundaries, orchestrating a 360-degree communication approach to ensure the programmatic gains made under the SBM(G) Phase I are sustained and we move to the objectives of Phase II.

(g) & (h) : Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS) conducts Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG) through a third-party survey agency to carry out the assessment of household sanitation parameters, including Faecal Sludge Management (FSM), biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste management, and Grey Water Management (GWM). As part of the SSG, States/UTs are ranked on the basis of their performance attained on key quantitative and qualitative Swachhata parameters. The SSG 2023-24 Survey covered 17,304 villages in 729 Districts across India and 85,901 public places namely schools, anganwadis, public health centres, haat/bazaars/religious places etc. in these 17,304 villages. Around 2,60,059 Households were interviewed for their feedback on SBM(G) related issues. The findings of the SSG 2023-24 were shared with States/UTs for taking remedial measures.
