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Anil Agarwal Environment
Training Institute

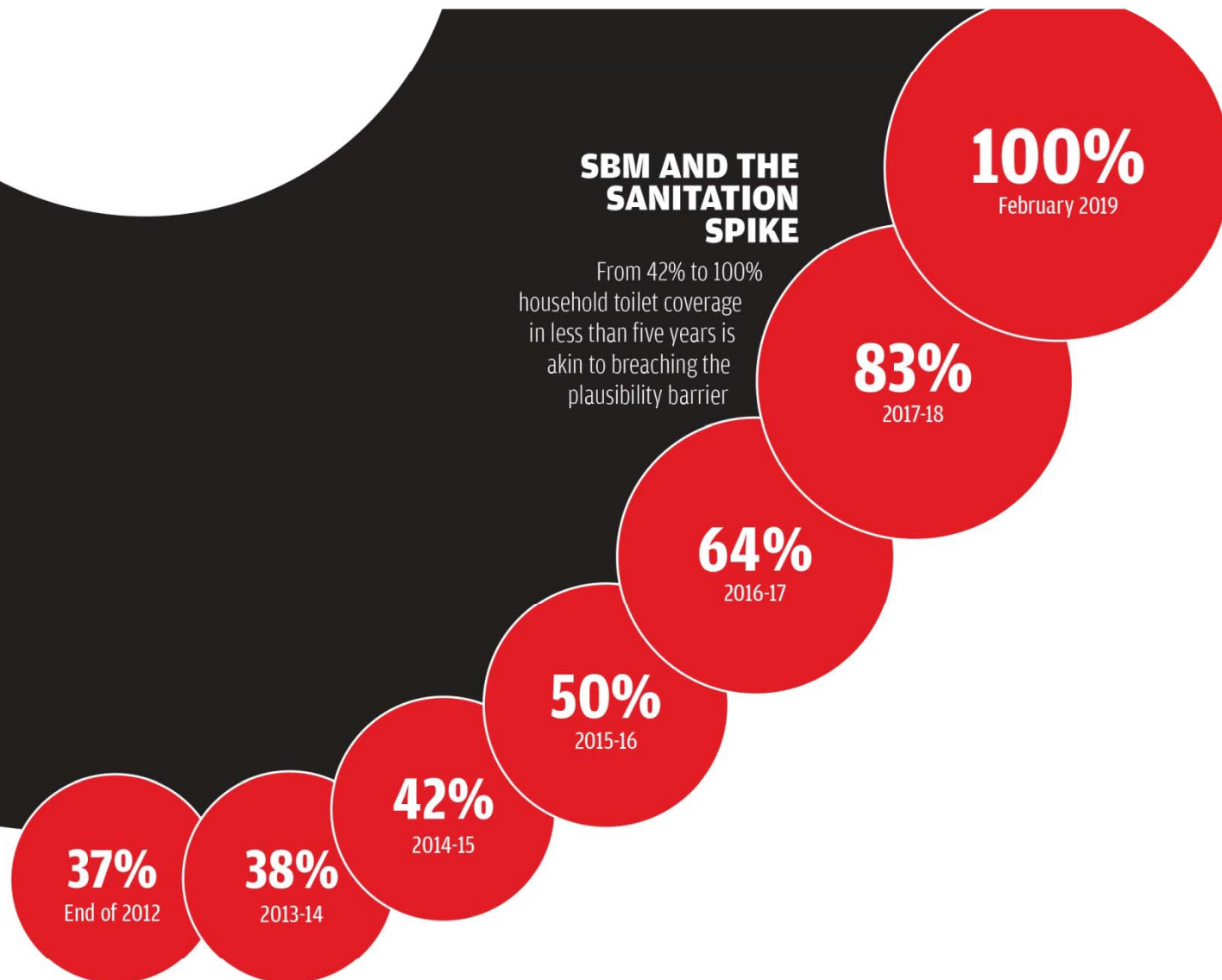
THE RESEARCH,
KNOWLEDGE,
INNOVATION AND
TRAINING CENTRE
FOR THE
GLOBAL SOUTH

**SANITATION & OUR RIVERS – THE TALE OF THE
TOILET:
A HALF-STORY**



SBM AND THE SANITATION SPIKE

From 42% to 100%
household toilet coverage
in less than five years is
akin to breaching the
plausibility barrier



Target...

- Will reach the target – much before the date
- This means what?.. All the household owners will have an access to toilet – either household toilet or community toilet
- Almost 99 per cent coverage of households and around 9.5 crore household toilets constructed between 2014-15 till date (under Swachh Bharat Mission)
- Based on toilet construction 28 states and UTS of 36 states and UTS have been declared open defecation free
- **THIS IS NO DOUBT A BIG EFFORT**

Rate of construction of toilets

- The rate of construction in 2015-16 was almost **twice** of 2014-15
- Construction rate was almost **4 times and 5 times** in 2016-17 and 2017-18 respectively when compared to 2014-15
- IS THIS RATE OF CONSTRUCTION MATCHING WITH TOILET USAGE?

Review on the state of sanitation – the surveys

- The Swachh Bharat Mission (gramin) had at least two national-level independent surveys (third party)—one by the Quality Council of India (QCI) in 2017 and the other, the National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey (NARSS) 2017–18
- **Debate was on sample size**
- **Real time monitoring was appreciable**

What are the ground realities?

- Water connection not available for toilets
- Quality of construction was poor
- Technology not according to the terrain

AS PER THE LATEST REPORT OF MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION OVER 24 LAKH TOILETS ARE DYSFUNCTIONAL, UP TOPPING THE LIST WITH OVER 8 LAKH DYSFUNCTIONAL TOILETS

Are the toilets usable?



Are the toilets usable?



Toilet near drinking water source



Wastewater flowing into the river



Not only toilets bathrooms are equally important

- In Bihar, it is said that almost 55 per cent of women have to take bath in open due to lack of bathrooms
- Around 38 per cent of women do not have private place to change their sanitary napkins
- More than 50 per cent of girls miss schools due to absence of proper toilets in schools

Source: Self Employed Womens' Association report, 2014

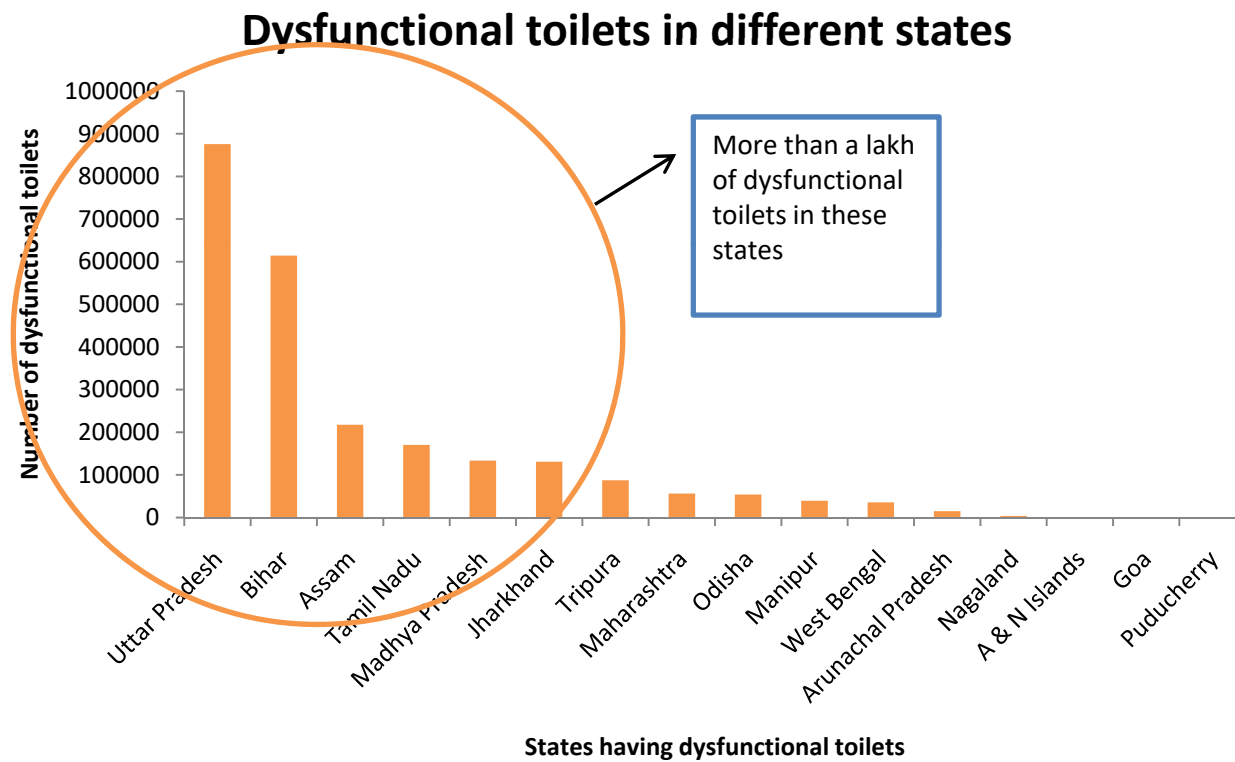
Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) Report - 2018

- The toilets constructed under the SBM in 41 out of 120 surveyed Gujarat villages, could not be used as there was no water connection
- In 15 Gujarat villages there are also instances of non usage of toilets because the toilets did not exist at all in these villages
- Toilets along Ganga in Uttarakhand were non-existent or under construction and hence not used

Are the toilets usable?

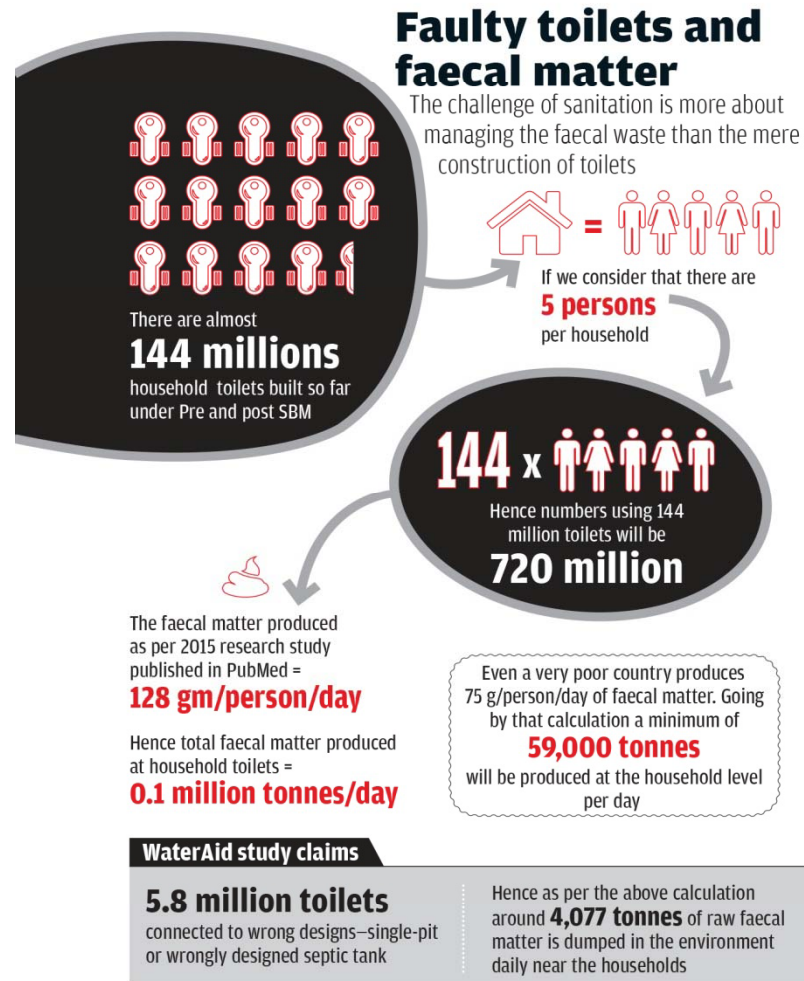
- In most of the cases toilets are built without any expert's guidance – CAG report of Uttarakhand says that 70 per cent of the cases, the toilets were built without proper guidance
- Even the beneficiaries are sometimes not involved at all
- Hence huge number of defunct and unused toilets reported

Defunct toilets



Source:MDWS

Unsafe toilets



Source: MDWS and Rose, C., et al. 2015. The Characterization of Faeces and Urine: A Review of the Literature to Inform Advanced Treatment Technology.

Is the excreta dumped very close to our households now?

Is our soil or groundwater under more risk now?

Attaining Open Defecation Free State – Steps

STEP 1



Each ward member verifies respective ward for 100% toilet coverage; it involves 6-12 people physically checking toilets on site. The village may have more than one ward.

GAP: Uses of toilets are not included. So, it doesn't indicate end of open defecation.

STEP 2



The ward member reports to the Sarpanch. The Sarpanch with local officials verify the authenticity of the reports submitted by all wards.

GAP: At this stage as well usage is not tracked due to non-availability of sufficient number of officials, and often to rush filing of report for coverage.

STEP 3



If found correct, the Sarpanch declares the village open defecation free (ODF); this is also called self-declaration of ODF. S/he informs the Block Development Officer (BDO).

GAP: Not necessarily, but if usage has not been assessed and there is no proper on site checks of toilets, a village with open defecation instance can easily being declared ODF.

STEP 4



BDO forms a team of 5 members - each from the departments of education, social justice, health and women and child development and agriculture to verify the claim of the Panchayat.

GAP: This team should check the toilet technology. But as generally found they are hardly trained on solid and waste disposal technicalities, the physical existence.

STEP 5



The team sends its report to the Panchayat Extension Officer (PEO) who in turn will submit the report to BDO.

GAP: Ideally PEO should further verify before sending agreement to BDO. But given the scale of the toilet construction, usually such verification doesn't happen.

STEP 6



BDO sends the report to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the district and the District Collector/Magistrate. BDO is required to mount checks/inquiries on usage, quality of structure and solid-liquid waste management practices.

GAP: It is a general practice that BDO doesn't raise such queries. This is technically the last stage of declaring a village ODF.

STEP 7



The CEO/District Collector writes to the state coordinator for Swachh Bharat Mission so that teams from other districts can come and verify. Once these teams give their report in affirmative, the village gets the ODF certificate.

GAP: These teams are not trained on toilet technologies thus just limit verification to physical existence of structure. So, the contention that a final ODF certificate doesn't guarantee usage and also safety is a real concern.

The contentious journey to become open defecation free

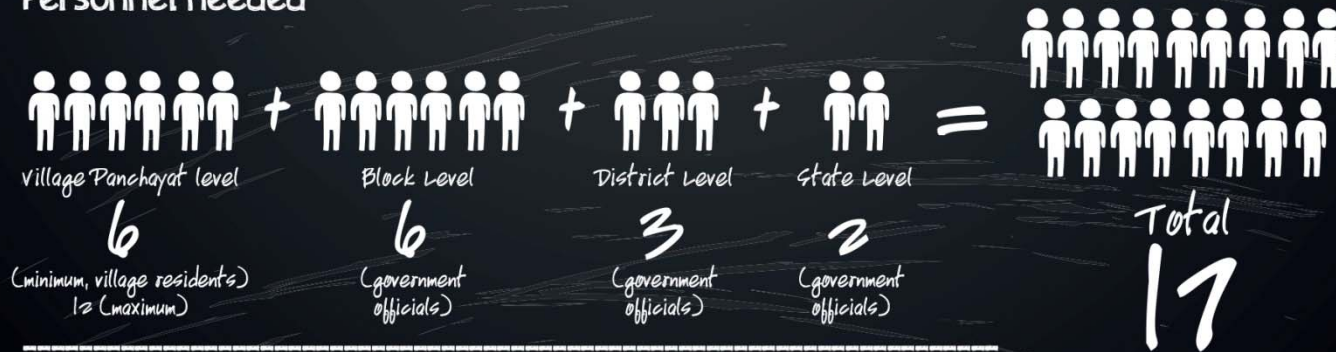
It is a seven-step long process to certify villages open defecation free. But as experiences show each step has several gaps to fudge data to chase target

Attaining Open Defecation Free State – Human resource used

An exercise unparalleled

For a village to be declared ODF, 6 residents and 11 government officials are needed

Personnel needed



To declare India's total 0.6 million villages ODF, 3.6 million village residents need to involve in verification and checking. To make sense of this exercise, India's census 2011 involved 2.7 million officials.

Is India struggling to attain a clean state?

- The rural sanitation programme was there in some form or the other since the first five year plan
- In 1986, the Government of India launched the Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP), the first nationwide centrally sponsored programme to provide safe sanitation in rural areas
- Between 1986 and 2012 that is in 15 years, we **missed the objective every time and all the programmes were moved towards hardware driven goals**

Evolution of sanitation programmes in India

1986	Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP)
1994	District Primary Education Programme incorporate School Sanitation & Hygiene Education
1999	Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) initiated
2000	DPEP renamed Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan
2003	Nirmal Gram Puruskar under TSC
2005	Sampoorna Swachata Andolana Scheme underr TSC
2006	Convergence of TSC and Indira Awas Yojana (IAY)
2010	Convergence of TSC and IAY modified
2012	Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) launched and converged with MGNREGS
2014	NBA renamed Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM)

Source: MDWS

Is India struggling to attain a clean state?

- Previous programmes like Total Sanitation Campaign and Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan has pumped in crores of money
- CAG report of 2015, says between 2009-10 and 2013-14 almost Rs. 10,000 crore was spent – output result was very poor
- 30 per cent of Individual Household latrines were defunct/non-functional for reasons like poor quality of construction, incomplete structure, non- maintenance, etc

Toilets in school

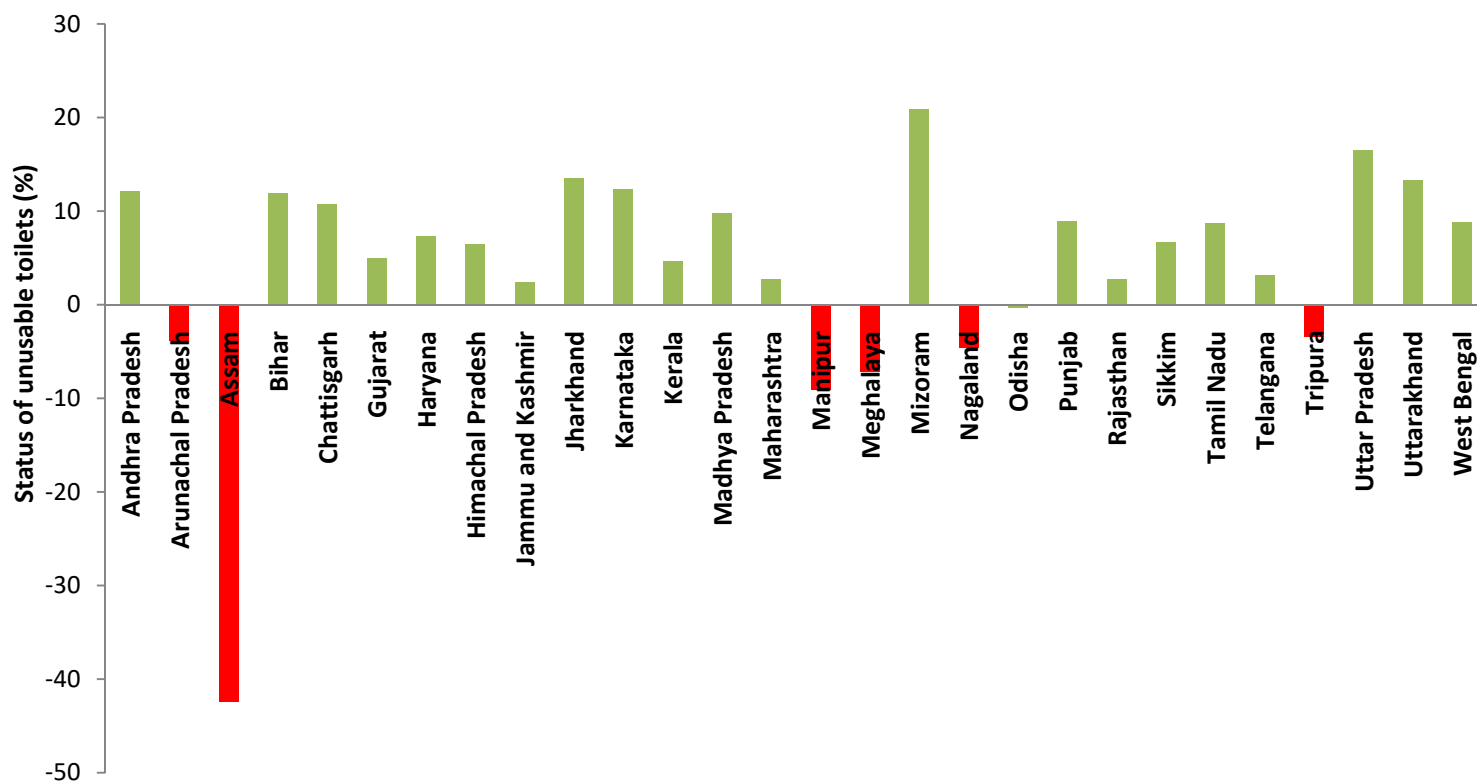
- On August 2015, Swachh Vidyalaya website maintained by Ministry of Human Resources Development declared that they have provided separate toilets to boys and girls in government schools which are functional in all respect
- In January 2019, a citizen report on the toilets in schools released - 560 rural districts across the state was surveyed covering 16,000 villages – The Annual State of Education Report (ASER), 2018

Survey report - ASER

- Around 22.8 per cent rural school surveyed have unusable toilets
- 11.5 per cent of rural schools have no separate toilets for girls
- Of the schools having separate toilets had separate for girls - 10.5 per cent of them were locked and 11.7 per cent were locked and unusable

Survey report - ASER

Change in status of unusable toilet (2014 to 2018)



Allocation in this sector

Schemes	2012-13 (A)	2013-14 (A)	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (A)	2016-17 (BE)	2016-17 (RE)	2017-18 (BE)
Swachh Bharat Mission (R) / Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan)	2,474	2,244	2,841	6,703.4	9,000	10,500	13,948.27
Swachh Bharat Mission (U)	-	-	859.5	765.8	2,300	2,300	2,300

Source: Compiled by CBGA from Expenditure Budget Vol. 1 and 2, Union Budget, various years, Gol

Note: A – Actual (expenditure made), BE – Budget Estimates (budget allocated at beginning of the financial year), RE – Revised Estimates (mid-year budget revisions in allocation).

2018-19 – 15, 343 crores

According to expenditure details for FY 17-18 -Centre's share was Rs 10678.49 crore, out of which, Rs 200.70 crore was spent on IEC activities, which is a meagre 1.87 per cent of the total fund.

State's share is concerned, the total available fund with all the states was Rs 2589.19 crore, out of which, Rs 104.33 crore was spent on IEC activities—4 per cent of the total fund available.

Need to know

- Was there a **REAL** change in the state of sanitation since Swachh Bharat Mission was launched in 2014?
- Do we need to redefine the verification standard for open defecation state – or should it be restricted only to building of toilets
- **BUT...THINGS ARE NOT GRIM ALWAYS. THERE ARE VILLAGES AND TOWNS PERFORMING WELL-----HOW?**



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